



Spilyay Tymoo

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KNT remodel to house UAS center

The tribes' unmanned aerial systems program saw key developments in recent weeks.

A big development is the remodeling work that is going on at the lower floor at the Kah-Nee-Ta Lodge.

Warm Springs Construction is remodeling the old gaming commission rooms into a state-of-the-art UAS training and conference center. The work began in June, and should be done around October, said Tom Strong, Construction project supervisor.

This is funded through a state grant. The first part of the project involved tearing out the old carpet, window blinds and other interior aspects of the old rooms. The Construction team hauled away probably a hundred yards of the old interior, Strong said.

Construction then framed up new walls, sanded the paneling, and otherwise prepared the area for the new facility, which is going to be high-tech.



D.McMechan/Spilyay

Tom Strong and Eric Williams of Warm Springs Construction sand the wooden paneling at the KNT UAS center. Remodel work started in June.

Drone park

The UAS program and Tribal Construction are part of Warm Springs Ventures, the tribes' economic development enterprise.

Another project that Ventures and the UAS program are

working on at Kah-Nee-Ta is a drone park, which would be unique.

Aurolyn Stwyer, business and marketing manager at Ventures, explains some of the basic aspects of

this idea:

The park would feature a large enclosed net structure, similar to an aviary.

The enclosure would mean the

park is considered indoors, and would therefore be regulated as a recreational hobby zone.

The enclosure would also provide for the safety of patrons, and prevent damage to the drone hardware.

The park could be used for drone recreation, and for flight training.

The target markets would be Portland, Bend and the Columbia River gorge.

There is an opportunity for drone park patrons to have a special rate package at Kah-Nee-Ta, Ms. Stwyer said.

In other recent news from the UAS program:

Working with Ventures, a certified FAA pilot conducted drone pilot training with three employees of the Branch of Natural Resources Fire Management.

Employees with BNR Fisheries and habitat restoration, wildlife management, and Cultural Resources, as well as Ventures staff also took part in the training.

This was a pilot study for the upcoming Kah-Nee-Ta training center at Kah-Nee-Ta: A key component of the training was preparation for the upcoming FAA Drone Pilot certification test, set for later this month.

Enrollment issue at Council

Tribal Council last week took up the issue of new tribal member enrollment, meeting with Lucille Suppach of Vital Statistics and legal counsel.

Part of this was to continue discussion of a resolution of the previous Tribal Council, regarding a possible referendum asking whether to change the enrollment baseline year.

The Twenty-Sixth Tribal Council adopted resolution no. 12,157 in April of this year. The resolution would take effect only upon the passage of a referendum of the tribal members. The resolution says in part:

"The Tribal Council now wishes to change the rules for determining blood quantum for automatic enrollment by adding the 1980 census to the list of baseline census years for determining the Confederated Tribes blood quantum of applicants for automatic enrollment..."

Currently, the 1940 census and the 1960 census are the lists that are used to determine an individual's blood quantum of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

One-quarter blood of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, including blood of a traditionally affiliated tribe, is the requirement for eligibility for automatic enrollment.

The question for the membership: How to calculate one-quarter blood of the Confederated Tribes?

The standard for now is based on the 1940 census and 1960 census: The standard for now is that tribal members on those census roles can include all Native American blood as blood of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

Descendants of these individuals calculate their CTWS blood according to that standard.

A referendum suggestion of the Twenty-Sixth Tribal Council (Resolution no. 12,157) would ask: Should the same standard apply to the 1980 census?

Passage of this would mean that any tribal member on the 1980 census could count all of his or her Native American blood as blood of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

Descendants of these individuals could then re-calculate their blood quantum based on this new standard.

Passage of the referendum would mean that approximately 56 candidates on the recent adoption election referendum list would become eligible for automatic enrollment. The total number of candidates on the list was more than 200.

The adoption election held in June of this year fell short of the required 50-percent voter turnout. A total of 987 ballots were cast, while a figure in the range of 1,500 was required.

Council okays new non-profit enterprise

The Confederated Tribes have a backlog of projects that have remained unfunded for years.

A new community center, and a new Children's Protective Services building, are two of many examples that come to mind.

The problem, of course, is funding: The tribes in recent years have made substantial cuts in many areas, for the sake of balancing the annual budget.

A way to help address the backlog of needed projects is through grants, from private foundations and individuals. Each year in Oregon, tens of millions of dollars in grants are awarded for worthy projects.

An important aspect of a successful grant application is having a 501c3 nonprofit organization as the applicant. The 501c3 designation allows the donor to claim a tax deduction for the contribution—an essential incentive for most donors, said Bruce Irwin, Confederated Tribes development director.

Irwin and chief operations manager Alyssa Macy last week presented Tribal Council with a proposal to re-establish a 501c3 nonprofit organization of the Confederated Tribes.

Tribal Council approved the proposal, a first step in establishing the nonprofit, and a first step toward finding grant funding for the many facilities, infrastructure and other needs of the reservation.

The tribes had a 501c3 corporation in the past, but the designation lapsed with the IRS in 2012. The previous nonprofit was called the Warm Springs Community Development Corporation. The tribes have not yet determined the name for the new nonprofit.

Some of the initial work of the new nonprofit will be the designation of an active and informed board, plus completion of the necessary federal paperwork to establish the corporation. Grant proposals would have to fall within one of a number of specific categories. Some of these are:

Education (the category with the most contributions), philanthropy and volunteerism, arts, culture, humanities, human services, community improvement and development, science, environmental quality and protection. Also:

Food nutrition, agriculture, public safety and disaster preparedness and relief, recreation, leisure, sports, and animal related.

Name the travel plaza

The tribes' travel plaza will be conveniently located on Highway 26 and Cherry Lane in Madras. The new 13,000 square foot facility will be a one-stop shop.

It is proposed to include a convenient store, deli food, fuel, showers, restrooms, laundry services, approximately 30-40 Class II gaming machines, coffee bar and casual dining.

The Gaming Commission and a naming selection committee are hosting a contest, open to tribal community members.

They are asking community members to suggest names for the travel center. Here are the criteria for the contest:

The name should reflect positively and descriptively on the travel plaza.

The name should not be offensive, insulting or derogatory in nature.

In instances where the same name is submitted, the selection committee will select the entry with the earliest entry by time and date.

The name must be original, not likely to cause confusion with any other similar business or enterprise; and not be the trademark, trade name or

property of any other person or entity.

The selection committee has the authority to reject an entry it deems inappropriate.

The author of the winning suggestion, chosen by the selection committee, will receive a \$200 check.

Members of the selection committee will be blinded to the names associated with the entries. Additional rules:

Only two entries per submission.

The winner is solely responsible for all federal, state and local taxes on the prize.

All entries are due by September 1, 2016. Entries can be mailed to Indian Head Casino, attention: Jeffrey Carstensen, PO Box 890, Warm Springs, OR 97761. Or emailed to: NGarcia-Smith@indianheadgaming.com

The Travel Center is an approved project of the Tribal Council of the Confederated Tribes. New tribal member jobs and revenue were the two key factors in Council approval. The property where the travel center will be located has not been in productive use for a number of years.

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