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Tribes face crucial infrastructure needs

At the present time the essential infrastructure on the reservation—the domestic water system, the wastewater treatment plant, tribal building heating and cooling systems—require tens of millions of dollars of investment.

This fact was clear this week, during the water break that impacted many households, tribal departments and businesses.

The break happened by an area that broke just six weeks ago. Utilities, management and Council took steps to address the problem in the

quickest way possible.

However, the water system is old, to point where replacement parts are hard to find. This contributed to the delay in fixing the break.

The Utilities staff is to be commended for tireless work during the emergency, said Alyssa Macy, Chief Operations Officer.

An important thing to consider, Ms. Macy said: There have been no significant capital infrastructure improvements for the past several decades. "We are now literally pay-

ing the price for decades of deferred maintenance," she said.

Management, Council and Utilities have been working on how the tribes might address this situation.

They are exploring grant possibilities—with some significant success this year—plus assistance from the Indian Health Service, BIA and others.

These funding sources will come to the table to help, Ms. Macy said, "But there is no way we can have someone else pay for

all of this. The tribes will have to invest as well."

Management and Utilities are developing a comprehensive assessment of how much might be needed for all essential improvements—the water system and tribal building HVAC, for instance. A preliminary estimate may be in the range of \$40 million.

Regarding the water system in particular, "We really need to have a user fee," Ms. Macy said.

Meeting on KNT in Dec.

Tribal Council and Management plan to meet with the membership in December regarding the future options for Kah-Nee-Ta.

Tribal Council will meet on November 14 with Secretary-Treasurer Michele Stacona on the available options. There is the possibility of working with an outside investor to re-open Kah-Nee-Ta Resort, Ms. Stacona said.

She will discuss the options this month with Tribal Council, who will then meet with the membership for discussion.

Kah-Nee-Ta shut down in early September after a potential outside investor was not able to secure the needed financing to take over management of the resort. An issue is security to a lender, as the land cannot be used as collateral for a loan.

The tribes are paying for security and maintenance at the resort, as the leadership and members weigh the options for the future. The cost of the needed security and maintenance is an estimated \$720,000 a year.

There were more than 120 employees at the resort before its closure. In its early years—the Lodge opened in 1972—Kah-Nee-Ta was the premier resort in Central Oregon. This market is now much more highly competitive, requiring a major investment in the Kah-Nee-Ta.

Parade Sunday for Vets

A focus of this year's Warm Springs Veterans Day Parade is youth—*Kids Marching for Veterans*. The parade organizers have "Thank You, Veterans" flyers that young people can fill out for the parade.

The form includes the phrase "The Veteran I am Marching for Is..." with space where the young person can fill in the name.

This way our youth will gain a better knowledge of our veterans and the meaning of Veterans Day, said Rosemary 'Mushy' Alarcon, a parade organizer.

The Confederated Tribes, Veterans of Foreign Wars Elliott Palmer Post 4217 and Ladies Auxiliary are hosting the 2018 Veterans Day Parade, Sunday, November 11.

Parade line-up will start at noon by the former elementary school. The parade will start at 2 p.m., going to the Agency Longhouse for lunch and ceremonies. This open to the public.

Honoring the tribes' Living Treasures

The Museum at Warm Springs chose five members—from a diversity of backgrounds and occupations—as the tribes' Living Treasures.

One thing they share in common: Knowledge, and commitment to perpetuating the culture of the Confederated Tribes. This is also at the core of the Museum at Warm Springs mission, and its legacy for future generations.

The Living Treasures are Redine Billy, Geraldine Jim, Foster Kalama, Arlita Rhoan and Maxine Switzler.

They were announced at the conclusion of the Treaty Conference in October, part of the museum's Twenty-Fifth Anniversary.

The museum board appointed a special committee to nominate and select by consensus the five Living Treasures. Each recipient received an award, and will present a public program at the museum during the coming year.

"Many aspects of Warm Springs cultures are most effectively taught and passed down by working directly with tribal members who are considered the living memory of the tribes, said museum executive director Carol Leone.

"Language, dance, canoe cul-



Natalie Kirk/MAWS

Foster Kalama, Geraldine Jim, Redine Billy, Arlita Rhoan (from left); Maxine Switzler not pictured.

ture, storytelling, basket weaving, regalia making, fishing, food gathering and ceremonies encompass some of the activities that are passed down and perpetuated through their teaching."

The Living Treasures

Redine Billy

An accomplished artist, Redine Billy graduated from the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa

Fe, New Mexico.

She was chosen as a Living Treasure because of her beautiful beadwork, and knowledge of making regalia.

She has made dresses and beadwork for many of her grandchildren, nieces, nephews and others who have wanted to participate in social dancing or powwow dancing.

Billy's Jingle Dresses are sought after by many in the Northwest.

Geraldine Jim

Geraldine Jim is a former member of the Accessions Committee at the Museum at Warm Springs.

As a member of the committee, she helped select cultural treasures, artifacts and tribal member heirlooms for the museum's permanent collection.

Geraldine helped build the museum's collection of exquisite items.

Ms. Jim was selected because she is a master artist in her beadworking and craftsmanship.

She treasured as an elder with traditional knowledge and stories.

See TREASURES on page 5

Funding headway for Business Incubator project

The Small Business Incubator project with the Warm Springs Community Action Team has made great headway in raising needed funds for this fascinating endeavor.

Chris Watson, chief executive officer of the Community Action Team, says the team is very close to the target goal of just over \$1 million.

The project will involve moving the historic Old Commissary building to a site just off the highway.

After full renovation, there will be space for new businesses. The artists group Tananawit will have a spot at one end of the building, Mr. Watson said. A café will be at an-



Courtesy WSCAT and Hacker Architects.

Architects conceptual drawing of the business park

other end.

The Community Action Team business coach will have space on the upper floor of the building, along with other community busi-

ness people. Additional features will be an outdoor food court pavilion, and a separate building to house a commercial kitchen.

A leading architecture firm,

Hacker Architects, is generously donating their services. Hacker is one of many organizations that have assisted in bringing the plan to reality. "I'm so grateful to all of our funders," Mr. Watson said.

The plan is to move the building in the spring. The renovation will take several months, at which time the businesses can move in, with the grand opening the first part of 2020.

One of the spots in the building is committed to Tananawit. The Community Action Team and the Business Incubator team, headed by Marissa Ahern, will then weigh the other proposals.

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