Great start to season



The boys look to continue winning at the Sisters Tournament.

The Madras High School varsity basketball teams are off to

The recent Oregon School Activities Association ranking had the White Buffalo girls at number four overall in the 4A division.

winning seasons.

The team was first in the Tri-Valley Conference, ahead of Gladstone. Corbett is ranked third in the conference.

The Madras girls will be playing in the upcoming Sisters Tournament later this month and in early January. They have a home game on January 6 against Sweet Home.

The White Buffalo boys varsity team had a winning record in December, going 3-2 overall. The team was leading in the Tri-Valley Conference.

They have a home game coming up on January 6 against Mountain View. They will be at the Sisters Tournament later this month and early January.

Warm Springs All-Indian Holiday 53rd Annual **Men's Basketball Tournament** December 28th-31st 2016 **Warm Springs Community Center Gym** 2200 Hollywood Blvd Warm Springs, Oregon Entry Fee: \$375.00 DEADLINE BY DECEMBER 9" 2016 **AWARDS:** 1st- Pendleton Jackets 2" - Solid Wool Jackets 3rd- Jackets 4"- Hooded Sweat shirts 5"- Crewneck Sweatshirts MVP, Mr. Hustle & All Tourney Contact: Tournament Director - Austin Greene Work: (541)553-3243 Email: Austin.greene@wstribes.org

2016 Year in Review (Part 2)

(The following is part 2 of a look back at some of the memorable news events of the past year on the reservation.)

May

Warm Springs Fire Management and the BIA in May began a program to conduct controlled burns with the use of a helicopter.

Firefighters were on hand from California, Arizona, Washington and other areas, plus from Warm Springs. Fire Management has not used aerial ignition of controlled burns since 1989. In other news:

The **new Tribal Council** took office this month, during a time of great opportunity, as well as serious challenges for the Confederated Tribes.

The tribal budget will be a critical point of focus, not only looking to 2017, but for the current year as well. Elsewhere:

The ground breaking ceremony for **the tribes' cannabis enterprise** proved to be a popular event.

The ground-breaking ceremony for the project proved to be a popular event. On hand were many community members, plus federal and state officials.

Stan Speaks, BIA Northwest regional director, mentioned how the tribes and Ventures have handled a unique and potentially complicated business idea.

"They have been very careful and very cautious," Mr. Speaks said of the tribes. "They are certainly going to be a model."

An economic study has projected significant revenue, possibly more than \$20 million a year when in full operation, from the cannabis enterprise. "But this is bigger than dollars and cents," said Pit-ta Pitt, project coordinator.

"This is not a quick fix," he said.
"This is about a group of people trying to find a way to educate, clothe and house themselves."

The tribes' carbon sequestration project is making steady progress, with September being the target for marketing and selling the credits, according to a May report at Tribal Council.



 $\label{lem:members} \mbox{Members of the Twenty-Seventh Tribal \ Council take the oath of office, May 2016.}$

Payment to the tribes could be expected about 30 days after the sale is finalized, said Don Sampson, Warm Springs Ventures chief executive officer.

Warm Springs is the first tribe to use reservation forest land for the marketing of carbon sequestration credits. Other tribes have used non-reservation land for this purpose.

Revenue from the Warm Springs project could be in the range of \$9 million. After costs, such as for forest management, the net revenue to the tribes is estimated at \$5.5 million, Mr. Sampson said.

This is a one-time payment for the acreage, which will be managed to maximize carbon sequestration through forest growth. This is conditional use land, not involving timber for harvest. The duration of the agreement is 100 years.

The Confederated Tribes will conduct an adoption election in June, Tribal Council decided this month.

There are 160 adoptee candidates who are eligible to become members of the Confederated Tribes.

Each candidate is being voted on individually. There is a 50-percent voter turnout requirement for this to be a valid election.

If there is a valid election, each individual receiving a majority of 'yes' votes will be adopted into the Confederated Tribes. And this in May:

Tribal Council and staff are working on a **plan to sell logs** from the reservation forest. These are a valuable tribal trust asset.

The logs were initially intended for sale to Warm Springs Forest Products Industries. Since the enterprise is now in receivership, the plan is to sell them on the open market to the highest bidder.

market to the highest bidder.

Meanwhile, the process of settling the WSFPI finances is a tribal court receivership. The logs that are currently in the woods are not part of the receivership, as these are tribal property.

This may be the first tribal enterprise in the U.S. to be subject to a tribal court receivership process. The receiver is Edward Hostmann, and Edward Hostmann Inc.

The receivership was filed in tribal court on May 2. The receiver reports on a monthly basis to the judge.

June

The last day of school this year at the Warm Springs Academy was a unique one. On that afternoon, a team from a NASA youth education and outreach program in Washington launched a rocket from a field by the Academy.

The rocket launch demonstration was at the conclusion of a series of science and math exercises for middle school students. This was a partnership project among the school, NASA, Oregon Health Sciences University, OMSI and the University of Washington. Warm Springs Ventures also helped with some planning facilitation.

The goal of this program was to encourage under-represented youth to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). A way to help achieve this is with a show-case event such as the rocket launch. In other June news:

nativeFAX is a new and upcoming project of Warm Springs Ventures. Ventures is partnering with Tigard-based FaxBack Fax Solutions on the new business enterprise.

The technology uses the Internet to send faxes, including faxes to e-mail. This eliminates the need for a dedicated fax line.

FaxBack is the manufacturer of the adapter that connects to the fax machine. The tribes are the marketing body. The item is called nativeFAX: A Warm Springs Venture. The target market includes government agencies, including law enforcement, and private businesses. Documents sent with nativeFAX cannot be altered, which is part of the appeal of the service. The fax can go to multiple emails.

These features can be important to law enforcement, medical groups, car dealerships, universities, the military, among other groups, Ms. Stwyer said. A study shows the potential market for the product is large, at \$3 billion, she said.

A large and colorful new sign arrived in June for the entrance area of Indian Head Casino. A crew then set up this great new addition to the casino marketing. Elsewhere:

The adoption election in June did not meet the 50-percent voter turnout requirement, so the results are void. Including this recent vote, the last three adoption elections have failed for lack of voter participation.

The cost of the election is about \$20,000, said Arlita Rhoan, Election board member. For this and other reasons, she said, the decision about setting a re-vote is a serious one.

As three adoption elections have failed, Tribal Councilman Raymond Tsumpti said the tribes should consider conducting a secretarial election regarding the adoption candidates. The secretarial process, conducted by the BIA, has no minimum voter turn-out requirement.

A review of the results shows that all of the candidates received more positive votes than negative—often by a large margin of three- or four-to-one in favor.

A total of 987 people cast ballots in the adoption election. A figure in the range of 1,500 would have been required for a valid vote.

Meanwhile, the tribes could decide to change the membership baseline census role from 1960 to 1980. This would result in the automatic enrollment of about 60 of the candidates who were on the recent election list. A proposal to update the baseline role could be sent to referendum, depending on the decision of the Tribal Council. And this:

The exhibit Kindred Spirits: The Artistic Journey of Lillian Pitt opened in June at the Museum at Warm Springs. Ms. Pitt was born on the Warm Springs Reservation. She is Warm Springs, Wasco and Yakama.

Lillian first showcased her artwork here at the Museum at Warm Springs in 1999 with her exhibit *Spirits Keep Whistling Me Home*. Since then, she has established herself as one of the most highly regarded Native American Artists in the Pacific Northwest.

(Continues on page 7)