Community update

Warm Springs Indian Health Service is hosting a COVID-19 vaccine clinic—please Protect Your Family. Protect Your Elders.

If you have COVID symptoms, please stay home. Everyone over the age of 5 is welcome. All vaccines are available. You do not need a vaccine dose, or second dose. The booster is available for those 12 and up.

Please call 541-553-2131 to schedule. Remember to bring your vaccine card.

Covid incidence

The Warm Springs COVID-19 Response Team updated the COVID incidence among the tribal community, as of February 4. On that date there were 92 people with active COVID-19 and 47 close contacts receiving daily monitoring.

On that date there were five community members hospitalized with COVID.

Vaccinations

For everyone in the community: If you have received two doses of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccines, or one dose of the J&J vaccine and it has been at least five months since your last dose of Moderna or Pfizer, or two months since your last dose of J&J, you are eligible for a booster dose.

If you are not boosted, or within six months of your vaccination series, you will be notified to quarantine if you are exposed to someone with COVID-19.

For anyone currently in isolation due to COVID, or are in quarantine, you must wait until you are out of isolation or quarantine to make your vaccination appointment.

Call to make your vaccine appointment at 541-553-2131. Appointments are available Monday–Friday in the Community Health Clinic from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For anyone currently in isolation due to COVID, or are in quarantine, you must wait until you are out of isolation or quarantine to make your vaccination appointment.

Being fully vaccinated is one of the best ways to protect yourself, your family and friends from becoming seriously ill from COVID-19. Data show that boosters help broaden and strengthen protection against the virus variants, including the Delta variant.

Precautions

If you have COVID symptoms, please stay home. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19.

Fever or chills.

Cough and shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.

Fatigue, muscle or body aches, and a headache.

New loss of taste or smell.

Some sore throat, congestion or runny nose; nausea or vomiting.

If you have any of these symptoms, please stay home.

On the Tribal Council agenda for February

The following are some of the items coming up on the Tribal Council agenda for the rest of February (subject to change at Council discretion):

Wednesday, February 9:

9:30 a.m.: Covid-19 update with the Response Team.

Tuesday, February 15:

9 a.m.: Secretary-Treasurer update with Glenwood Smith.

9:30 a.m.: March agenda and review minutes with the S-T.

10:30 a.m.: Enrollment updates with Lucille Suppach-Samson of Vital Stats.

2:15 p.m.: Gaming Commission/Surveillance update with Josephine Johnson.

Wednesday, February 16:

9 a.m.: Human Resources update with Carol Funk.

9:30 a.m.: Finance update with Jeanie George.

10:30 a.m.: Governmental Affairs update with Louis Pitt.

11:15 a.m.: Managed Care program update with Michael Collins.

1:30 p.m.: Administrative Services update with Glenwood Smith.

1:30 p.m.: Tribal Court update with Lois Lemma.

3:30 p.m.: Veterans Office update with Frank W. Williams.

4:30 p.m.: Health and Human Services update with Carole Cruz.

5:30 p.m.: Education update with Valerie Switzler.

For the Commissary business project

One of the most interesting business projects for the Tribes will be the Commissary incubator enterprise. The Warm Springs Community Action Team has been working on the business incubator idea for a few years now. It takes a lot of planning and coordination and the two months since your last dose of Pfizer or Moderna, or at least five months since your last dose of J&J.

If you have received two doses of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccines, or one dose of the J&J vaccine and it has been at least five months since your last dose of Moderna or Pfizer, or two months since your last dose of J&J, you are eligible for a booster dose.

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Fatigue, muscle or body aches, and a headache.

New loss of taste or smell.

Some sore throat, congestion or runny nose; nausea or vomiting.

If you have any of these symptoms, please stay home.
Warm Springs Telecom reported last weekend that an unknown vehicle struck and took down the Warm Springs fiber optic cable near the four-way intersection by the Community Center, at Hollywood Boulevard and Tenino Road. This also led to an electrical outage for Pacific Power and Light customers. Anyone who witnessed the accident is asked to contact Warm Springs Police, 541-553-1171. The fiber-optic cable is the Internet connection for the tribal organization; so the system was down for all the offices this week. The event also impacted the Warm Springs Academy, and customers off of Pelton dam. Phone systems were affected. Phones were down at the Indian Health Service clinic, so the health workers were using designated cell phone numbers on a temporary basis. Medical is 541-675-5268; Dental 541-777-7462; Optometry 541-777-7482; Pharmacy 541-675-5400; WIC 541-675-5379.

At left: The fiber optic cable was lying on the ground following the incident, though a crew later hung the wire up for safety.

The Madras Lady Buffs varsity basketball squad plays at home on Friday, February 11 at 7 p.m. The team won on the road recently in Molalla, moving to the top of the Tri Valley League with a 6-0 record. Friday they host Estacada then have a game at North Marion on February 15.
January 24, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 9:17 a.m. by Glendon Smith, Secretary-Treasurer. Roll call: Glendon Smith, Raymond ‘Captain’ Moody, Anita Jackson, Chief Joseph Moses, Delvis Heath, Chief Alfred Smith Jr., Lincoln Jay Suppah, Vice Chair Brigette McConville, Chairman Jonathan Smith, Peita Spann, Chief Delvis Heath. Minnie Yahtin, Recorder.

- Oregon State University Traditional Foods Project discussion with Rosanna Jackson.
- Tribal attorneys update.
- GoFundMe update with the Re- Clinton.
- Motion by Brigette adopting Resolution No. 12,896, the Tribal Council fully supports and encourages Warm Springs Telecom to build and provide high-speed internet on Warm Springs Reservation to serve the areas which are today without service, and we support any grants for which they may apply to achieve this goal. Second by Anita. Discussion. Glendon/yes, Joe/yes, Captain/yes, Delvis/yes, Alfred/yes, Lola/yes, Brigette/yes, Anita/yes, 8/0/0, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

Motion by Jay to adjourn at 5:05 p.m.

January 25

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by Chairman Raymond Tsampoo Sr. Roll call: Glendon Smith, Vice Chair Brigette McConville, Anita Jackson, Wilson Wewa Jr., Lola Sohappy, Chief Alfred Smith Jr., Chief Joseph Moses, Chief Delvis Heath. Minnie Yahtin, Recorder.

- GoFundMe update with the Re- Clinton.
- Motion by Brigette to adjourn at 3:55 p.m.

Vote on Nammy nominations

There are 21 Album and Artist categories with 16 Single Song and Video Categories this year for the Native American Music Awards, the Nammys. This year’s awards are for music and videos released from 2019 through 2021. From Warm Springs at the Nammys this year are the Best Dub Gospel Group or Duo Blue Flamez and YF for their song "Game Time”.

Vote on Nammy nominations.

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- Motion by Brigette to adjourn at 3:55 p.m.

- Fish and Wildlife Committee On-Reservation Committee update with Ronald Suppah.
- Education Committee update with Andy Garcia:
- Motion by Captain appointing Valerie Switzer as a representative to the Title VI. Second by Brigette. Discussion. Glendon/yes, Captain/yes, Delvis/yes, Alfred/yes, Lola/yes, Brigette/yes, Anita/yes, 7/0/0, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

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- Motion by Brigette to adjourn at 3:55 p.m.
Dear [Name],

Thank you for your support of the Cowboy News. Your annual subscription will go directly to my teacher to purchase valuable classroom resources. Thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]

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**Parenting, Anger Managing support groups starting soon**

**For my school**

I am helping my school with a really cool fundraiser! We have decided to host our first meeting of this course on this March. This will be a Zoom class in the evening. For those interested, this is a chance to talk about children's behavior and how to manage anger to prevent violence. Please join us for this exciting opportunity to learn about children's behavior and how to manage anger to prevent violence.

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Fisheries success at Pelton Round-Butte

Last year was a big one at Pelton Round-Butte, with record-breaking returns of adult Chinook from the upper basin, and funding for new restoration projects in the Crooked River.

There was the ongoing success of smelt acclimation, and the Confederated Tribes finalized plans to take additional ownership in the hydro facilities.

At the same time, the co-owners—Oregon and Portland General Electric—faced serious challenges, including extreme drought and resulting low flows in the Deschutes.

With snowpack building up on the mountains and predictions of positive ocean conditions, the partners are looking ahead, feeling optimistic about the months heading into 2022 feeling optimistic about the months heading into 2022.

In November, Chinook salmon were moved into the ladder, allowing the team to identify the areas most at risk for potential landslides.

The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission is advertising for the following positions:

- Public Information Specialist

For more information and to apply, go to the website and social media pages of the commission.

Local job growth continues

The Central Oregon region continues to post strong hiring numbers, as 2022 is under way.

Jefferson County includes much of the reservation, including the Warm Springs area.

The unemployment rate for all of Jefferson County has now fallen to 3.3 percent, far surpassing the pre-pandemic level of 4.1 percent.

Full-time employment rose by 60 jobs.

The county added 210 jobs over the past 12 months.

The single largest gains were with the tribes, including the enterprises.

Leisure and hospitality added 80, and manufacturing added 48.

Deschutes and Crook counties are also seeing significant employment gains over the past year, according to the latest number of the Oregon Department of Employment.

Nearby, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Oregon are proud to announce its member tribes.

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Nearly 600 trouts entered the Pelton trap, October to December 2021 (above).

At one time in the past, the Pelton Round-Butte fish ladder was the longest in the world.

For a little over a decade, adult fish moved into the Deschutes from the ocean used the ladder, built in 1957, to move safely past the hydro power project. In the 1970s, the ladder was converted to a routing facility for hatchery fish—a purpose it has served since that time.

In the summer of 2021, the facility operating team kicked into action to complete repairs and upgrades to the aging facility.

Engineers and contractors performed a geotechnical survey of the entire two-mile ladder, allowing the team to identify the areas most at risk for potential landslides.

The sections were then papier and bonded, so that flow will still be maintained even in the event of a rockfall. Additionally, the crew repainted the concrete, removed vegetation and sealed cracks.

In November, Chinook salmon were moved into the restored ladder, where they will remain until their release into the Lower Deschutes River in May.

In two years, the fish will return from the ocean.

Tribes want to boost traditional diets in federal food programs

A group of Native American tribal advocates are pointing out that food is both identity and power. And they would like Washington, D.C., to understand this.

The tribes are seeking more access to tribes on the federal food program choices. Specifically, they would like more traditional foods in aid programs.

The groups are planning new federal food programs, the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, and even the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Greater tribal control would encompass funding, and include the right to produce from tribal farms.

“Feeding your own people, that’s something better than that,” said Bryan Greene-Thomas, president of the National Association of Food Assistance Programs.

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The Covid-19 pandemic has disproportionately affected Indigenous populations across the country, including among children. In response, the Bureau of Indian Education announced today it is acquiring personal protective equipment to distribute to schools for the health and safety of the Tribal communities it serves.

"Tribal communities have been seriously impacted by the pandemic and have taken proactive measures to protect their communities to stop the spread of coronavirus for the past two years," said Bryan Newland, Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs.

"With this initiative, we are leveraging our existing resources in rural and remote communities to improve access to protective masks and respirators. These are critical public health tools that teachers, administrators and students need to protect themselves and others from Covid-19," BIE said.

BIE will distribute 600,000 surgical masks for K-12 students at all 183 BIE-funded schools and 600,000 N95 respirators to K-12 schools for staff and adults in student's households, as well as to Haskell Indian Nations University and Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute for students and staff.

"We must each do our part to protect ourselves and each other," said BIE director Tony L.earman. "We are deploying every resource at our disposal to help protect our students, staff and Tribal communities from this devastating global pandemic."

## Covid-19 case demographics update

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### Ages: Cumulative Deaths 2.2.2022

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</table>

The Covid-19 Response Team, Indian Health Service and Community Health updated the covid case demographics for the tribal community, as of February 2.

At the time of the report, there were 94 active cases in the community. Breaking down the total: There were 42 active cases among the unvaccinated; forty-two among those who were vaccinated without the booster; and 13 among the fully vaccinated with the booster.

At the February 2 time of the recent report: There were five in-patient Covid-19 hospitalizations among the community, bringing the total hospitalizations to 166 since the pandemic began.
Standoff closed Hwy. for 6 hours

Highway 26 between Warm Springs and Madras was closed to traffic for six hours last Wednesday afternoon, February 2.

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office received a 911 call at 8:30 a.m. when Warm Springs Police attempted to make a vehicle stop based on an outstanding warrant.

Rather than pull over, the driver continued south on the highway before running off on Pelton Dam Road where the driver then stopped.

The driver, a 45-year-old female from New York, was taken into custody without incident.

The male passenger, Janson Harrington, 34, refused to exit the vehicle. He brandished a firearm, harangueing himself and police, according to police. This prompted the six-hour closure of the highway.

After extensive negotiation, a tactical team used a flash bang device to get Mr. Harrington to exit the vehicle, the authorities said.

Harrington was wanted for crimes on the reservation, and on a felony traffic warrant in Jefferson County. As the scene of the stand-off on Pelton Dam Road.

Scene of the standoff on Pelton Dam Road.

Driver killed in Jan. wreck

In late January an SUV driver traveling at a high rate of speed, and passing other vehicles on Highway 26 on the reservation, collided head-on with a pickup truck, killing the driver and leaving two other people with minor injuries. The incident happened Friday, January 28.

Warm Springs Police and medics responded to the two-vehicle crash about 6 p.m. near milepost 74.

Based on the investigation, the driver of a 2007 Lucento SUV was heading west at a high rate of speed, and passing other vehicles on the highway.

The highway was closed between miles 74 and 80 for six hours.

The crash and investigation shut down a 25-mile stretch of Highway 26.

The driver was identified as John Bridges, 53, of Jefferson County. At the scene of the crash, authorities said.

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Two of the IHS regions with the highest overall incidence are in Arizona: The Navajo Area and the Phoenix Area. The Oklahoma City Area has also been among the highest, with Albuquerque. In fact, the Oklahoma City Area is now approaching the top hot-spot long held by the Navajo Area.

The club meets at the modulars by the former elementary school, Thomas at 541-771-9724. You can schedule an appointment for February by calling 541-553-3148.

Pills and other drugs seized during arrest.

The Central Oregon Drug Enforcement Team last week conducted a lengthy surveillance operation with the arrest of a Madras couple on inter-state drugs and weapons charges.

Officers with the Drug Enforcement Team received a warrant for the arrest of David Toussaint, 31, and his wife, Kyloe, 38. The officers stopped the couple’s vehicle in late January on Highway 97 near LaPine.

At the stop, the Warm Springs Police officers stopped the couple and arrested them, said officers.

Officers then found a large amount of fentanyl, methamphetamine and more weapons in the vehicle.

The couple also had their infant child in the vehicle.

An allegation is that weapons were being exchanged in California for drugs.

The Portland Area of the Indian Health Service reported the total for-felons for COVID-19 cases from late January to early February was 18 across the 12 IHS areas.

The most recent data is through late January 2022.

The Portland Area and California Area each reported a recent seven-day incidence rate of 10.6 percent, followed narrowly by the Alaska Area at 10.5 percent. The seven-day incidence rate was 11 percent. For comparison, the seven-day incidence rate for the Tucson Area was 46.4 percent.

For the period from late January to early February, Warm Springs has cases falling in recent weeks, from the large spike that happened in the weeks following the December holidays.

Twice the IHS regions with the highest overall incidence are in Arizona: The Navajo Area and the Phoenix Area. The Oklahoma City Area has also been among the highest, with Albuquerque. In fact, the Oklahoma City Area is now approaching the top hot-spot long held by the Navajo Area.

The Toledo team on Highway 97 near LaPine.

The officers stopped Toedtemeier, 31, and his wife, Kyle, 37, when they became suspicious for weapons charges.

Officers with the Drug Enforcement Team received a warrant for Toedtemeier’s arrest after a lengthy surveillance operation.

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Toedtemeier was wanted for crimes on the reservation, and on a felony traffic warrant in Jefferson County. As the scene of the stand-off on Pelton Dam Road.

February 9, 2022

New leader for NAGPRA

Federal officials announced the hiring of the first full-time Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act investigator at the Department of the Interior.

The new employee will help ensure that museums and other institutions are complying with the federal law, which requires the return of ancestral remains and cultural property to their rightful American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian caretakers and owners.

“Repatriation is a sacred responsibility for many Native Americans,” said Chuck Sams, a citizen of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation who serves as director of the National Park Service.

“We hope our efforts to streamline the requirements of NAGPRA and invest in additional staff will lead to more instances of proper and respectful return of Indigeneous ancestors and cultural items,” said Sams, who is the first Native person to lead the National Park Service.

CODE makes inter-state drugs, weapons arrests

The Warm Springs Community Action Team is offering Tax Aide again this year. You can schedule an appointment for February by calling 541-553-3148.

Youth Life Youth Club meeting in Warm Springs

The Young Life Youth Club meets on Thursdays in Warm Springs from 4:15 to 5:15 p.m. The club meets at the modulars by the former elementary school, where Bridges used to be located. There are food and games and more. Feel free to stop by! For more information contact Thomaso Thomas at 541-771-9724.

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**Covid case demographics update**

The most recent case demographics for the tribal community, as of February 2, 2022: Above is a week-by-week graph of cases since tracking began. As seen at the far right of this graph, the post-holiday surge has since begun to recede.

State overall reports drop in covid cases

For Oregon as a whole, the state Health Authority this month reported a marked decline in weekly Covid-19 cases. At the same time, though, hospitalizations and deaths were slightly higher. This was the trend into the beginning of this month. During a recent seven-day period, the Health Authority reported 43,606 new cases of covid in Oregon. This was a 22 percent decline from the previous seven-day tracking period. This was also the lowest weekly total in a month. At the same time, there were 739 new covid-related hospitalizations, a 13.9 percent increase over the previous week. Covid-related deaths more than doubled to 147 for the week.