

Education priority to advance employment, culture

The second priority of the Tribal Council Proclamation 26—following the first priority of a balanced tribal budget—is education: “To improve tribal academic performance and cultural preservation.”

With this priority, Council will develop, review, and approve a plan to restructure and build the Tribe’s higher education program, with six goals in mind.

The first goal is to increase and expand tribal higher education scholarships. The finance director and treasury controller are tasked with developing a plan to build and expand education revenue.

The human resources director, higher education secretary and Education Committee are given a number of projects:

Continue the tribal scholarship requirement that all college-bound students apply for FAFSA, Free Application

for Federal Student Aid.

Build on the existing scholarship listing for college-bound students, and work with other tribal Education programs.

Host fund-raising activities for the tribal scholarship program.

Work with Natural Resources on the idea of adding \$1 for fishing permits, with the funds going toward the tribal scholarship program.

Finally, under this first goal, The Place for Kids director is to work with the Education Committee on seeking donations from corporations.

Employment, youth

The second education goal is to improve and expand vocational training and workforce development programs. Vocational Rehabilitation director and staff are given this task.

The third goal: Develop and fund internships, apprenticeships, youth employment, and career development opportunities. The employment services manager, Voc Rehab, the Workforce Investment Act coordinator, and Apprenticeship Committee are in charge of this objective.

In the summer of 2014, the Native Aspirations program provided work opportunities for many young people on the reservation. There may be a chance to continue this program again in 2015, said Caroline Cruz, tribal health liaison.

The fourth goal of the Education priority: Develop plan to improve preparation, performance, and achievement of K-12 students attending Jefferson County public schools, including measuring and monitoring academic performance.

Tribal Council began work in January on this objective

(story on page 1).

The fifth goal: Implement a language and cultural curriculum in the Jefferson County public schools. The Education Committee, Culture and Heritage, Johnson O’Malley Committee, Education liaison are to work with the school district on developing this project.

Charter school

The final goal of the Education priority is to explore the feasibility, and develop a strategy for a tribal charter school on the reservation. The Education Committee, Johnson O’Malley Committee and Education liaison are to work with the school district on this goal.

(The third priority of Proclamation 26 is to hold enterprises accountable. More on this priority in the Feb. 25 Spilyay.)

Agreement

(Continued from page 1)

Everyone wants the students to be ready to move on with life, whether to higher education or to a job, said Councilman Danzuka. The tribes and school district are not adversarial, he said, “but there has been a lack of progress. I think both sides dropped the ball.”

For the February meeting, the Tribal Council members said they would

like to see information on the Impact Aid funding.

“We appreciate the school board being here,” Councilman Scott Moses said. “There was a time when this didn’t happen. I appreciate everyone sitting down and talking about what we need to accomplish, because we all want the same thing.”

The common goal, he said, is the best education for the next generation.

Sign up for Language Bowl

The Warm Springs Culture and Heritage Department is recruiting sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade students to participate in the 2015 Language Bowl in Pendleton.

Students who wish to participate are encouraged to

sign up for language classes before and after school at the Warm Springs Eagle Academy.

For more information please contact Deanie Smith at the Culture and Heritage Department, 541-553-3290.

Save money through IDA program

Do you know about the Individual Asset Development Program, or IDA, pro-

gram?

It is a way for individuals to save money and have that money matched for different purposes.

You may want to build up savings for a business, for education or to buy a home.

To learn more call Nettie or Chris at the Warm Springs Community Action Team, 541-553-3148.

Show of support for Apache cause

Last fall, Dennis White III, Chief of Police and member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Spring, participated in a traditional Apache blessing ceremony at Chich’il Bildagoteel (Oak Flat).

This sacred site is 11 miles from the San Carlos Apache Reservation in Arizona, holy land to Apaches and indigenous people since time immemorial. The site is threatened by mining development.

Members of the San Carlos Apache Tribe and its tribal leaders have called for all tribal nations to join them for a spiritual gathering this week at Chich’il Bildagoteel.

The spiritual journey and march will be Feb. 5-8, starting from the San Carlos Apache tribal administration building at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 5 through Friday, Feb. 6, along Route 6 leading onto Highway 70 to Globe and then to Highway 60 ending at Oak Flat.

On Saturday, Feb. 7, a Holy Ground Ceremony will begin at 9 a.m. with an internationally known guest speaker, Rev. John Mendez from the Emmanuel Baptist Church of Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

On Sunday, Feb. 8, breakfast will be provided prior to the morning blessing.

All Churches, organizations, spiritual groups and tribes are welcome and encouraged to participate throughout the duration of the spiritual gathering and occupy Chil’Chil’Bagoteel.

Everyone is also encouraged to bring their camping gear.

“On behalf of the San Carlos Apache Tribe, I call



Dennis White III at Chich’il Bildagoteel blessing.

upon you and all nations—all tribes, Natives and indigenous peoples—to a spiritual gathering where we will commence our fight to take back Oak Flat,” said Terry Rambler, Tribal Chairman for the San Carlos Apache Tribe.

“As you may know, Congress recently passed the Southeast Land Exchange and Conservation Act as part of the national defense budget that facilitates the take away of Oak Flat, a most holy and spiritual area known to us as Chich’il Bildagoteel to Resolution Copper, a foreign mining conglomerate.

“We have a dream that one day our children and their children to follow will freely practice the religious ceremo-

nies that come from our Creator.

“Not only will the mine destroy a sacred site, it will destroy the environment and pose a long-term economic harm, while taking away water the region needs, some 630,000 acre feet of water.

“Through the power of prayer and our Holy Ground Ceremony, we will realize our dreams,” concluded Chairman Rambler.

For more information, contact Valerie Key 928-200-5479 or Wendsler Nosie Sr. 928-200-5045; or Sandra Rambler 928-951-6939. Or at the website:

apache-stronghold.com

Tribes and COCC cooperate on unmanned aerial systems program

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs are developing an unmanned aerial vehicle program on the reservation.

This is a project of Warm Springs Ventures. The reservation is an FAA-approved unmanned aerial systems (UAS) test range, providing opportunities for economic development, employment and education.

Ventures is encouraging young people to consider the Central Oregon Community College UAV program. Scholarships could become available soon for members to enroll in the two-year program, called the Unmanned Aerial Systems Degree Program.

The program prepares students to become professionals in the world of remotely piloted aircraft.

While many programs are engineering and design based, COCC’s UAS program focuses on operating the vehicles.

Students will also learn UAS mission planning and execution, troubleshooting, maintenance and equipment testing. This gives the broadest spectrum of potential employment.

“The program will teach professional, licensed operation of UAS,” said Karl Baldessari, aviation program director.

“Our job is to prepare students for employment. Commercial applications are extensive.”

An article in the January 2015 COCC newsletter describes the program:

COCC is teaching the UAS program as though

UAS operators are required to be a certified pilot.

This fundamental training allows students exposure to the aviation environment, communication, equipment and commercial airspace—all focusing on safety in the skies.

Central Oregon’s diversity of terrain and elevation is well-suited for training purposes...

Oregon is one of only six locations to have already received FAA approval to create and operate test sites.

COCC is working closely with the site in Warm Springs in development of a capstone course that will allow students to have actual experience with launch and recovery of UAS.

Currently only three industries are approved by the FAA for commercial use of UAS: the motion picture industry, Realtors in specific states, and precision agriculture.

Potential future employment includes: search and rescue, wild land firefighting, aerial photography, research, monitoring, surveying, farming, damage assessment after a storm and many other applications.

“Although it’s too early to tell, COCC is hopeful the local community will benefit from the availability of this unique training and education,” says Theresa Freihoefer, department chair.

(COCC’s Linda Orcelletto helped with this article.)

2015 Events

Season of NonViolence

The Season of Nonviolence honors the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Mahatma Gandhi, Cesar Chavez and Wilma Mankiller and their work to advocate for human rights using nonviolent methods of resistance. Their work has inspired countless others across the globe to use the power of nonviolence to overturn brutal regimes and inhumane treatment.

The Season of Nonviolence events are sponsored by COCC’s Multicultural Activities in partnership with other campus groups and community organizations.

For more information, contact:
Karen Roth at 541.383.7412 or kroth@cocc.edu
Visit our website at: www.cocc.edu/mcc-events

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



Native Visions

Monday, February 9
5–7 p.m.
Hitchcock Auditorium,
Pioneer Hall, COCC, Bend

This two-person show depicts Native Americans who have made an impact in our society, and highlights the lives of important Native people who have shaped our country and are deserving of recognition for their achievements. Native Visions offers a perfect blend of entertainment and education and the audience leaves with knowledge and pride of true American History.

For questions contact Gina Ricketts at 541.318.3782.

Sponsored by COCC Multicultural Activities and Native American Programs, and OSU-Cascades Student Government.



2600 NW College Way, Bend