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October - Anwicht'ash - Fall - Tiyam

2020 Census

The Confederated Tribes are working toward a 100 percent response rate to the 2020 U.S. Census. Last week the number was at 41 percent; then on Monday the tribal Complete Count Team reported a 79 percent response rate.

Depending on the Census cut-off date—as of Tuesday the date was not yet known—the tribes could approach the 100-percent number. This compares very favorably to the 2010 response rate of 37 percent.

Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, and the catastrophic fire season, the 2020 Tribal Census Team was able to participate in the proxy response method.

Please see **CENSUS** on 8

One month into Distance Learning

A month into the 2020-21 school year, students are using the online platforms in pursuing their education. While clearly less than ideal, “Overall this is going well,” said Ken Parshall, 509-J district superintendent.

Teachers and staff over the summer went through intensive training in the best use of Google Classroom and other interactive software. Meanwhile, students are studying and working their regular school schedules from home. “Having that normality in the day—students knowing what to expect from class—is helpful to everyone,” Mr. Parshall said.

Students who needed a computer received one from the district at the start of the school year. An unavoidable issue has been ensuring internet access for all students. A few families in outlying areas are required on school days to drive to an area with access.

This has been an inevitable inconvenience—among others, like no team sports—during the start of a school year that is unlike any other.

Still, despite no in-class learning, there are some aspects of the Comprehensive Distance Learning that could prove to be useful, and could carry over to normal school days when Covid-19 is gone.

A good example of this is the



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Warm Springs Academy chef Juanita Kalama (left) and lead chef Beverly Gallimore serve the breakfast and lunches, and Academy assignments to student families at the school drive-by area.

Twenty-First Century Learning Center. The center provides free online tutoring, taught by the

teachers, available to any student in the district.

Please see **SCHOOL** on 8

Community update

There were two additional cases of Covid-19 on the reservation between Friday, October 2 and Monday, October 5.

As of Tuesday of this week, there were 18 active cases of covid on the reservation. The individuals are being monitored by Warm Springs Public Health.

Since the pandemic began in March, Warm Springs IHS has conducted a total of 3,616 Covid-19 tests.

During that time on the reservation, there have been 365 positive cases. Of those:

Forty people were hospitalized, all of them are now discharged.

Nine people of the reservation community have passed away as a result of the virus, according to IHS. The state overall has seen a total of 572 covid-related deaths since March.

A reminder from Tribal Council: Tribal law requires individuals to follow the quarantine and isolation regulations.



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At the Community Center on Saturday, the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad, the Peacekeeper Society of Yakima; Warm Springs Emergency Response and partners distribute supplies to households of the reservation. Quanah Spencer, tribal relations director with BNSF, coordinated the event with the Dan Martinez, director of tribal Emergency Response. As many as 600 tribal households showed up for the drive-through distribution.



Relief funds for museum

The Museum at Warm Springs has received a \$140,147 grant, as compensation for losses due to Covid-19. Another \$53,736 went to other cultural programs of the Confederated Tribes, such as Education.

The pandemic forced the museum to close for many weeks, and the essential fundraisers have not possible during the pandemic.

The Oregon Cultural Trust announced the grants last week. The museum at the tribes were among 261 cultural organizations in Oregon facing losses due to Covid-19.

The Coronavirus Relief Fund Cultural Support grant awards totaled \$25.7 million statewide.

In Central Oregon, \$998,668 went to Deschutes organizations; \$271,715 to Jefferson County and the tribes; and \$22,220 to Crook count organizations.

The museum is now open Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Safety precautions are in effect. Coming up on October 30 will be the Twenty-Seventh Annual Tribal Member Art Show.

Tuesday is last day to register to vote

Native American tribes have always practiced self-governance from time immemorial. As a legacy of this sovereignty, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs has the government-to-government Treaty with the United States; the tribal Constitution and By-Laws, Tribal Council and court system, enrollment criteria and jurisdictional sovereignty.

The tribal membership every three years votes in the leadership of the Confederated Tribes: This is a guaranteed right practiced and protected. For Native Americans, however, the right to participate in all federal, state and local elec-

Election dates to keep in mind

Next Tuesday, October 13: Voter registration deadline. You can register online at sos.oregon.gov.

Or see the site: jeffco.net/cc

And there is a link at kwso.org

October 14: First day ballots are mailed out.

October 28: Last day to mail return ballot.

November 3: Election Day.

tions has not always been a guaranty. Instead, this right had to be fought for and won—And for this reason must be practiced whenever possible. This is especially true now with the potential ‘elec-

tion of a lifetime’ is coming up on November 3. From the electoral tribal historical perspective:

One-hundred and fifty years ago in 1870 the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States

Constitution guaranteed the right to vote to all U.S. citizens regardless of race. This did not apply to Native Americans, though: It was not until 1924 when the federal government finally admitted that all Native Americans born in the United States are also citizens of the United States.

Furthermore: Even after passage of the 1924 Snyder Act, individual states were able to prevent Native American residents from voting in federal, state and local elections. A law in Arizona, for instance, prevented Native residents of that state from voting until 1948, when the law was struck

down as clearly unconstitutional.

As of this printing there are six days remaining for new voters to register to vote on November 3. Change of address situations—for those already registered but who have moved and may not have received their ballot in the mail—can be addressed up until Election Day.

— Dave McMechan



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