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## Covid-19 community update

As of earlier this week, the Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center had sent in or tested 765 individuals for Covid-19, with 50 positive cases. Of these, most of the people have recovered. Three had been hospitalized, and two discharged. One individual had been hospitalized for a non-Covid condition; then tested positive while hospitalized.

The person was released to quarantine: The situation raised a legal matter of how to ensure compliance with quarantine for the health and safety of the community—both from the tribal perspective, and that of the county. Tribal Council is addressing the county question with the state attorney general and the governor.

Meanwhile, “We continue to do random surveillance testing of our high-risk community members,” said Hyllis Dauphinais, clinic executive director. “We have also started a broader surveillance of the tribal employees, as the community starts the reopen process.”

The Warm Springs Covid-19 Response Team expresses their appreciation, as the 50-positive number held through the weekend. Health and Wellness has reported no positive cases among their staff.

“Their safety protocols are to be celebrated, with their ongoing discipline,” Mr. Dauphinais said.

As more states, including Oregon, begin reopening, the important thing for the tribal community to remember is, “The corona virus is still among us,” Mr. Dauphinais said.

The Covid-19 Response Team continues to distribute food as necessary, and continues to obtain sanitation and safety supplies, as the tribes are reopening, said Dan Martinez, director of Emergency Response.

Tribal Council this week also discussed the matter of the clinic capacity to treat some conditions, such as dental or other emergencies; or how to refer these cases to outside providers—difficult questions during unprecedented pandemic conditions. Ensuring the health and welfare of the membership is the overriding priority, Council members agreed.

## Indian Head Casino set to reopen Thursday

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs announced this week that Indian Head Casino will reopen at 10 a.m. this Thursday, June 18.

“We are very excited to open and with the amount of phone calls we receive on a daily basis from our guests, we know they are looking forward to our opening too,” said Belinda Chavez, director of marketing for Indian Head Gaming.

“We are committed to following the Centers for Disease Controls’ guidelines, and we have implemented safety and sanitation measures in addition to limiting our occupancy to 250 total guests.” Ms. Chavez said.

A few things you should keep in mind before you head over to Indian Head Casino:

The casino will open with new operating hours of 10 a.m.



Guests will enter the casino through the doors on the east side, which is the entrance to the Cottonwood Restaurant.

to 2 a.m.

All guests will be required to enter the casino through the doors on the east side of the building, which is the entrance to Cottonwood Restaurant.

Facemasks will be required for all guests and employees, as well as a touchless temperature check before entering the building.

Once you are on the casino

floor you will notice a few small changes:

At least initially, the entire property at Indian Head Casino will be non-smoking.

Plexiglass shields and social distancing markers have been installed in high traffic areas such as the Players Club, cashier booths and the check-out counter at the Tule Grill.

In addition to new cleaning procedures, the casino will provide many hand sanitizing stations on the casino floor.

The slot machines will be open and ready for play from the moment the doors open. The table games, however, will open on a later date.

All restaurants at Indian Head Casino will be open for take-out, and the Cottonwood restaurant will offer curbside delivery.

Indian Head Casino voluntarily closed on March 18 in response to the Covid-19 pandemic and continued to stay closed for nearly three months.



Jayson Smith photos



It was a graduation ceremony unlike any other—conducted in an atmosphere of safety, and yet celebration.

Family and friends of the graduates arrived in cars and pickups decorated especially for the occasion. Called to the stage one at a time, only the graduate was

allowed to leave the vehicle while on the ceremony grounds.

The commencement speeches and performances were all pre-recorded, made available by internet.

For a job well done, Congratulations to the Graduates of the Class of 2020.

## Impact panel on Tuesday

Behavioral Health will host a victim impact panel—the Hurt of One is the Hurt of All—on Tuesday, June 23 at the Warm Springs Baptist Church. Because of Covid-19, all participants will be screened at the door, must wear a mask and practice social distancing.

The panel will be from 6 to 7:30 p.m. For more information contact Sarah at 541-553-3205. Or email: sarah.frank@wstribes.org

## Tribes okay June fishery at the Columbia River

The Columbia River tribes have set a June fishery, with the following provisions:

### Zone 6

For all of the zone 6 area, from 6 a.m. on Monday, June 22 to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, June 24.

Gear: Set and drift gillnets with a 7-inch minimum mesh size restriction. Allowable sales: Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish and carp may be sold or retained for

subsistence.

Fish landed during the open periods are allowed to be sold after the period concludes. Sturgeon may not be sold, but sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches fork length in the Bonneville pool, and sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day pools may be kept for subsistence purposes.

Closed areas: River mouth and dam closed areas applicable to gillnets in effect. The Spring Creek hatchery closed area is not in effect in the summer management

period. The tribes will consider additional commercial gillnet fishing at a later time.

### Platform, hook & line

Zone 6 platform and hook and line fishery. Area: All of zone 6. Date and times: Fish caught after 6 a.m. on Monday, June 22 may be sold commercial until further notice.

Allowable sales: Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Fish landed during the open peri-

ods are allowed to be sold after the period concludes. Sturgeon may not be sold, but sturgeon from 38-54 inches fork length in the Bonneville pool, and sturgeon from 43-54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day pools, and may be kept for subsistence purposes.

Other rules: All other regulations for the ongoing zone 6 platform and hook and line fishery remain unchanged.

You can reach the tribes’ Natural Resources Branch at 541-553-2001.

Today could be **YOUR** Lucky Day!

IndianHeadCasino.com • 541-460-7777 • US-26, Warm Springs, OR 97761