

# Tribes, state meet at summit

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs recently hosted the Government to Government Summit. The summit brings together officials of the state of Oregon, and the state's federally recognized tribes.

"This is a great opportunity for a dialogue with the nine tribes of Oregon, establishing a relationship, and working with the state," said Aurolyn Stwyer, Tribal Council vice chairwoman of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

Gov. Kulongoski was on hand representing the state; and on behalf the tribes were tribal chairs and their staff members. Eight of the nine tribes were hand, with Cow Creek Band of Umpqua unable to attend. The summit, this year marking its tenth anniversary, was held at Kah-Nee-Ta High Desert Resort and Casino.

During his comments, Gov. Kulongoski addressed the issue of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs' plan to develop a casino at Cascade Locks. Kulongoski has supported the tribes for several years, and has approved a gaming compact with the tribes for a casino at Cascade Locks.

At the summit, Kulongoski said the issue is a difficult one, but that his decision to support the tribes is the right one for the state, the community of Cascade Locks, and the tribes. He also



Photo courtesy of Will Robbins

Tribal Council vice chairwoman Aurolyn Stwyer met with Gov. Ted Kulongoski at the recent Government to Government Summit at Kah-Nee-Ta.

expressed his belief that the project eventually will happen.

He discussed state health care and economic development issues, emphasizing the state's relationship with the tribes is of vital importance in the many facets of state governance. "And there is no state that has a better state-to-tribal relationship than Oregon," he said.

Gov. Kulongoski also addressed the issue of water in eastern Oregon. He proposed the idea of building large water storage areas in eastern Oregon to help protect fish and farms, and to guard against the poten-

tial of lower snowpacks in the future due to global warming. Kulongoski said he intends to ask lawmakers in February to approve spending on a feasibility study of storing water above and below ground in the Umatilla Basin.

Participating in the Government to Government Summit this year were hundreds of state and tribal officials.

Tribal leaders said the summit is essential in keeping the lines of communication open between the tribes and the state.

## Army engineers to lure salmon-eating terns from river

(AP) - A carrot-and-stick project to cut the number of salmon-gobbling terns on an island near the mouth of the Columbia River is set to begin, scientists from the Army Corps of Engineers say.

Work will begin with the building of an island designed to attract migrating Caspian terns at Fern Ridge Lake near Eugene, Ore., where a small transient group of terns has been spotted, corps wildlife biologist Geoffrey L. Dorsey said Thursday.

The purpose is to reduce the loss of salmon and steelhead, especially from 13 endangered

or threatened runs, to terns that flock to East Sand Island between Chinook and Astoria, Ore., as the young fish head out to sea.

Over the past decade the island has become home to what is believed to be the world's largest colony of Caspian terns, about 9,000 birds that eat about 5 million juvenile salmon annually.

The corps' project includes elimination of about three-fourths of the tern habitat on the island while creating twice as much nesting potential at a wildlife refuge near Port Angeles, at Fern Ridge and two other inland Oregon lakes, and at

three sites in the San Francisco Bay area.

To draw attention to the new breeding sites, scientists plan to deploy decoy terns, sound the bird's call through a sound system and assure plenty of food in the form of bass, carp and goldfish.

### Chronic pain group meeting in Dec.

The Chronic Pain Support Group is not meeting this month, and will resume meetings on the third Wednesday in December, Dec. 19. For more information, call 553-2134.

The Chronic Pain Support Group is a great opportunity for anyone who suffers from chronic pain.

## 25 years ago this week

Chief of the Warm Springs tribe, Amos Simtustus, died suddenly of a heart attack Tuesday, November 16, at the Simnasho Longhouse. His death has left Warm Springs and neighboring Indian communities in shock and mourning. In honor of his memory, flags on the reservation were flown at half mast.

During the hours and days

following his death, Amos was remembered for his seemingly never-ending smile, pleasant manner and his sense of humor. He always had a kind word and through his quiet wisdom and concern he led his people with strength.

Word of Amos' death traveled quickly and all were deeply saddened by the news.

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Kay Baker, superintendent of the Jefferson County School District 509-J, will be in Warm Springs twice each month to meet with parents or other community members regarding the school system. Baker will be in the tribal administration building, conference room 2, on the first Tuesday of every month from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; and then on the third Tuesday of each month, from 8:30-11:30 a.m.

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