

# Spilyay Tymoo

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May - Xawit'an - Spring - Wawaxam

## The Twenty-Eighth Tribal Council

The new Tribal Council members took office on Monday of this week. After the swearing-in ceremony, the Council met for preliminary business on Monday, and then met on Tuesday to review the tribal major documents—the Treaty, Constitution and By-Laws and others.

As a first matter of business, the Council members—six new members and two incumbent—elected the chair and vice-chair.

Council chose Raymond Tsumpti, longest-serving member, as chairman; and Lola Sohapp, former tribal judge, as vice-chair. They agreed to advertise the Secretary-Treasurer and Chief Operations Officer positions for 30 to 45 days.

Council then took action on two important procedural matters. The first decision was to change the way a resolution can be adopted.



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

The Twenty-Eighth Tribal Council of the Confederated Tribes is sworn into office on Monday.

See **COUNCIL** on page 7

## Seniors Day turning 50

For three decades now the Warm Springs Honor Seniors Day has brought great entertainment, and lunch and dinner to visiting guests and elders of the reservation community. The Thirtieth Annual Honor this Friday, May 10 will continue the tradition.

The daylong celebration begins at 9 a.m. at the Agency Longhouse, and continues through dinner at 5 p.m. Noon lunch and dinner are free to seniors, \$5 for non-seniors.

The Early Childhood Education Center will host a mini powwow at the longhouse at 10 a.m.

The 2019 Warm Springs Honor Seniors Day features a Western theme—*Come Dressed in Your Boots, Chaps and Cowboy Hats!*

For more information contact the Senior Program at 541-553-3313.

## Tribal organization awarded non-profit status

There are many worthwhile project ideas on the reservation—from economic development, housing, a new community center, a traditional foods processing plant, to name just a few.

There are grant and other funding sources available to tribes, yet a potentially greater source of revenue also exists.

These other sources are the tens of thousands of charitable trusts and foundations—1,600 in the Pacific Northwest alone, and more than 110,000 nationwide.

These sources become available when an entity has 501(c)(3) non-profit recognition.

The tribes received great

news this week, as the federal government awarded 501(c)(3) non-profit status for the Warm Springs Community Development Organization.

Tribal executive management, the community development director, Tribal Council and legal counsel initiated the application process two and a half years ago.

The obvious motivation has been the financial situation facing the tribes for the past several years.

This week Chief Operations Officer Alyssa Macy was looking forward to informing the Warm Springs Community Development Organization board of directors of the 501(c)(3) recognition.

The board has met only a few times, as the non-profit status un-

til now had still been pending.

The board members include Valerie Switzler, president; Curt Hanna, owner of Ski Bowl, vice president; Ervanna LittleEagle, secretary; and Alyssa Macy, treasurer.

There are several reasons why it is important for the tribes to have an independent non-profit organization.

First, this organization is now eligible for public and private grants: Many foundations and government agencies limit their grants to public charities.

Non-profit organizations also can offer tax deductions to individuals or businesses that give charitable contributions.

The organization has tax exemption status: Organizations that qualify as public charities

under Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3) are eligible for federal exemption from payment of corporate income tax.

Once exempt from this tax, the nonprofit will usually be exempt from similar state and local taxes.

A nonprofit organization exists as a legal entity in its own right and separately from its founders. Incorporation puts the nonprofit's mission and structure above the personal interests of individuals associated with it.

Under the law, creditors and courts are limited to the assets of the nonprofit organization. The founders, directors, members, and employees are generally not personally liable for the nonprofit's debts.

## Lil' Miss Pageant this month

Warm Springs Recreation will host the Lil' Miss Warm Springs Pageant on Wednesday evening, May 22 at the community center.

Dinner will be at 5 p.m., and the Pageant to follow. The Pageant supports the traditional values and teachings of the Confederated Tribes, and provides an opportunity for all people to participate and learn. For more information call Recreation at 541-553-3243.

## Salmon Bake at COCC

The First Nations Student Union at Central Oregon Community College welcomes Warm Springs to the 2019 Salmon Bake.

The salmon lunch is free, and there will be traditional dancing, drumming and singing, vendor tables and auction. Vendors can receive a free space with a donation to the auction.

The Salmon Bake and Native American celebration will be from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, June 1 at the COCC athletic field at the Bend campus. For more information contact Michelle Cary, COCC Native American program coordinator; at 541-318-3782; or email: mcary@cocc.edu

The COCC First Nations Student Union and Native American program provide cultural learning opportunities for Native students at the school. The union and program provide a support system and networking opportunities; recruitment and retaining Native American students. They promote equality and fairness through cultural sharing.

## Decision approaching on Huntington legislation

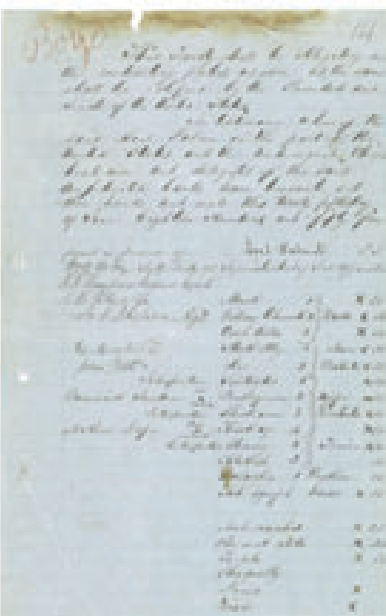
For some decades now the Confederated Tribes have sought the official nullification of the 'Huntington' document.

The document is also variously referred to as a 'supplemental treaty' to the Treaty of 1855; and also by the misnomer 'Treaty of 1865.'

Legislation to correct the situation is currently pending in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. The bills before are HR 1803 and S 832. The record on the proposals is open until May 15.

Successful passage of the legislation would then go to Pres. Trump for his signature.

Sponsors of the legislation include Rep. Greg Walden, and Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley. Other federal lawmakers are also in support, as is Oregon Gov. Kate



Courtesy The National Archives

One of the multiple signing pages of the Treaty of 1855, the only recognized treaty between the Confederated Tribes and the United States.

Brown.

Summary of the House and Senate bills is self-explanatory:

"A bill to nullify the Supplemental Treaty Between the United States of America and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of Indians of Middle Oregon, concluded on November 15, 1865.

"Nullification of Treaty: The Supplemental Treaty Between the United States of America and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of Indians of Middle Oregon, concluded on November 15, 1865, and entered into pursuant to the Senate resolution of ratification dated March 2, 1867 (14 Stat. 751), shall have no force or effect."

Before the expiration of their term this year, the Twenty-Seventh Tribal Council made the 1865 nullification legislation a priority. The

federal legislative delegation has been key in getting the bills this far through the process.

The tribes and lawmakers would like the 1865 document officially nullified as a means of correcting a fraudulent agreement imposed on the tribes.

The Treaty of 1855 created the Warm Springs Reservation while recognizing the tribal right to hunt, fish and gather at usual and accustomed places, and on "unclaimed lands" within and beyond the 11-thousand square miles of Ceded lands.

A decade later the Oregon superintendent of Indian Affairs, one J.W. Huntington, orchestrated the so-called 'treaty of 1865.' This document purported to eliminate tribal off-reservation rights.

See **TREATY** on page 7

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