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# Spilyay Tymoo

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## Date for adoption election delayed

By Dave McMechan  
Spilyay Tymoo

There has been a delay in the tribal adoption election. The election had been scheduled for October 11, but the date will have to be rescheduled.

The Warm Springs office of the BIA, which is conducting the election for the tribes, became occupied in recent months with the response to the wildfires that were burning on the reservation.

As a result, the voter registration process has been delayed, and the election will have to be set for a later

date. A specific date was not available as of earlier this week.

In the past, the Confederated Tribes have conducted the tribal adoption elections.

There has been difficulty in recent years, however, in reaching sufficient voter turnout for a valid election.

The BIA process may help avoid this result, as tribal members will have to register to vote in the upcoming adoption election. In the tribal election, a turnout of half the eligible voters is required for a valid election. In the BIA process, a turnout of half of the registered voters is required, so the likelihood of a valid election is greater.

The BIA, with the assistance of tribal Vital Statistics, is planning to mail out about 4,000 envelopes to tribal members over the age of 18. The will contain the voter registration form and a stamped return envelope.

Tribal members who are interested in voting in the election will have about a month to return the completed registration form, said Lori Anderson, BIA administrative officer.

In the upcoming adoption election, all of the candidates on the ballot will be either voted into the tribe or not voted in.

Previous adoption elections have considered each candidate individu-

ally.

Also, the candidates on the upcoming ballot were not required to live on the reservation for the previous three years, as has been a qualification in the previous two adoption votes, both of which failed for lack of turnout.

The standards to qualify for the ballot are that the person have one-eighth Indian blood, and have at least one ancestor who was a member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

The last successful adoption election was conducted in 1996.

## Members hear update on gaming

By Leslie Mitts  
Spilyay Tymoo

Gaming board members presented a master plan for Kah-Nee-Ta and the future Bridge of the Gods Casino to the public at a general council meeting on Sept. 10.

Though many community members expressed concern during a question and answer portion of the evening, the board members presented profitable projections for the future.

According to Garland Brunoe, general manager of Kah-Nee-Ta, part of the master plan involves necessary upgrades to the Kah-Nee-Ta resort.

For instance, in the future they hope to add attractions like paved bike trails in addition to various architectural upgrades and landscaping changes.

That also includes upgrades that are currently taking place.

This past year 54 new slot machines were added and have been doing well, in addition to a new in-house marketing plan, he said.

While they had planned to upgrade the snack bars, Brunoe added, they have not yet been able to due to a lack of available contractors.

However, he said, the plan to add a second pool slide will be completed in mid-October.

That should create additional revenues, he said, and the resort is already over budget this year by about \$700,000.

Throughout the summer season this year, Brunoe said, Kah-Nee-Ta employed 76 youth workers and two shuttle drivers.

Due to the success of the shuttle, he added, they are considering expanding the route to Simnasho.

He views the summer youth work program as ideal because it gives students the chance to become interested in the hospitality field at a young age and progress in a variety of positions over the years.

Currently Kah-Nee-Ta employs approximately 420 people, Brunoe said, 197 of which are tribal members.

Staff members are searching for a new Director of Finance, Brunoe added, and have interviewed several candidates.

"That is a critical position," Brunoe explained.

For 2007, the reported projected revenues will total \$22 million. With \$18 million in projected expenses and loan payments, the annual cash profit is project at about \$4 million.

Out of that \$4 million, \$1.5 million will serve as an annual distribution to the tribal government. The rest will pay for ongoing major improvements and for items out of the master plan—such as contributions to the Bridge of the Gods project in Cascade Locks.

A chart displaying projected profits indicated that by 2011, revenues for Kah-Nee-Ta should total approximately \$26 million. At that point there will no longer be loan payments, so projected cash profits will total about \$6 million.

There are various phases of improvement included in the master plan, and one aspect involves adding in an emphasis on cultural immersion and ethno-tourism in order to educate guests more about local culture.

Another aspect of the master plan involves moving the tribes' casino operations to the future Bridge of the Gods casino in Cascade Locks.

For that project, the projected revenues for the first year total approximately \$242.1 million.

See GENERAL COUNCIL on 7

## New school year begins

Students have returned to school at Warm Springs Elementary School, the middle school and high school, and to the various boarding and vocational schools and colleges.

At the elementary school, there are 430 students, including the kindergartners. Principal Dawn Smith said the elementary school teachers are approaching math in a different way. "We weren't satisfied with our math scores," she said. "So that's going to be our focus."

The new school year kicked off with the Back-to-School BBQ. The event provided 500 students with a backpack and school supplies and fed over 900 meals. Sponsors included: Community Counseling, Composite Products, Power Enterprises, Ventures, Kah-Nee-Ta High Desert Resort and Casino, Brightwood Corporation, Les Schwab, Mountain View Hospital, Warm Springs Elementary School, Workforce Development Department, Johnson O'Malley Committee, Community Health, Chief Operations Officer, KWSO, and the Tribal Education Committee.

First-graders Amaya Bisland (bottom of slide) and Gracie WhitePlum take a break from class during recess on the first day of school.



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

## Building taking shape for Credit Enterprise

By Dave McMechan  
Spilyay Tymoo

The new Credit Enterprise building is nearing completion.

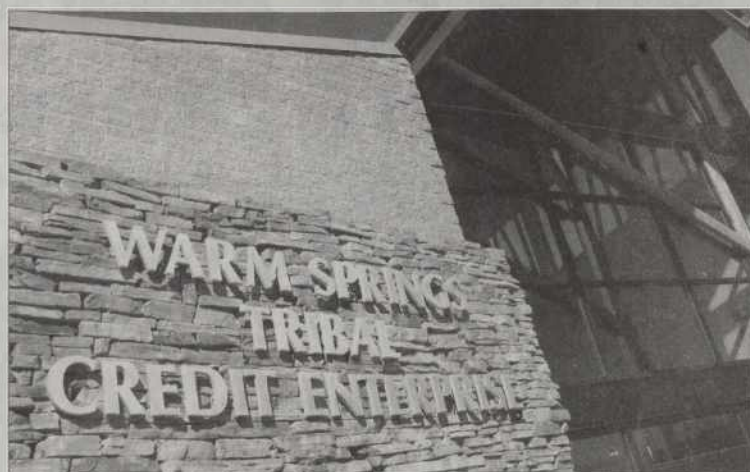
Construction should be done in October, said Lori Fuentes, manager of the tribal Credit Enterprise.

The floor covering, landscaping and parking lot of some of the aspects of the building that still need to be done, said Fuentes.

The ground-breaking for the project was in February, and construction has proceeded substantially on time, she said.

Fourteen full-time Credit employees will work in the building, which is 9,200-square-foot in size.

There will be a drive-up window that will be leased to a bank, said Fuentes. The window could be shared between



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

The new Credit Enterprise building is scheduled for completion in October.

the bank and Credit, so that customers can drop off Credit-related paperwork at the window, as well as use the drive-

up for standard banking needs.

Part of the building may also be leased to a bank on a part-time basis,

and there will be a full-time ATM machine in the entryway of the building.

Credit will host a grand opening at the new building, once the enterprise has moved from the Administration building to the new facilities.

Credit will be conducting a logo contest with a prize for the winning entry, said Fuentes. The plan is to announce the winner at the grand opening. Look for more details regarding the logo contest in the near future.

The idea for the new Credit Enterprise building first came to the Credit board several years ago. There is a need, the board agreed, for more office space for Credit, which became a self-funding enterprise about 10 years ago.

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