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Back to school time

The 2019-2020 school year will see changes in the school district, like a new principal and assistant principal at the high school, and a new principal at Bridges. At the Warm Springs Academy the new principal is Bambi Van Dyke.

You can meet the new principals at the Warm Springs Back to

School Barbecue this Thursday, August 29 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Warm Springs Academy.

Principal Van Dyke comes to Warm Springs from Montana, where she was principal at the St. Charles Mission School, located by the Crow Reservation near Billings.

Ms. Van Dyke is originally from Walla Walla, later moved to Gresham, then Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, and Montana.

She arrived in Warm Springs just last Sunday evening, and was at work at the Academy the following morning. The first day of school is Tuesday, September 3, so



Warm Springs Academy principal Bambi Van Dyke

Ms. Van Dyke is having a busy week getting to know the staff and preparing for the start of the new year.

Meanwhile in some other developments: The Academy is talking with the Warm Springs Boys & Girls Club to locate the club at the school, giving the students easier access to the club activities. And the Academy continues to work with Culture and Heritage to bring language, tradition and culture lessons to the school.



Dave McMechan photos/Spilyay

Kindergarteners, here enjoying their breakfast, returned earlier in August to the Warm Springs Academy.

Report on Kah-Nee-Ta

Tribal Council, Management and Finance are preparing the 2020 budget proposal for presentation to the membership at the October district budget meetings.

Management and Finance plan to have a proposed budget for Council in early September. The Tribal Council for the rest of the month will then meet with the departments and enterprises to hear their individual budget updates.

At the end of the month Council will then approve a proposed budget number that cannot be exceeded for expenditures during the following year.

The current year budget was approved at \$18.4 million. For next year a preliminary estimate foresees a budget of \$14.8 million—a decrease of approximately \$3.5 million. Some reasons for the decrease:

The Timber LLC is seeing a reduction in its timber revenue of \$1.5 million. And the Carbon Sequestration (Warm Springs Geo Visions) dividend payment for the current year was close to \$2.5 million, for 2020 the number is greatly reduced.

Other enterprises—in particular Power and Water, Indian Head Casino and Credit—are projecting greater dividends for the next year, though their increases would not be enough to offset the reduction.

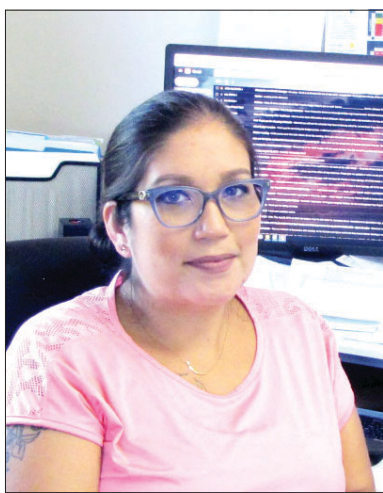
A possible approach will be for the organization as a whole to absorb the \$3.5 million reduction or to increase revenues by \$3.5 million, said Michele Stacona, Secretary-Treasurer/CEO.

New school year at Early Childhood Education

Cassandra Moses is the new director of the Early Childhood Education Center. She started at ECE this summer. Her previous job was as the behavioral health specialist with the Opportunity Foundation in Redmond.

The day care at ECE is now open, and the Head Start students return on Tuesday, September 3. ECE is taking applications for Head Start and Early Head Start.

Ms. Moses has a 3-year-old of her own, Jolee, who will be



Cassandra Moses

starting soon at Head Start. Ms. Moses has two boys—Murray, 10, and Izeyah, 13—who will be at the Warm Springs Academy. And her eldest daughter is Savannah, 20.

Ms. Moses is a board member of the Central Oregon Disability Support Network. A goal for the future at ECE is to bring in a speech pathologist, making the service much more convenient for local families. Right now there is no speech pathologist in Central Oregon.

There will be a Back to School open house at the Early Childhood Education Center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, September 3.

The open house is a chance for parents to meet the teachers and other Head Start staff, and to visit the classrooms.

Learn more about enrolling your child by stopping by Warm Springs Early Childhood Education, or call 541-553-3242.

Enterprise updates at district meetings

The Seekseequa and Agency districts have heard recent updates from the tribal enterprises. At the Agency meeting on Monday evening this week, about 60 tribal members were in attendance.

The enterprise representatives reported on their operations, including employment, and their financial forecasts for 2020.

Tribal projected revenue for next year is significantly lower than for the current year (see related story on this page).

Projecting the amount of money each tribal enterprise will contribute to tribal operations is

part of the annual tribal government budget process.

Revenue for the tribal budget comes from enterprise profits, plus the timber revenue, investment income, permits, taxes, fees, and settlements.

In September the Tribal Council will also meet with all of the enterprises, and the departments, as Council develops a budget proposal for membership review in October.

Indian Head Casino, which is projecting an increase in its dividend, reported on the employment situation at the casino and the Plateau Travel Plaza.

According to the August 2019

report, Indian Head employs 158 people. The breakdown is as follows: Tribal members, 53 percent. Married into the tribes, 6 percent. Other Indian, 11 percent. Non-Indian, 30 percent. And there are several open positions.

The Travel Plaza employs 53 people: Tribal members, 44 percent. No MITs. Other, 18 percent. Non-Indian, 38 percent. And few open positions.

Some other items from Indian Head: September-October will see an ATV Giveaway.

Jackpots are up in 2019, the report says. At the Plateau Travel Plaza tribal members get 5-cents off per gallon of gas, and 10-per-

cent discount in the store side only.

The tribal member gas credit has been over \$125,000 for 2018-19.

Warm Springs Composite Products reported on its expansion into another plant, happening this year.

All Composite product lines are expanding, and the enterprise created 19 additional jobs over the past year, their report says.

Power and Water, Credit, Warm Springs Telecom, Ventures, the Timber LLC gave additional reports at the recent district meetings.

Water update

Earlier this week there were reports of water outages and low water pressure in the Greeley Heights area.

The apparent cause has been the rate at which the water treatment plant has been able to fill up the reservoirs.

The tanks were continuing to be filled as Tuesday of this week. While the boil water notice was lifted two weeks ago, tribal Utilities and Management continue to encourage water conservation.

The rate of consumption has been high in recent days, leading to the low reservoirs.



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