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Enrollment question for membership

There are two ways for a person to become a member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

A person can be automatically enrolled, or adopted by the tribal membership.

The adoption process has proven to be difficult, because of the 50-percent voter participation requirement. The last two adoption elections have failed because they did not meet the 50-percent turnout.

Fifty-percent is a difficult voting standard: The average voter turnout in the U.S. overall, for instance, is about 40 percent in most elections.

In the case of the adoption elections, some voters may choose not to participate as a way of casting a no vote, making the 50-percent mark even harder to reach.

Another approach to enrollment is the enrollment baseline. Families this year will be asked for their opinion on the issue.

If the baseline were adjusted from the current base year of 1960 to some later year, then some non-member descendants of tribal members would become eligible for automatic enrollment.

To be automatically enrolled, a person must have a parent who is a

tribal member, and count at least one-quarter blood of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

The tribes decide how to define the one-quarter standard, as the tribal Constitution does not specify how to arrive at the calculation.

In the past, the baseline was the year 1940: For anyone with tribal enrollment in that year, their amount of Indian blood was considered blood of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. The quantum for a descendant of that person was calculated accordingly.

Later, the baseline was changed to 1960. This change allowed de-

scendants to re-calculate their blood quantum, and some people became automatically enrolled.

A question for the membership is whether to re-adjust the baseline. This would result in some people becoming automatically enrolled.

Tribal Council is scheduled to hold an enrollment workshop this month on enrollments.

An informational presentation will be available to the membership soon on the issue, said Lynn Davis, director of tribal Administrative Services.

Change at Roots program

The 2016-17 school year in the 509-J district will see the start of the Bridges Career and Technical High School. Bridges will have two sites: one in Warm Springs and one in Madras.

The Warm Springs component of the Bridges High School will be the Roots alternative education program. The Madras component will be the Annex. The two programs have operated separately, but in the 2016-17 school year will be under Bridges.

The change was approved by the school district board, with the stated goal being to improve graduation rates, performance and attendance. But the idea is also controversial, at least in Warm Springs.

Roots has so far operated with a director, Dawn Smith, and one teacher, Earl Simmons. Under the Bridges program, Roots will have two teachers, and no director. Instead, there will be a principal of the overall Bridges Career and Technical High School.

The idea is to provide more teaching and counseling services to the Warm Springs Roots and Madras Annex students, said Rick Molitor, school district superintendent.

See **ROOTS** on 6

UAS KNT dedication ceremony

A ground-breaking ceremony for the Warm Springs Unmanned Aerial Systems training center is set for this Thursday, July 7, at Kah-Nee-Ta Resort. The event is set for 12 noon to 2 p.m., and the community is invited to attend.

The training center will be located on the lower floor of the resort, where the gaming offices were located when the casino was at Kah-Nee-Ta. The space had in recent years been used for storage.

For the ground-breaking, a company is expected to be on hand demonstrating a drone soil-collecting UAS.

When the training center is open, Kah-Nee-Ta will be a key partner in the Warm Springs UAS Center for Excellence for Wildland Fire Management. The training center will include classrooms, space for a UAS training simulator, offices and a conference room.

The tribes received a state grant to carry out this work. Another aspect of the project will involve bringing Telecom fiber cable to the resort. This is paid for through a grant as well. The Warm Springs UAS program is a division of Warm Springs Ventures.

A first at COCC

Truman Merrifield made an historical achievement this month at Central Oregon Community College.

On July 1 he became the COCC Student Body President: Truman is the first person of color to serve in this position.

At COCC he is studying Forest Resources Technology and Wildland Fire/Fuels Management: Truman is also the first person from this discipline to serve as COCC Student Body President.

He first became interested in serving as Student Body President earlier this year, while serving on a Student Fee Committee that overlooks the Student Council budget. "I was asked by multiple faculty if I wanted to stay involved with student government," he was saying recently.

One option was the Student Body Presidency. So Truman



Courtesy photo.

Truman at a recent President's Scholarship Luncheon at COCC.

campaigned in May, visiting the four COCC campuses—Bend, Redmond, Madras and Prineville—asking the students what they would like to see from the Student Council.

And in June the students elected

him as the new Student Body President.

The president is a spokesperson for the student body; and serves as leader of the Associated Students of Central Oregon Community College, or ASCOCC, the

Student Council.

The Council and president oversee the funding of the student clubs and programs, sponsor student activities, events and programs; and advocate for the student body on college-wide issues.

As Council President, Truman now has a vote on the Board of Directors on the Oregon Student Association. The OSA represents more than 110,000 university and college students in the state, lobbying at the state level on college funding and student matters.

Truman is 28, the son of Dinah Belgard and the late Wilbur Merrifield Jr. His grandfather is Harrison Davis Sr.

His studies and student government work at COCC keep Truman busy, as he also has a full time job at Fire Management, where he returned making this the sixth year.

Truman's family are his main focus and desire to achieve and develop opportunities, for the better of their future.

See **TRUMAN** on 8

Dance, Parade results for 2016 Pi-Ume-Sha

The Confederated Tribes and Powwow committee welcomed hundreds of guests from across Indian Country for the Forty-Sixth Annual Pi-Ume-Sha Treaty Days.

Visitors were here from South Dakota, New Mexico, Utah, Idaho, and many places around Washington and Oregon. In addition to the Warm Springs dancers.

The Powwow Committee shares the results of the Dance contests (in order of finishing, starting with first place):

Girls Tiny Tots, 6 and under: Elizabeth Beavis, Pendleton. Jaydev Holliday, Toppenish. Askiwih Tom, Warm Springs. Rhoda Smith, Warm Springs. Erin Teeman-Smith, Warm Springs.

Boys Tiny Tots, 6 and under: Elijah-Villa Penny, Warm

Springs. Don Cortazar, Warm Springs. Conan Foltz, Wapato. Baylor Scabbyrobe, White Swan. Lawrence Johnson, Pendleton.

Girls, 7-11: Jasmine Barney, Portland. Vivian Walsey, Yakama. Kayliani Estimo, Warm Springs. Karlissa Dixon, Warm Springs. Skye Victorino, Warm Springs.

Boys 7-11: Jayden Esquiro, Warm Springs. Sheldon Joseph, Placka, Ariz. Aiden Warren, Takilma. Hunter Foltz, Wapato. Sonny Walsey, Toppenish.

Teen Girls Fance/Jingle, 12-16 years: Miriam Walsey, Toppenish. Samantha Tappo, Warm Springs. Kaleri Joseph, Pendleton. Heaven Walsey. Raynee Alani Wak Wak, Harrah, Wash.

Results continue on page 5







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