

## Job openings

Kah-Nee-Ta High Desert Resort and Casino are accepting applications for the following positions:

**Accounts receivable/Hotel-food and beverage auditor**—Responsible for accounts receivable, credit cards, group billings and hotel and food beverage audit.

**Grounds/Maintenance**—responsible for maintenance of Hamlet units and grounds

**Controller**—Responsible for day-to-day operations of the resort/casino accounting and ultimately responsible for cage and drop operations.

Assists director of finance in establishing and maintaining controls safeguarding Tribal Assets and insuring compliance with all State and Federal regulations including those related to gaming.

**Night Auditor**—Responsible for reconciling hotel cashier transactions and prepare reports. Will also perform front desk and reservation duties.

**Industrial Mechanic**—Responsible for preventative maintenance and repair of building equipment through out property. May require evening and weekend work.

**Training Coordinator**—Coordinate and conduct training in identified areas of organization.

**Slot Technician**—Repair slot machines during a specific shift. Maintain preventative maintenance on all machines.

Provide excellent customer service to guests. Other duties as assigned.

All applicants must be 21 years old to work in the casino. The only area that 18-year-old can apply for is the casino snack bar.

All applicants must submit to and pass the drug and alcohol screening test prior to a job position being offered.

All applicants need to complete an Oregon State Police background police investigation prior to beginning work.

### Case manager position available

Jefferson County Mental Health is recruiting for position of case manager for developmentally disabled persons. This is a full time position with generous benefit package. Requires a bachelors degree and two years work in human services or five years of equivalent training and work experience including knowledge of the service system for persons with developmental disabilities. Persons familiar with Hispanic and Native American cultures are

encouraged to apply. Contact David White at 715 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite A, Madras, OR 97741 for County Application or call (541) 475-4457.

### Education retention specialist needed

An Education Retention Specialist is needed at a progressive non-profit organization. The Native American Youth Association is looking to fill the position with a high-energy, skilled candidate. Experience working with Native youth required. \$26,000 to \$32,000 plus benefits. Closes Sept. 14. Call (503) 288-8177, or e-mail at rebecca@nayapdx.org for a job description and application.

### 509-J job opening

Jefferson County School District 509-J has an opening at the Jefferson County Middle School as a Temporary Education Assistant, to work 6 hours a day (approximately 75 days). The salary range is \$9.17 to 11.89 an hour to begin September 13.

Interested candidates should contact Jefferson County Middle School District 509-J, 445 SE Buff Street, Madras, OR 97741; phone (541) 475-6192; email cthorpe@509j.net; Fax (541) 475-6856.

## Letters to the Editor

### Chiefs serve unique role for tribes

Ever since the landing of the pilgrims on the east coast of this country, and even hundreds of years before that, tribal leaders have existed. The Natives lived in peace and harmony with their surroundings, meaning respecting the provisions that earth naturally provided. As more and more emigrants came across the ocean from Europe and put claim to Native land, it became necessary to put chiefs in place to lead their people. Most of the Europeans entered the country on the east coast. As they did so, they attempted to drive the Natives further to the west, against their will. This caused conflict. The Natives tried to protect their homelands, their people, and use of the land they had occupied since time immemorial.

Through reading history books, most everyone is familiar with what took place after that. Wars with the cavalry, removal, displacement, disease, starvation, reservations, boarding schools, Christianity, attempts to "civilize" Natives, loss of culture and language. We are familiar with famous war chiefs. Some of the well-known ones were Crazy Horse, Geronimo, Sitting Bull, Chief Joseph. For every enemy a war chief killed, his recognition was an eagle feather placed in his war bonnet. There were not only war chiefs. There were individuals who were recognized as chief preservers of culture and tradition. These are now known as longhouse chiefs. Others were recognized as chief medicine men for healing purposes. Others were given the responsibility of overseeing the gathering and providing food such as salmon, deer meat, roots, and berries for their tribes. Others became whip men to discipline adolescents and children. Women were never appointed as chiefs. Their role was raising family and taking care of the home.

This is a fraction of a percent into taking a glimpse at what happened, and why. We look back hoping the worse of what we had to, and will have to endure, is a thing of the past.

Since the landing of the pilgrims, times and the role of chiefs have changed. Clearly, there is no need for a head war chief. In another sense, we do need a different type of chief, one who is capable of dealing diplomatically with business matters in a white man's world. Know and respect tradition and culture, but also be educated enough to understand and compromise with non-Indians. Have some business know-how: Know your Native family tree and understand that chiefs are chosen by heredity according to tradition and custom. Be an honest and respected member of your tribe. Listen to your tribe's needs. Acknowledge and respect your elders.

Many of these comments came from a recent meeting regarding appointment of a Wasco sub-chief. They are not intended to be final and we would like to see more meetings scheduled with the appropriate persons present to give their input. Here is my input that I did not express at the meeting, an afterthought: Language is for communicating, not an anchor for culture nor a badge of belonging. (Native) language was used to earn a living and was not an introverted attempt to keep a culture pure. To keep a culture and language pure is to stop growing. Language and culture should be allowed to be dynamically evolving, for both are ever changing.

The purpose of this writing is to bring attention to the fact our three chiefs are appointed to the council for life. We must always keep in mind they will have to be replaced one day because of death, resignation, or removal. Sub-chiefs need to always be waiting in the wings, and if qualified, ready and willing to fill those shoes.

Ginger Smith  
Wasco Tribal Member

### Regarding casino, new school, tribal council

Looks like it's time to get back into the swing of things and kinda stir up the mush. Lotsa stuff happening that our members need to know about. Anybody remember being told about building a CASINO on the Columbia River before it went into The Oregonian?

Those who are making these decisions don't realize they will put our young generation of people into a huge debt. The tribal voters made a decision by voting against building in Madras, and the decision to not build a casino anywhere for five years seems to be punishment for those who voted against it.

Whether they realize it or not, our governing are punishing the in other ways. Had we gone ahead with building a casino ON THE REZ, it

would have helped create employment for our people, we wouldn't have to get the governor's approval to build here on our own trust land, and most important, would not have to incur an enormous debt for both the current and future generations. They are helping our people to stay in poverty and not be self-sufficient. Many tribal members were laid off work at the mill and very little was done to help them get other work.... Where have all the GOOD workers gone? Many were "laid off" because they chose to speak the truth.

While all this is going on, where is the WSFPI Board looking? Is Council going to continue to stick their heads into the sand? Our people are being replaced right and left by non-Indians. Hello. Hello. Is anybody out there listening or going to do anything about it?

WSFPI isn't the only place we're being ripped off. How about accountability of TRIBAL COUNCIL? They took a trip to Las Vegas recently costing us \$14,000 to train 40 PEOPLE locally. Here is the real clincher in what the workshop covered: "Ethics, Nepotism, Conduct and Conflicts of Interest."

How many times have these issues come up in council in the last three terms? We will leave that up to the people to ponder upon. How many times has our Constitution and By-Laws been violated? Ethics, there's a good one for you - how many pecuniary interest topics came up involving personal gain and the person involved went ahead and voted? Most importantly, how much of this training did council absorb, bring home, and PUT TO USE? Hopefully, tribal members will see some improvement in all four areas since it was their money that paid for it.

How about the 5-K passing? It will be nice for the kids but can we afford it? We don't even have enough money to START building it. Which family stands to gain monetarily from the site it's being built on? How many of that family serves on council? There were less than 100 survey forms filled out for location, and other sites were even or close in number.

Some of us are old enough to remember what is in that landfill and we wonder if the site would pass an EPA inspection for asbestos from old buildings, battery acid, etc. After all, the safety of the children comes first, right? Again, the people got rooked. Those promoting passage of that school were within a few feet of the polling place urging tribal voters to vote yes. A limousine was going WS picking up voters. Are we so rich that we can afford such luxuries? Enough stirring for now. You will be hearing more as time goes on.

Rita Squiemphen

## GED classes start this month

From Warm Springs COCC - Yep, the Fall Quarter is really only weeks away. Just like all the other back-to-school activities, GED classes here on the reservation are beginning again.

Aside from the other details, we will shortly provide a very important reminder.

Remember that in January 2002 (that's right the January that is only a few months away) will bring a change in the entire battery of tests that must be mastered to earn a GED.

A preview of the new test set re-

veals that it is harder and longer. So, this upcoming Fall session is literally your last chance to prepare for and challenge the current set of test.

The Fall Quarter is 12 weeks long and will offer 24 class meetings to work toward earning your certificate.

September 18, Tuesday at 9:00 am is the first opportunity to register. It is also the first class session. Classes will meet Tuesday and Thursday mornings each week.

Two important items to note: First - You must register in person with the instructor.

Second - State regulations restrict seating to 20 persons

Availability is on **first come first served basis.**

All persons registering will receive a confidential pre-test which will provide immediate feedback about how much they must accomplish to be awarded a GED.

To repeat:  
Registration - September 18<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday - 9:00 am (in person only)  
Location - Tribal Education Branch building (Old Boy's Dorm) top floor.

## Fire and Safety hopes to recruit volunteers

### Department looking for at least 6 new volunteer members

The Warm Springs Fire and Safety Department faces the challenge of recruiting new volunteers. The department now has only half a dozen volunteers, but would like to increase that number to between 12 and 15.

"The volunteers play a critical role in the Fire and Safety Department. Quite frankly, the department couldn't make it without them," said Dan Martinez, department chief.

"Finding volunteers is very challenging," Martinez added. "Although the Warm Springs community has a high volume of ambulance calls, very few tribal members or other community members have become active volunteers."

The Fire and Safety Department has two full-time paid staff on duty at all times at the Warm Springs Firehall, and one person on duty at the Simnasho Firehall.

At these staffing levels, problems can arise if more than one emergency happens at roughly the

same time. In those situations, the volunteers are essential, said Martinez.

The volunteers at Fire and Safety include certified firefighters and Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs). The volunteers provide extra coverage, drive the ambulance, and otherwise assist the paid staff.

In its current campaign to recruit new volunteers, the Fire and Safety Department is providing some profile information on the people who work at the department. This effort is intended to help the Warm Springs community become more familiar with the Fire and Safety personnel, said Martinez.

Anyone interested in learning more about becoming a Fire and Safety volunteer should call 553-1634. The following are two profiles of current workers at Fire and Safety.

**Josh Evans** is a full-time Fire/Medic at Warm Springs Fire and Safety, where he has worked for two years.

Evans hopes to become an officer at Warm Springs Fire and Safety, and to pursue the next level of Emergency Medical Technician, which is an EMT-Paramedic. He currently is an EMT-Intermediate

and a Firefighter I.

He is also a Hazardous Materials Technician, and has received specialized training in Search and Rescue, High Angle Rescue, and Wildland Firefighting.

Josh became interested in Fire/Medic work after witnessing, within a short time, an accident that claimed the life of a friend, and several other accidents. "I wanted to be able to do something to help," he said.

Josh is an enrolled member of the Cherokee Tribe of Oklahoma. He is married to Jodi Evans, who also works at Warm Springs Fire and Safety.

For Josh, the hardest part of his job is "dealing with children who have been involved in accidents, especially when they have no choice." The best and more rewarding part of the job, he said, is "being able to help people out, making their situation better."

Before coming to Warm Springs Fire and Safety, Josh was affiliated for four years with Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue, where he was a captain, a ranking officer position with the fire service.

**Jodi Evans** is planning one day to become a Nurse Practitioner. Some more immediate goals include becoming a Registered

Nurse (RN), working in an emergency care section of a hospital, and becoming a flight nurse with Air Life.

Evans currently works part-time as a Fire/Medic at Warm Springs Fire and Safety. She has been with the department for a year and two months.

Jodi is an EMT-Intermediate, and also certified as a Firefighter I. She is a certified Nursing Assistant, a certified CPR instructor, and she holds an Associates of Sciences degree.

Jodi is a second year nursing student at Central Oregon Community College, where she will obtain her RN degree.

She received her firefighter training at Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue, one of the premiere Fire/EMS training programs in Oregon.

Explaining why she enjoys her work as a Fire/Medic at Fire and Safety, Evans said that she likes, "Helping people, being there and being able to something to help." The hardest part of the job is "being involved in other people's pain," she said.

She and her husband Josh recently built a home at Crooked River Ranch. Jodi said she enjoys the people and environment in Warm Springs.



Jodi Evans



Josh Evans

## Enterprise zone...

Continued from page 1

The Confederated Tribes do not currently impose a property or income tax on businesses; however, the Tribal Tax Commission has been studying options of taxation available to the tribes.

Like other government entities, the Tribal Council may in the future see the need for tax revenue to help fund police, fire and other essential services, said Mason. A tribal tax on a business, he said, would apply to a business on the reservation owned by non-tribal members.

If the tribes were to adopt such a tax, then this would raise the possibility of double-taxation, as the state also imposes an income tax on the business. Under HB 2332 this situation is remedied, as the business can offset its state tax bill by the full amount of the tribal tax.

In this way, new private businesses looking to locate in the region will find no tax disadvantage in choosing to locate on the reservation.

### Reservation enterprise zone

The second part of HB 2332 creates a reservation enterprise zone, a common business incentive used by rural communities in Oregon.

A new business that locates within a designated enterprise zone can qualify for a property tax exemption for three years.

Prior to HB 2332, if a new private business were to locate on the reservation and construct commercial or industrial buildings, then these buildings, if owned by the private party, would be subject to a county property tax.

The new law provides for the creation of an enterprise zone encompassing all of the tribes' trust property. New private business construction in the enterprise zone allows for deferral of this tax. "The hope is that this will lead to business development," said Mason.

The enterprise zone allows the tribes to compete for new businesses on more equal footing with neighboring communities, which have long-established enterprise zones.

Story idea?

Call

Spilyay Tymoo

553-3274