

Spilyay Tymoo

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Districts choose Council candidates

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Tymoo

The three districts held their Tribal Council nomination meetings this week.

The nominees will be reviewed by Council to make sure all those nominated qualify for election to Council; and then election will be set.

The new Tribal Council will take office in May 1; so early April is a likely time for the election. The newly elected Council will be the Twenty-Fourth Tribal Council of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. As of Tuesday morning (deadline for this paper), those nominated were as follows:

Agency District:

Bruce "Mickey" Brunoe Sr., Mike Clements, Eugene Austin Greene Jr., Daisy Ike, Lonny James, Cassie Katchia, Bernice Mitchell, Jeff Sanders Sr., Mary Sando-Emhoolah, Alex Smith, Alfred Smith Jr., Gene Smith, Randy Smith, Stanley "Buck" Smith, and Rita Squiemphen.

Walter "Spud" Langnese III and Urbana Brunoe Manion were nominated but declined.

Seekseequa District:

Reuben Henry, Lauraina Hintsala, Wendell Jim, Myra Johnson Orange, Julie Quaid, Brenda Scott, Alvis Smith

III, and Wilson Wewa Jr.

Simnasho District:

Harold Blackwolf Sr., Frank Charley, Gerald Danzuka, Ellison David, Calvin "Bumstead" Queahpama, Raphael Queahpama, Earl Squiemphen, Emerson Squiemphen, Aurolyn Stwyer, Earland Suppah, Ronald Suppah Sr., Raymond Tsumpti Sr., and Vincent Guy Wallulatum.

Close to 2,600 voters

The total number of eligible voting members of the Confederated Tribes is about 2,590, said Madeline Queahpama-Spino, director of Vital

Statistics.

The largest district is Agency with about 1,800 voters. Simnasho District has about 950 voters. And the Seekseequa District has 230 voters. Three representatives each will be elected from Agency and Simnasho, and two from Seekseequa.

Those voting members on the reservation can then turn their ballots in at the polling place in the Community Center. Off-reservation members vote by absentee ballot.

(Note to candidates: Please come by or contact the Spilyay Tymoo in order to submit your candidate statement. Thank you.)

Different approach to adoption election

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Tymoo

Tribal members ages 18 and over will be receiving registration forms in the mail soon for an adoption election to be held this summer.

This year the BIA is handling the adoption election, rather than the tribes.

The past two adoption elections conducted by the tribes failed for lack of sufficient voter turnout.

The BIA, or secretarial process has no minimum turnout requirement; so this year the results for each individual adoption candidate will be valid, said Lori Anderson, BIA administrative officer. If a candidate receives a majority of yes votes, the person will be adopted into the Confederated Tribes. If the person does not receive a majority of votes in favor, the person is not adopted into the tribes.

The change in process came after review of the tribal Constitution, which indicates the adoption elections should be secretarial rather than tribal, said Anderson.

The voter registration forms should be returned to the BIA within 14 days of receiving the forms in the mail, in order to be eligible to vote. The election will be held 90 days after the registration process, said Anderson. Anyone who wants an absentee ballot should request from the BIA.

There are about 100 adoption candidates, said Madeline Queahpama-Spino, director of Vital Statistics.

The previous two adoption elections were held in the fall of 2001 and then in early 2002. Both of these failed for lack of turnout. The last successful adoption election was conducted in October 1996.

To qualify for inclusion on the ballot, a person must be at least 1/8 Indian, and a descendant of a Confederated Tribes member or former member. Local residency is also a requirement. According to the residency requirement, the candidate must have lived on the reservation for three years in order to qualify for the ballot.

Celilo Legacy



Tribal canoes arrive at Celilo Village, during the events commemorating the 50 year anniversary of the flooding of Celilo Falls. About 1,000 people showed up for the events, which lasted two days, Saturday and Sunday, March 10-11. Events were at the park, and at Celilo Village, where the new longhouse was the scene of commemorative ceremonies. Celilo Falls was located eight miles upriver from The Dalles dam, and was flooded on March 10, 1957, ending the tribal fisheries site that had existed since time immemorial.

Fire Management recognized as best in Northwest

By Leslie Mitts
Spilyay Tymoo

Hard work paid off for the staff at Fire Management.

Warm Springs Fire Management recently received the annual "Outstanding Unit Award" from the Northwest Interagency Coordination Center.

According to Stephen Dickenson, emergency operations manager, each year the staff at the Northwest Interagency Coordination Center presents an award to the outstanding unit of the year. The award, he explained, recognizes people who display confidence, excellent levels of service, good attitudes and quality work ethic in general.

As for Warm Springs Fire Management, he said, "They did exactly that."

While the staff remained exceptionally busy with local matters in Warm Springs, Dickenson said, "They also provided service to both their neighbors."

Crews traveled to the Deschutes National Forest and Mt. Hood National Forest, Dickenson said, and also provided camp crews.



Norman Lucei and Ken Lydy display the award they received from the Northwest Interagency Coordination Center.

"Mostly these ten-person crews go out and help us establish and maintain living conditions out in these fire

camp," Dickenson said.

"They really are the unsung heroes," he added. For those out fighting fires,

the camp crews provide an extensive amount of support back at camp, Dickenson said.

When crews return back to camp, Dickenson said, "You want to be able to sleep in a good area and have a cold drink of water. These are the people that work tirelessly to make sure these fires are supported."

Ken Lydy, assistant fire management officer, said the camp crews spent a total of 376 days at camps last year—with multiple crews traveling throughout Washington, Oregon and California.

"The community really delivered the camp crews last summer," Lydy said. In return, he said, "They brought back into the community almost half a million dollars."

In the past, Lydy said, crews have traveled throughout the U.S. Two years ago crews traveled to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, he said.

The local Hot Shot crew program also provided support this summer, Dickenson added.

Those crews spent a total of 83 days

in the field.

But the Northwest Interagency Coordination Center wanted to recognize more than just the amount of work that Fire Management does.

One of the major reasons for the award, Dickenson said, involves the level of customer service provided.

According to Dickenson, "Ken Lydy and his staff give you cheerful, good service. You can call them in the middle of the most difficult of situations and they will say, 'What can we do for you?'"

As a team, Dickenson said, the staff at Fire Management is very positive and upbeat.

Besides providing support to fire crews throughout the northwest this summer, Dickenson said, there were plenty of fires nearby and locally that had to be dealt with.

The ability of Fire Management to handle so many things at once combines with their competency as a staff to make them the outstanding center of the year for 2006, Dickenson said.

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