

Howlak Tichum

~ Bobby Begay ~

It is with heavy hearts the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission shares we have lost one of our own.

Bobby Begay—Celilo Village leader, Yakama tribal member, and the CRITFC lead fish technician—passed away on April 24, 2020 from Covid-19 complications.

Bobby was dedicated to his family, the Celilo community, salmon, the river and tribal culture.

He was a bridge builder, helping connect many groups and individuals across cultural divides.

His example of inter-tribal brotherhood embodied the hopes and values envisioned by tribal leaders from the Yakama, Warm Springs, Umatilla and Nez Perce tribes, as they worked together to form



CRITFC.

Mr. Begay was an incredibly generous person with willingness to share not only his harvest, but the message of why salmon, lamprey and the river are central to our culture.

He did so for countless

groups with enthusiasm and humor.

We extend our thoughts and prayers to his family Megan, Daisy, Steven, Henry and Jackie, and the entire Celilo Village and mourn with them the loss of a remarkable man.



Statement from the Confederated Tribes

The seriousness of the Covid-19 threat to our ways of life was brought to reality in the death of life-long resident of Celilo Village, Bobbie Begay.

Mr. Begay was a Yakama tribal member who honored his tribal way of life in a place where his people had lived since time immemorial.

This sad news reached the tribes just as the Warm Springs Indian Health Service clinic reported the first four confirmed cases of Covid-19 on the reservation.

Clearly, since these events, health risks to tribal members have taken on the greatest of priorities for the Tribal Council, Management, and health and emergency workers.

The Warm Springs Covid-19 health team works with neighboring health agencies, counties and communities to protect our health from this dreaded disease. According to an aggregate report compiled by Katie Russell, Community Health Service manager for the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, says of the reservation and Celilo Covid-19 cases:

“The age range is from less than 18 years to elders. Symptoms: Some have had symptoms, some did not.”

Regarding those who may have been exposed: “All individuals fully cooperated with instructions given to them, including staying at home. Nurses are following up with individuals daily.”

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic the following are imposed:

Tribal government offices will be closed through May 31. This does not apply to essential services, typically defined as Police, Fire and Safety, emergency medical technicians, Public Utilities, etc.

Administrative leave has been allowed for tribal government employees during this shut down. If you typically don't work an 80 hour pay period, your pay will be determined based on recent work hour history. More information is provided by Finance.

Reservation Census reminder

The 2020 Census is under way on the reservation and among tribal members. Because of the coronavirus and stay-at-home requirements, the time to submit your census information is extended to October 31.

The easiest way to complete the 2020 Census during the Covid-19 pandemic is to do it online. Got to: my2020census.gov

If you don't have the ability to do the census online, you can do the questionnaire by phone. Call 844-330-2020. They will begin by asking you for your census identification number. (You may be on hold for a while, so please be patient.)

Because the letters with the ID number were only mailed to people who get their mail at a street address, most people in Warm Springs do not have the census ID number: On the phone, just say you don't have one.



They ask for your street address, if you rent or own your home, your sex, age and date of birth, your heritage and race.

They will also ask about who was living in your home on April 1; how they are related to you, their age and so on. For Native American households it's best to have the census completed by someone who is Native American. Tribal members and descendants should fill in 'Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Oregon.'

Whether you do the 2020 census online or by phone, the Warm Springs Complete Count Committee asks that you take the time to submit your information, if you haven't already done so.

Response Team: Heartfelt thanks to all

(Continued from page 1)

Some other partners who continue to provide valuable contributions to the team include Secretary-Treasurer Michele Stacona, Managed Care director Mr. Mike Collins, and tribal Prosecutor Nancy Seyler. (My sincerest apologies if I forgot anyone.)

I cannot thank this group enough for their ongoing commitment, time and energy. *Thank you, Team.*

I also want to thank the members of the Indian Health Services incident command:

Michele Miller, Dr. Rachel Locker, Michelle Spaulding, Commander Amy Whistler, Yvonne

Iverson, Diane Fuller, Cpt. Jim Gemelas and Dr. Damon Pope.

Our tribal and community support team includes Katie Russell, Raymond Hurtado and Russell Graham, with an occasional visit from our Warm Springs Police Department, Corrections and Fire and Safety personnel.

What a great group to work with, and more importantly, What a committed group of individuals to take on the day-to-day task of our Covid-19 response and operations here at the Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center.

I have so much respect and appreciation for the entire Health and Wellness Center staff for their com-

mitment and love of community. Thank you, Team. I truly appreciate all that you do. Another shout out to Carlos Calica for blessing our team with a morning prayer. Beautiful!

Hyllis Dauphinais, Warm Springs Health & Wellness Center chief executive officer.

This brief report from Mr. Dauphinais is from the heart. And while we take a breath, our Warm Springs community is thankful for his tremendous leadership. He has proven to be a very capable and professional leader in this most trying time.

Pioneer Rock & Monument
 201 Crafton Rd - PO Box 348 509-773-4702
GOLDENDALE, WA 98620

Family owned business, making custom **HEADSTONES** for the people of Warm Springs for 31 years

SPECIALIZING IN NATIVE AMERICAN DESIGN

Something for every budget; payment plans available

Check out our work in the **GALLERY** at www.pioneerrock.com

Madras Campus

CENTRAL OREGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Summer Term Starts June 22

cocc.edu/madras
 541.550.4100

Online courses and remote learning options available!

Learn more and apply now at cocc.edu/welcome

In advance of College events, persons needing accommodation or transportation because of a physical or mobility disability, contact Joe Viola at 541.383.7775. For accommodation because of other disability such as hearing impairment, contact Disability Services at 541.383.7583.