



Photo courtesy of Michelle J. Singer, One Sky Center

Sen. Barack Obama, candidate for the Democratic nomination for President, visited Portland in September, addressing a gathering of over 4,000 people at the Oregon Convention Center. During his visit, Sen. Obama met with Ron Suppah, chairman of the Tribal Council of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. Also at the meeting were tribal planner Lonny Macy, who serves on the Columbia River Gorge Commission, and J.P. Olney Patt Jr., executive director of the Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission. Chairman Suppah presented the Senator with a beaded necklace that Obama is wearing in the photo above.

Many tribal employees taking college classes through new Education program

Nearly 50 employees of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs are newly enrolled students in college courses, many of which are being held on the reservation.

There is space remaining for additional students, in the event that other tribal members wish to enroll.

So far, the employees who have enrolled are from the Early Childhood Education Center, the Culture and Heritage Department, and Human Services.

The classes being offered are the result of a new Higher Education Partnership among the Confederated Tribes, Oregon State University, Central Oregon Community College, and the Cascades Center for Community Governance.

The program is made possible through a federal grant for \$210,000, awarded in 2006, to explore how American Indian tribes in rural areas can create higher education opportunities.

Shared funding comes from the Head Start Bureau, based in Colorado, and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Higher Education.

Over two years, the outside funding will support research on a variety of activities on the Warm Springs Reservation, including information sharing about college attendance, advisement, tutoring, local coursework, Web-based class offerings, child care for employed students, and ongoing support for employees new to higher education, as well as those who have interrupted their education to take care of family members or work on behalf of the tribes.

A five-phase model based on "transformative learning" has

been developed, and is being tested by the program.

If it continues to be as successful, as seems likely given its encouraging beginnings, the approach will be shared with other tribes across the nation. Many of them are also located in very rural areas and also see a need for more higher education for tribal members and other tribal employees.

To date, five college classes have been held at Warm Springs in the Early Childhood Education Center.

Enrollments have ranged from 15 to 27 students, and each class has had a higher enrollment than the previous class.

Scheduled fall classes include 400 level Families and Poverty from OSU and Math 60 and Writing 60 from COCC.

The math and writing sequences will continue on the reservation at increasing levels throughout the year, and OSU will offer an additional class locally each quarter.

Additional tribal employees are taking classes over the Internet or traveling to Redmond or Bend to earn college credits.

Each interested tribal employee will gain an individual plan for higher education and/or continuing education.

Plans are being developed based on each individual's interests, entering skills, past educational history, personal preferences, and desired rate of course attainment.

Persons interested in enrolling in college work must take two placement tests to ensure that they start at the correct level to foster success in their college coursework. For additional information, contact Tedi

Tanawasha in the Tribal Higher Education Office, 553-3311.

This grant program is intended to determine how Indian tribes in rural areas can increase the number of Head Start and other employees with access to higher education.

There are five aims of the Higher Education Partnership research:

1) Implement and test a plan for individualized educational planning for all employees of the Tribal Early Childhood Education Center.

2) Evaluate the success of a plan to increase by 50 percent the enrollment of Early Childhood Education Center staff in higher education.

3) Evaluate three approaches to academic and emotional support for college students (individual online mentoring, individual face to face tutorials, and cohort model mentoring).

4) Develop and test an approach to staff training in Culture and Heritage with consideration for developmentally appropriate education for children from birth to age 5 along with strategies for carrying the children's cultural learning into home environments.

5) Disseminate the findings of this research to the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Indian educators nationally, Head Start networks, and the broader early childhood community. Accordingly, the results of the Warm Springs program will be shared nationally through articles and conference presentations.

Dr. Sharon Rosenkoetter of OSU's Department of Human Development and Family Sciences at Corvallis is principal investigator, together with co-

principal investigator Tedi Tanawasha, Higher Education Director for the Confederated Tribes. Clint Jacks, retired OSU Extension leader, serves as site coordinator, and Teresa Hogue is the fiscal agent for the Cascades Center for Community Governance, recipient of the grant award.

Wendell Jim, manager of the tribes' Education Branch, has also been involved in developing the program.

To date, more than 50 employees of the tribes have expressed an interest in beginning or re-entering higher education and pursuing a degree.

"Many of these individuals are already caring for children or older family members, working full-time, and otherwise contributing to their Warm Springs community, so this commitment to gaining higher education is very impressive," said Rosenkoetter.

"As the employees gain concepts and skills from college coursework, they will be able to improve child and family services in Warm Springs and also to advance opportunities for themselves and their own families. And as the Partnership program determines the strategies that are helpful, we will be able to share ideas and proven practices with tribes across the United States."

There are two other such partnerships between tribes and universities in the United States. They are housed at Michigan State University, partnering with 12 tribes in that state, and Arizona State University, partnering with the Navaho. For additional information, contact:

SharonRosenkoetter@oregonstate.edu

Workshop helps to cope with chronic pain

"Living Well With Chronic Conditions" is a six-week workshop for people with any chronic health condition.

Examples of chronic conditions are asthma, diabetes, heart disease, arthritis, among other ailments.

The workshop is today, Thursday, Sept. 27 at High Lookee Lodge. There is no cost for this workshop, which is from 1:30 to 4 p.m.

The workshop is for individual with a chronic health condition, and for care providers who take care of someone with a chronic con-

dition. The workshop teaches practical skills for living a healthy life with an ongoing health condition.

Topics covered: managing symptoms, medication "how-to," working with your health care team, effective problem solving, how to relax, tips for eating well, setting weekly goals, better communication, handling difficult emotions, and safe exercise.

Please contact Jodi at 553-1196, ext 4141 to register.



3rd Annual
Festival Of Nations
September 29 & 30th
10am-6pm on Saturday
10am-5pm on Sunday

Marine Park
Cascade Locks, Oregon

10K Salmon Run
Saturday at 8am

Food • Music • Dancers
Oral History • Games
Art • Interactive displays
Fun for the Whole Family

For more information go to
www.cascadelocks.net



Kah-Nee-Ta introduces expanded poker room

In response to the continued growth in popularity of poker, particularly Texas Hold 'Em, Kah-Nee-Ta High Desert Resort and Casino has expanded and relocated its poker room to a larger and more private location within the casino.

Kah-Nee-Ta's new poker room will occupy 2,500 square feet of space on the garden level of the casino, which is located downstairs

from the main gaming floor.

The poker room will initially offer three tables for play, with plans to add a fourth table in the future. The poker room at Kah-Nee-Ta is open for play weekly from Thursday through Saturday, beginning at 4 p.m.

"Moving the poker room to a more intimate and comfortable setting for live poker is part of our year-long casino makeover," said Marissa Livengood, director of opera-

tions at Kah-Nee-Ta High Desert Resort and Casino.

"This also includes converting the third floor of the casino to non-smoking, the addition of new slot machines, expanded hours for blackjack and adding some new specials to the Chinoook Room menu. Guests can anticipate more changes in the near future."

Celebrating its 35th anniversary in 2007, Kah-Nee-Ta is the Northwest's only destination re-

sort, spa and casino.

The Central Oregon resort offers more than 325 slot machines, blackjack, poker, an 18-hole golf course, the full-service Spa Wanapine, natural hot spring-fed pool, complete meeting and convention services, and a variety of lodging options including resort, teepee camping and RV sites.

For information and reservations call 1-800-554-4786 or visit www.kahneeta.com.

IRA'S SALES & SERVICE, INC.



24-HOUR TOW SERVICE

WE BUY JUNK CARS

Scrap Metal Used Auto & Truck Parts
Wrecking Service Diesel Trucks Pick-ups & Cars

475-3861

181 SW Merritt Lane, Madras


