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Carbon project a success for tribes

The tribes' carbon sequestration program is one of the more successful ventures in recent years.

For the 2017 budget year, the project is providing a dividend of \$2 million. This is among the best dividends for 2017, matching that of Indian Head Casino.

Warm Springs Ventures and Tribal Council developed the program about three years, and carbon sequestration gave a \$1 million dividend for the current budget year.

The program is administered by

the Warm Springs GeoVisions division of Ventures.

Tribal Council approved the 2017 budget last week, with resolution no. 12,249.

Final adjustments included reductions for Finance and administrative services; and increase to the Education budget of \$197,321.

The approved budget includes monthly senior pension payments for tribal members over the age of 60 in the amount of \$300.

The total expenditures for the

2017 approved budget remain at \$17,490,192.

Timber revenue provided additional funding, at \$2.835 million. Credit also provided a dividend for 2017.

At Ventures

In other tribal economic news: Ventures continues to make progress with the unmanned aerial systems (UAS) program.

Ventures received infrastructure funding that is helping with a re-

model at Kah-Nee-Ta, plus extension of Telecom fiber optic cable to the resort.

The cannabis enterprise is working to secure funding, having discontinued the previous partnership because of unreasonable loan terms.

Ventures is in the process of finalizing the land lease for the greenhouse; and an agreement on cannabis regulation with the state.

(See **VENTURES** on 5)

Renewed pipeline matter at Council

Tribal Council on Monday met with the Natural Resources Branch, Power & Water Enterprises, and legal counsel for discussion of a possible natural gas pipeline right-of-way on the reservation.

The Confederated Tribes first negotiated terms of the right-of-way some years ago, with agreement reached in 2010.

A short time later, the company proposing the right-of-way—formerly Palomar, now Trailwest—met with delay, then shelved the project.

There may be circumstances now, or possibly in the foreseeable future, that could allow the project to go ahead.

The natural gas pipeline right-of-way would cross 36 miles of reservation land, 50-foot wide.

The tribes would receive annual payments for the right-of-way, plus an initial one-time payment of possibly \$2.6 million. The funds could be considered trust revenue, as the payment is for the use of reservation land.

Trust revenue, as it is not subject to taxation, is important for the tribal Senior Pension Fund, for instance.

At the meeting on Monday, Tribal Council emphasized they were not giving final approval to the right-of-way proposal.

Nevertheless, further consideration—including input from the membership—may be warranted for a number of reasons, Council indicated. One factor is the new revenue, while other factors are environmental.

Mitigation measures

In the previous negotiation leading up to the 2010 right-of-way agreement, the Natural Resources Branch developed an extensive mitigation plan.

An example of items included in the plan: the pipeline right-of-way cannot be located near any residence. Other mitigation measures included protection of fisheries, wildlife, native plants and cultural resources.

The mitigation plan includes the reservation, plus neighboring federal land, said Bobby Brunoe, Natural Resources general manager.

Another environmental point that came up during the Tribal Council discussion:

The developing company is interested in the reservation right-of-way, but if this route is not available, then the company could develop some other nearby off-reservation route.

In that case the tribes would have no negotiating or mitigation authority over the off-reservation alternative. So the best interest of the tribes might be served by working with the developer.

(See **PIPELINE** on 7)



The Confederated Tribes hosted the Honor Veterans Powwow at the Agency Longhouse.

The two-day powwow was among a number of Veterans activities this mid-November on the reservation.

Jayson Smith photo

School district hosting Impact Aid hearing

The Jefferson County School District 509-J has received an average of about \$2.2 million a year, in recent years, in Impact Aid funding. Impact Aid is federal funding available to districts that include non-taxable lands such as a reservation.

The school district board will meet on Monday, November 28 at the Warm Springs Academy to

discuss use of the Impact Aid money. The meeting starts at 6 p.m.

This is the annual meeting of the district to hear comments about the use of the funding, and other issues the community wishes to discuss with the board.

"We're asking what we can do better," said district superintendent Rick Molitor. "What additional re-

sources do you want to see that could help students?"

Meanwhile, a survey regarding Impact Aid is posted on the district website at: jcsd.k12.or.us. Comments will be taken until mid-December.

A little more than a third—37.4 percent—of the students in the 509-J district are Native American. Most of the students are at the k-

8 academy, where 97 percent of the students are Native American; and at the high school. There are 1,108 Native American students in the district.

The next largest ethnic group is Hispanic with 900 students, or 30.4 percent; followed by white at 887 students, or 30 percent.

(See **509-J** on 7)

Honoring Korean War Veterans

The Veterans Day weekend this year was unique on the reservation, featuring the Korean War Veterans Honor Ceremony and Banquet, held at Kah-Nee-Ta on Saturday, November 12.

The Eugene 'Cougar' Greene Sr. American Legion and Ladies Auxiliary Post 4217 hosted the ceremony and banquet.

About three hundred people attended. Moon Duk-ho, Consul General of the Republic of Korea, and Brigadier General Steven R. Beech were special guests. They both gave moving remarks



during the ceremony.

The day included the presentation of Medals to the Korean War Veterans, and a performance by Korean and Warm Springs Tribal Dancers.

Susan Guerin, Charles Tailfeathers, AJ Atencio, the American Legion and Auxiliary, and others helped organize the event.

The Consulate General of the Republic of Korea, arriving from Seattle, stated his appreciation to the veterans who helped keep communism out of South Korea.

Warm Springs veteran Harrison Davis meets with Consul General of the Republic of Korea, Moon Duk-Ho.

Photo courtesy of Susan Guerin



FOOTBALL FEVER WEEKEND DRAWINGS
Win your share of \$24,000 on Fridays and Saturdays in November from 6pm-10pm.
*Earn entries all month long.

TOMORROW!
\$3,000 GET READY FOR BLACK FRIDAY CASH
November 24th from 7-9pm.
Start earning your entries now.



\$60,000*
FOOTBALL FRENZY FIVER
*Total cash and prizes in November