

2013 Year in Review

May

(Continued from page 2)

Tribal Council chose Jake Suppah as the new **Secretary-Treasurer**. Suppah, originally from Warm Springs, has been working in the Finance Department at the Radisson Fort McDowell Casino in Arizona.

Later in the month, Tribal Council called for a General Council meeting, so the membership can be updated on the **tribal enterprises**.

The **referendum on the motorsports** idea fell 63 votes short of a valid election, failing to meet one-third voter participation. Of those who did vote, 526 were in favor and 468 were against.

The election led to a broader discussion of Tribal Ordinance 44, governing elections, and whether this ordinance may need to be updated. Elsewhere:

The Confederated Tribes received word that the U.S. Department of Agriculture has approved a **\$6.8 million loan guarantee**. This allows the tribes to seek construction financing from one of the banks that has shown interest in working with the tribes on the school project.

June

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs oversaw the **repatriation of 272** Memaloose Island, Wasco and Wishxam ancestral remains.

The tribes in 2010 made a Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act claim to the Peabody Museum of Natural History, located in New Haven, Conn.

Roberta Kirk, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act Coordinator, organized the repatriation project. She explained:

"In 2005 a report, *Latrogenic Molar Borings in 18th and Early 19th Century Native American Dentitions*, was published in the American Journal of Physical Anthropology. The article mentioned a dental study that was conducted on Wasco and Wishxam ancestral human



Spilyay photo.

The Twenty-Sixth Tribal Council took office in May 2013. The Council members are Chairman Austin Greene Jr., Kahseuss Jackson, Carlos Smith, and Wasco Chief J.R. Smith (Agency); Orvie Danzuka, Evaline Patt, Raymond Tsumpti, and Warm Springs Chief Delvis Heath (Simnasho); Reuben Henry, Scott Moses and Chief Joe Moses (Seekseequa). BIA Warm Springs Agency Superintendent John Halliday administers the oath, May 6, 2013.

remains.

"In 2006 a site visit was conducted by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Cultural Resources staff. From there, we started consultation with the Anthropology Division, Peabody Museum of Natural History.

"We found that there were many ancestral remains that were at the Peabody Yale Museum that originated from The Dalles area. When we asked for further documentation, we asked them for anything from Memaloose and any similar spelling and eventually the number rose to 272 individuals that had come from the Memaloose Islands and The Dalles in the 1870s."

The tribes conducted the repatriation on June 27, 2013.

Tribal Council voted to put the **motorsports referendum** to a second vote of the members.

The Confederated Tribes hosted the **Forty-Fourth Annual Pi-Ume-Sha Treaty Days**.

July

The **motorsports referendum** again fell short of the required turnout. The official results were 550 in favor and 459 against, for a total of 1,009 total votes cast. There were 3,165 eligible voters, which would have required a turnout of at least 1,055; so the referendum fell short by

46 ballots. Elsewhere:

Work is beginning on the new **waterline and reservoir** that will serve the Simnasho-Schoolie Flat residents. A completion date for the work is scheduled for late December. And this:

The Tribal Council voted to establish a board to review **health insurance issues** facing the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. The board will consist of the members of the review board for the tribal Pension program.

Several hundred fire fighters responded to **wildland fires** on the reservation. One fire was burning near Kah-Nee-Ta, which had to be evacuated.

In a separate incident, the resort suffered damage from a kitchen fire, requiring extensive repairs.

August

The Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center is transitioning **out of hospital care**, effective this month. The reason for this transition is to improve access, scheduling, and the overall care at the Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center.

The Museum at Warm Springs introduced a new **audio tour** guide. Visitors can access the audio information using their cell phones.

The Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center **Dental Clinic** announced a new program to treat children who develop tooth decay. Parents will be offered the option for their children with tooth cavities to be treated initially with a medication called silver nitrate, instead of having the cavities filled. This has proven to be a good way to treat tooth decay.

Construction work on the **Warm Springs k-8 Academy** is progressing at a good pace, and is a slightly ahead of schedule. The leveling work at the 22-acre site is nearly done, and the water and electrical pipes are now on site.

The Simnasho **Water Source Project** is making progress. Tribal engineer Travis Wells is coordinating the project.

The tribes are gearing up for changes brought by the **Affordable Care Act**. A team at the clinic, and at the Family Resource Center, are training in order to be able to help people with the process.

Many people on the reservation will qualify for **Expanded Medicaid**. This will provide more health care choices to tribal members, and more billing options for Managed Care.

September

Tribal Council endorsed a **fishers memorial** at the Columbia River. The memorial

will be located at Columbia Hills State Park, near Horsethief Lake. Petroglyphs, including *She Who Watches*, are located nearby.

Following a presentation by the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission and tribal Natural Resources, Council last week voiced opposition to the **coal transport project** at the Columbia.

Tribal Council met with the Warm Springs Ventures for an **update on economic development** opportunities for the tribes. Ventures CEO Jeff Anspach said there is interest in developing a call-center service at the industrial park. A call center would be a central office taking and transferring phone calls for companies such as a home security service. The most viable long-term economic development project still appears to be the motorsports idea, Anspach said.

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs received word recently of a U.S. Justice Department grant award totaling **\$1.67 million**. There may be some delay in the receipt of the grant funds due to the federal government shut-down.

Tribal Council proposed a **2014 tribal budget** that calls for a decrease of more than \$10.5 million from the current year budget. There are significant reductions throughout the organization, including per capita.

Council is proposing a balanced budget that funds the necessary functions of the tribal government, such as public safety and utilities, and functions mandated by the tribal constitution.

The Warm Springs community dedicated the **mobile health clinic**, and the facility was put to good use right away, offering flu shots. The mobile clinic provides medical and dental services. The facility is needed to serve tribal members, especially elders, who live away from the clinic, such as Simnasho, Seekseequa and Sidwalter.

October

The Annual Warm Springs **Tribal Member Art Exhibit** opened in October.

Tribal Council and management conducted district meetings on the proposed **2014 tribal budget**, which includes a cut of about 30 percent. This would be the largest single-year reduction for the tribal general fund budget. A reduction of this size will necessarily impact all services provided by the tribes.

November

As widely reported, the **CoverOregon/Affordable Health Care** program has had trouble in its on-line component. However, many local people are visiting the Warm Springs clinic and signing up with paper applications. They are qualifying for expanded Medicaid. The clinic has a team of assistants who are there to help people through the process.

Warm Springs Forest Products Industries will see some changes in 2014, with the goal of increased revenue to the tribes.

Tribal Council over the past several months has considered all aspects of the mill operation, weighing many options. The Council then negotiated a new agreement with Vanport International, sawmill and lumber marketing specialists. Vanport markets the tribal timber to the critical Japanese market, among the company's other services.

The tribal Justice Team proposed **revisions to the Tribal Code**, asking for public input on the proposed changes. The code revisions would be in regard to: The tribal driving under the influence code; and the sex offender code. Change is also proposed that would increase speeding the fine penalty.

December

Warm Springs Housing is planning the construction of **35 new homes**, new street, driveways and sidewalks.

Wayne Miller and family are moving forward with plans for a **Go kart track and outdoor paintball** facility near Warm Springs.



PIONEER ROCK & MONUMENT

Specializing in Native American Design

201 Crafton Rd PO Box 348
Goldendale, WA 98620 509-773-4702

LET US SAVE YOU TIME & MONEY
DESIGN & ORDER OVER THE INTERNET

www.pioneerrock.com
www.betterheadstones.com

Find MAP To Our Shop Under 'CONTACTS'

Central Oregon Auto & Truck Repair



85 SW Third St.,
Madras OR 97741



541-475-2370