



Spilyay Tymoo

Coyote News, est. 1976

October 26, 2006 Vol. 31, No. 22

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Council endorses governor

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Tymoo

The Tribal Council of the Confederated Tribes by a majority vote has endorsed Gov. Ted Kulongoski in the upcoming election for Oregon governor. Kulongoski, Democrat, is facing Ron Saxton, Republican, in the Nov. 7 election.

The endorsement appears to be a first for the Tribal Council, said Louie Pitt, director of tribal Government Affairs. In the past the Council has written letters of support to candidates, and made financial contributions to campaigns, but had not taken a formal vote on a candidate's endorsement.

The current race for Oregon governor is of great importance to the Confederated Tribes, and the situation calls for extraordinary action, said Pitt. "It's clear we have one candidate who is for us, and one who we don't know much about," he said.

The tribes' plan to build the Bridge of the Gods casino at Cascade Locks is a main reason why the governor's race is important to the Warm Springs tribes.

The tribes have spent several years working on the project, and have spent a substantial amount of money in pursuing the plan.

Kulongoski supports the proposal, which also is favored by most people in Hood River County and Cascade Locks. Saxton opposes the plan. "We have extraordinary circumstances, and a clear choice of candidates," said Pitt.

The Council endorsement came at Pitt's request, because the election could determine the fate of a key pending project for the tribes. Kulongoski's policies on other topics, such as Medicare and social issues, are also factors in why the tribes are endorsing his candidacy, said Pitt.

Meanwhile, the Grand Ronde tribe, which operates the largest casino in the state, has run political ads against the Bridge of the Gods; and during the Primary election earlier this year the Grand Ronde ran ads opposing Kulongoski's nomination.

Wreck claims 2, injures 1

A single-vehicle car accident killed two tribal members and injured another on Oct. 16.

Warren Clements, 43, and Aaron Langley, 24, both of Warm Springs, died after their car crashed at milepost 75 on Highway 26.

The crash occurred at 8 p.m.

A third passenger, Leo Washington, was transported to Mt. View Hospital after sustaining injuries.

According to Lieutenant Stony Miller with the Warm Springs Police Department, Washington was treated for a severely broken arm.

His injuries were not life threatening, Miller added.

Miller said the men were returning to Warm Springs after traveling to Portland.

The car struck a guardrail after the driver drove onto the shoulder and overcorrected.

Tribal Council addresses issues raised in survey

By Maren Cohn
for the Spilyay Tymoo

Tribal Council met in a one-and-a-half-day workshop session Oct. 12-13 to discuss the recent membership survey and how the Council and tribal administration can do a better job of improving life on the reservation.

Participation was strong, with ten Council members attending on the first day and all 11 on the second. Senior administrative officials also attended, including the Secretary-Treasurer, Chief Operating Officer, Chief Financial Officer, and the

manager of Human Resources.

Council adopted two resolutions dealing with economic strategy and administrative reform during the workshop, and agreed to hold another session in early November to address Council's own governance practices.

The four-item agenda made for a full day and a half. Presentation and discussion of the opinion survey occupied all of Thursday morning. Adam Davis, of the opinion research firm Davis, Hibbits & Midghall, presented the results and fielded questions. Workshop facilitator Clint Jacks, a former Oregon State extension director who

has long experience working with the tribe, then asked Council members to respond to what they had heard.

Council members generally agreed with the survey results and recognized their validity. They responded positively to the membership's views on vision, priorities, and the need for a better economy.

They also acknowledged, with some discomfort, the people's low opinion of reservation government. Council members frequently spoke to the effect that "we've known this for a long time." That said, the group also acknowledged the survey's usefulness in bringing the

membership's views clearly into the open. As one Council member remarked, "The skeleton is out of the closet and now we have to talk about it."

Council members noted the need for better communication and leadership, and they agreed that changes would have to start at the top. The group expressed a clear desire to get their own house in order. In the words of one, "The question now is, are we strong enough as leaders to make the changes that are needed?"

See TRIBAL COUNCIL on 11

Sanders named top citizen

By Leslie Mitts
Spilyay Tymoo

Community members agree that Jeff Sanders is an excellent citizen, and now he's getting even more recognition for his involvement.

Sanders received the 2006 "Community Champion Award" from the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce at the Chamber Awards Banquet on Oct. 21.

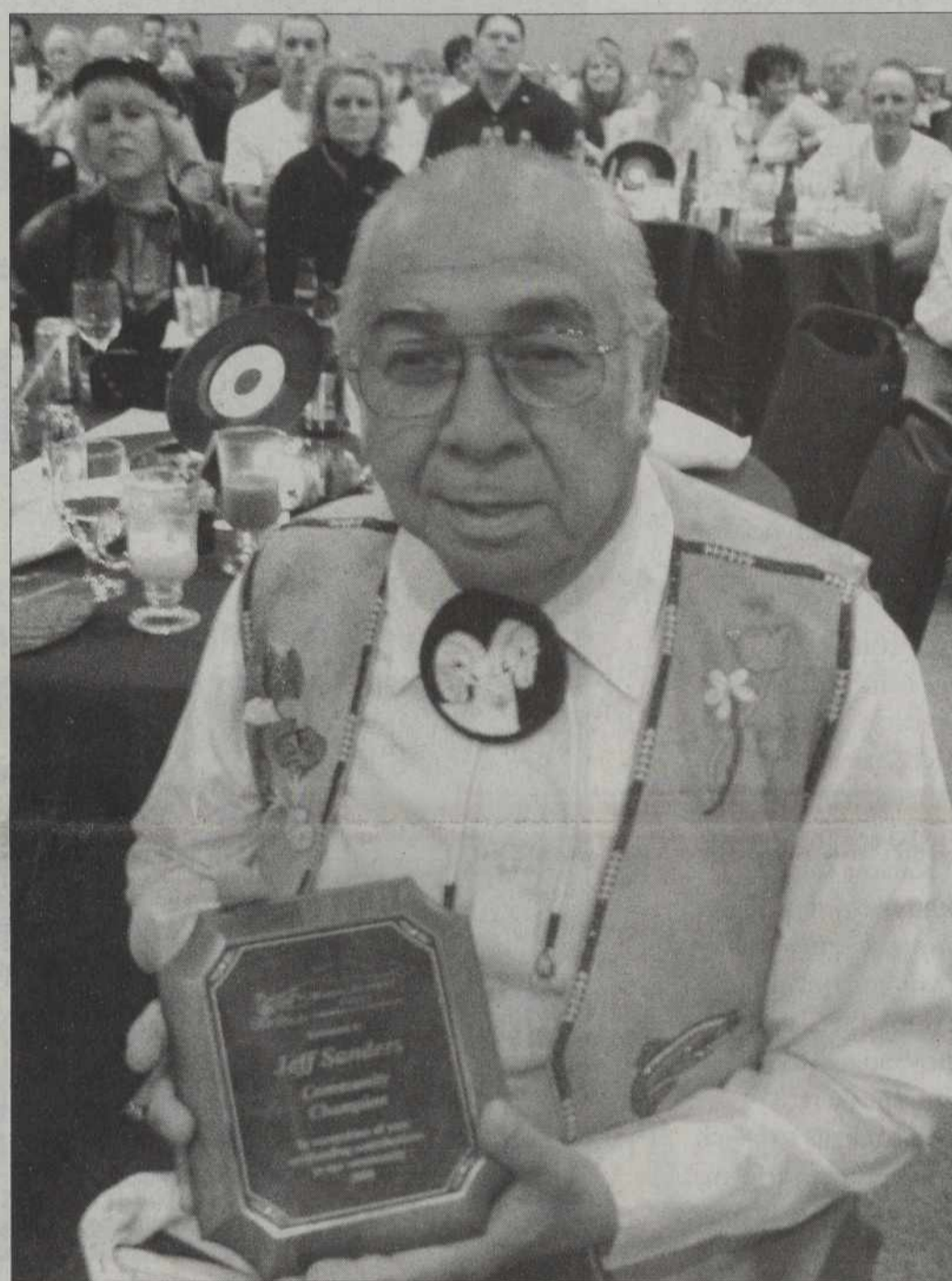
Ken Smith and Delvis Heath presented the award to Sanders.

"This year's recipient has really earned the honor," Smith said before announcing Sanders' name.

Smith told the crowd about Sanders' longtime involvement with the tribes and spoke of his work history.

While he first began working as a gas station attendant, Sanders eventually moved on to work at the police department—where he later became chief of police.

See SANDERS on 10



Jeff Sanders was named the community champion of the year.

Heath was famous for riding skill

By Nat Shaw
For the Spilyay Tymoo

A former renowned thoroughbred jockey and son of the late Warm Springs Chief Nathan Heath died in Warm Springs Monday evening, October 16, 2006.

Martinez "Peanuts" Heath died of natural causes. Heath was born in Simnasho, on the Warm Springs Indian Reservation, May 4, 1945.

Heath was nicknamed Peanuts because of his size. As a youth he was active in the Boy Scouts and was the state marble shooting champion.

At the age of 16 his prowess as a jockey was being recognized around the race tracks in the Northwest. Legendary jockey Johnny Longden saw the young Heath ride at Portland Meadows as an apprentice and quickly took him under his wing.

The Hall of Fame jockey said, "He has all the natural ability and it is up to his own desire as to how far he will go in racing."

In 1963 Heath rode seven winners in one day at Fresno, California. In 1966 he rode 105 winners.

In 1967 he rode Renewed Vigor to victory in the Equipoise Mile in Chicago. Heath was the regular rider on Champion thoroughbred Nodouble.

In twenty-five years of riding, Heath rode at major race tracks in the Bay Area, Southern California, Chicago, New York, Detroit, St. Louis, Florida, New Orleans and the Northwest.

He was a force to be reckoned with on the race track. His fellow jockeys affectionately called him "Injun Number Nine."

Continued in HOWLAK TICHUM on 7

Museum and Power Enterprises update Council on recent projects

By Leslie Mitts
Spilyay Tymoo

Tribal council heard reports from the Warm Springs Power and Water Enterprise and the Museum at Warm Springs during a meeting on Oct. 10.

Jim Manion, manager of the Power and Water Enterprise, spoke to the council about several projects currently underway and some that are slated to begin in upcoming years.

He said they are working to develop funding for patrol services on the Pelton Dam reservoir as well as compile a boating code.

In addition, Manion said, they are looking at potential designs for the Round Butte Selective Water Withdrawal Project.

That project will work to control the temperature of the reservoir and to develop a method to pump fish out of the Metolius River.

In addition, the water quality will be improved, Manion said.

The fish will then be transported to other sites in order to boost fish populations.

Original plans for the project began ten years ago.

In order to complete the project, a device will have to be installed below 270 feet of water—but that's not something that is impossible, Manion said.

To do so, workers will float the device above the projected location and divers will secure it below the water.

"There are going to be some water management issues that have to be coordinated," Manion said.

"It's a significant undertaking," Manion told the council.

They expect the project to be complete in 2009.

Manion also spoke to the council about the current issues with the Section 1813 of the 2005 Energy Act.

The act states that energy rights of way must be identified—some of which run through the Warm Springs reservation.

"We've been arguing very strongly that it's not an issue in Indian Country," Manion said.

Currently they are developing energy supply plans and looking at the value of easements on allotted lands.

For the future, Manion spoke to the council about the possibility of a Wind Energy Assessment Program, which would use the wind as a source of energy for tribal land.

Before that's possible, he added, it would be necessary to examine environmental constraints and market conditions.

Manion also said that they are looking into developing a Geothermal Power Development using a volcanic area of Mt. Jefferson.

"Everything that we've been told so far said there's potential for geothermal up there," he said.

Representatives from the Museum at Warm Springs spoke to the council about upcoming plans for the remainder of 2006.

Director Carol Leone said she's received inquiries from other tribes who are looking to develop tribal museums in the future.

This year they will be retooling the Huckleberry Harvest to increase the profit from it—including moving the event to a different time of year.

Debbie Stacona, gift shop manager, said this year they will be bringing back the Starlight Festival.

The event will take place on Dec. 10.

The Starlight Festival has not taken place for almost five years she said, and features a meal cooked for community member by museum staff members.

Staff members will also be making wreaths to sell and setting up a Christmas bazaar.

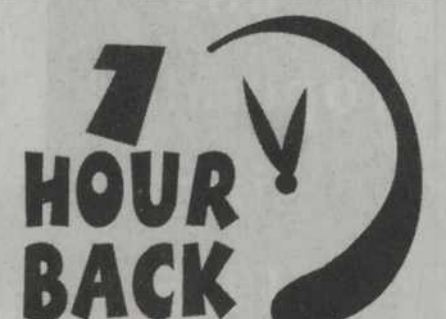
An honor dinner will take place so the museum staff members can give awards to lifelong contributors sometime in the future as well.

In order to cut costs, the museum will be closing to the public on Mondays and Tuesday.

General Council meeting Oct. 30

There will be a General Council meeting on Monday, Oct. 30 at the Agency Longhouse. The agenda item is the 2007 tribal budget.

Everyone is welcome to join the Council in the discussion of next year's budget. Dinner is at 6 p.m. and the meeting starts at 7.



Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, Oct. 29.