

Coming up this month at Tribal Council

The following are some of the items scheduled for the rest of February at Tribal Council:

Tuesday and Thursday, February 12-14: U.S. v. Oregon policy meeting with the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.

Monday, February 17: Tribal organization closed in observance of Presidents Day.

Tuesday, February 18
9 a.m.: Secretary-Treasurer update.
10: March agenda/minutes.
11: Sold waste landfill

issues with Said Amali, Herb Fricke and Lonny Macy.

1:30 p.m.: Legislative update calls.
2:30: Enrollments.
3:30: Development update with Bruce Irwin.

Wednesday, February 19
9 a.m.: Human Resources update with Cheryl Tom.

10: Finance update with Alfred Estimo.
11: Governmental Affairs update with Louie Pitt.
1:30 p.m.: Managed Care update with Michael Collins.
2:30: Administrative Services update.
3:30: Procurement up-

date with Libby Chase.

Thursday, February 20
9 a.m.: Tribal Court update.

10: Public Safety update.
11: Natural Resources update.

1:30 p.m.: Health and Human Services update.
2:30: Education update.
3:30: Public Utilities update.

Monday, February 24
9 a.m.: Preliminary December financials.

10: TERO update.
11: Gaming Commission/Surveillance update.
1:30 p.m.: U.S. Forest Service/NOAA meeting

(tentative) with Robert Brunoe.

Thursday, February 27: Deschutes River Alliance v. PGE and the Confederated Tribes mediation session.

Items for further consideration: Inter-Tribal Timber Commission meeting. Policy meeting: Columbia Housing project.

Mass design group/Willamette Falls Trust. Tribal Stewards program update.

Southern Oregon University president visit. NACI mid-year conference. TERO training.

Howlak Tichum

Lillian Jo Blackwolf ~ Ch'ili
November 23, 1972 – January 28, 2020



Lillian was born to parents Kenneth W. Blackwolf and Mary Lee (Squiemphen) Wolfe. She was an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon.

Maternal Grandparents were the late Autwai Ardis (Scott) and Lawrence Squiemphen Sr. Paternal grandparents were the late Autwai Julia (Ike) and Ellery Wolfe.

Lillian's siblings are the late Autwai Leander Douglas Wolfe, Charles Wolfe, and Hiram Yaw Sr. Living siblings are brothers Avery American Horse, Melvin Stahi Jr.; and sisters Angeline Blackwolf, Mary Ann Stahi and Agnes Stahi. Her children who preceded her in death are Martin Sconawah, Arnald Sconawah II, Kenneth Sconawah, Joseph Sconawah II. Her surviving children are sons Matthew Sconawah II, Jeremiah Blackwolf, and daughter Mary Lee Sconawah.

Lillian lived most of her life on the reservation of the Confeder-

ated Tribes of Warm Springs. She also lived in The Dalles, Salem, Toppenish, Washington, and Portland.

Lillian loved to spend time with her children and all of her family, sisters, brothers, nephews, nieces, grandchildren, aunts and uncles, grandmas and grandpas. Lillian had a light, and laughter that lit up a room wherever she entered. Her interests included construction work, going to the casino, adult coloring, reading and studying the Bible and Verses, listening to her oldies and modern R&B, Hip Hop/Rap. She enjoyed cooking meals for her adult children and family.

Lillian Jo's smile, her laughter and loving ways will be greatly missed by all of her children, family and friends near and far.

State of Indian Nations kicks off busy week for tribal leaders

The National Congress of American Indians kicked off a busy week of events in Washington, D.C., as NCAI president Fawn Sharp delivered her first address as the new leader of the largest inter-tribal advocacy organization in the U.S.

Ms. Sharp, who also serves as president of the Quinault Nation, gave the State of Indian Nations on Monday morning. The annual address helps NCAI present its priorities, highlight successes and outline challenges facing tribes as they seek to hold the U.S. accountable to its trust and treaty obligations.

"Every single tribal nation across this continent and around this world is full of mighty, unstoppable power," Sharp has said. She is the third woman in NCAI's history to win election as the organization's president.

Since NCAI's Seventy-Sixth Annual convention, which took place in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Sharp has continued to advocate for some of Indian Country's most pressing needs. Just a couple of weeks ago, she helped lead a large tribal delegation at a critical court hearing, where the ability of tribes to protect their most valuable and vulnerable asset through the Indian Child Welfare Act, came under attack.

"The rights that we are advocating were not given to us by anyone. They were not given to us by Congress, they

were not given to us by any state," Sharp said at the time.

"These rights exist by virtue of who we are as Indigenous peoples and tribal nations."

The days since that hearing have been busy for Sharp. In addition to addressing the needs of her people on the Quinault Nation in Washington state, she helped the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, an organization she

once led as president, wrap up a successful winter meeting in Portland.

The travels put Sharp together with another prominent Native woman leader: Rep. Deb Haaland of New Mexico, who is one of the first two Native women in Congress also was in Portland to meet with Northwest tribes.

The pair are sharing the spotlight once again, this

time in the nation's capital. Following Sharp's address, Haaland delivered a response from a Congressional perspective, reprising a role she played last year after her historic rise to the halls of power in D.C.

Starting on Tuesday, NCAI began its executive council winter session. The event is being held at the Capital Hilton, not far from the White House.



For Your Sweetheart on this Valentine's Day 2020, from the artist Travis Bobb.

Positive snow level at higher areas of reservation

The snow level at higher elevations of the reservation was above average during the first part of the year, similar to the situation across the state. Tribal Natural Resources general manager updated Tribal Council on the snow level at a meeting toward the end of January.

The January snow survey was an improvement over the December readings, when the level had been below average. More snowfall during the first month of 2020 led to a 120-percent snow level at higher elevations, Mr. Brunoe said. The report is good news for fisheries, he said. Some other items from the late January Natural Resources update:

The tribal farm had a good year in 2019, selling and delivering hay, and working on equipment. The farm operation brought in a little over \$206,000 in 2019, according to the report.

Meanwhile, final hunter reporting for 2019 at Natural Resources reflected a good season.

The Community Health Education Team is hosting a feminine hygiene items drive. Please fee free to drop off items at the CHET office located at the Family Resource Center; or contact Jillisa Suppah at 541-615-0036; or email jillisa.suppah@wstribes.org

WARM SPRINGS

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

WARM SPRINGS SENIOR CENTER

SUNDAY SERVICE 10AM

WEDNESDAY SERVICE

WITH DINNER 6:00PM

Pastor Brent Wright 503-789-7437

Long Memory of the Land with Liz Woody

Elizabeth Woody, poet and executive director the Museum at Warm Springs, presented *Nature Night—Long Memory of the Land*. Ms. Woody made the presentation at the Deschutes Land Trust Nature Night.

Here are some takeaways from her presentation:

During her presentation, Elizabeth shared a brief glimpse into the histories of Indigenous Peoples in Central Oregon:

As a people with rights and memories of this land from time immemorial, she shared her understanding and connection with Native life along the Deschutes and Columbia rivers.



Elizabeth noted that colonization continues to impact the world today, and that loss of language and a land-based culture built up through millennia is a concern.

Engaging these ways of life, Elizabeth shared, is a key to living with the land. Some Columbia River Peoples' precepts:

As long as nature is taken care of, it will take care of you. Traditional



wisdom is 'systems thinking.' Do no harm. Take only what you need. Let the rest grow.

To understand a land's resources respect it enough to

know your own life is at risk with its loss. Being 'in' it and able to see patterns as interrelationships, and responsibly adapt.

Elizabeth's published works of prose and poetry include *Luminaries of the Humble* and her first book of poem, *Seven Hands, Seven Hearts*.

Elizabeth Woody—Navajo, Warm Springs, Wasco and Yakama—served a two-year term as Oregon Poet Laureate.

She is a published author and fine artist. Elizabeth received the American Book Award, William Stafford Memorial Award for Poetry from the Pacific Northwest Bookseller's Association, and was a finalist in poetry for the Oregon Book Awards for 1994; among other accomplishments.