

~ 2020 Review ~ (Continued)

April

A great example of why the Confederated Tribes need a strong membership showing in the 2020 U.S. Census is happening now, as the tribes contend with the present national health crisis: The federal CARES—Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security—Act is \$2 trillion legislation that includes several billion dollars specifically to tribes across the U.S.

The supplemental funding could help tribes address some costs of the Covid-19 response. The impact on tribal essential services, and each tribes' demographics would play a large part in how the billions are allocated among the 573 federally recognized tribes.

The community profile gathered during the census would help guide this determination. This is just one of a myriad of examples of the vital need for membership census participation: Until the next census in 2030, the 2020 count will determine the allocation of federal funding for Medicare and Medicaid, housing, public safety, transportation, water and other essential services.

Among the highest of Tribal Council priorities has always been the education of the young membership: The future of the tribes relies upon this, literally, said Valerie Switzler, general manager of the tribal Education Branch.

There are any number of future educational paths a young person may take, Ms. Switzler said: Training, vocational or technical school, higher education, to name only some. These are the choices that will define the future of the Confederated Tribes.

As with anything worth doing, this is always a challenge; and these days the challenge has taken on an added context: The schools are closed—meaning self-discipline and support of family, friends and community are essential for the tribal youth now more than ever.

The school district continues to provide breakfast and lunches to the students. And at these pick-up

sites the district has been making available printed home education material. This is now leading up to the adoption this week of 'Distance Learning for All.'

In mid April, Tribal Council took two key actions regarding the immediate work future of most tribal employees. Council extended the organization shut-down stay-at-home administrative leave policy for an additional two weeks, through May 8. Council also added a coronavirus relief provision to the employee 401-k plan.

The 401-k plan addition gives employees, who experience financial hardship because of the pandemic, a means to access their retirement account funds without the immediate 10-percent early withdrawal tax penalty. The amount withdrawn will be subject to taxation, to be spread over a three-year period.

The change to the 401-K policy came on the recommendation of the tribal Pension Committee, as presented by Catherine Langford, committee attorney.

The Council vote to add the coronavirus hardship provision to the retirement fund policy, like the vote on the extension of administrative leave, was unanimous.

The change to retirement fund access, and waiver of the 10-percent penalty and tax deferral, would be in effect through December 31. The change is called a 'coronavirus-related distribution,' or CRD; and is part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Stability—Cares—Act.

Residents at long term care facilities are among the highest at risk from the coronavirus. In the starkest of terms, the long-term care residents are the most likely to die from the coronavirus, given their advanced age and the prevalence of other health conditions, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, these facilities are among the hardest hit: In Oregon half of all deaths from the virus have happened among residents of long-

term care facilities. Clearly, extreme precaution is required to protect our most vulnerable, and those who care for them.

The staff at High Lookee Lodge are taking all measures to best ensure the safety of the 16 residents and 15 staff, 24 hours seven days a week. Yet there is an issue being addressed in these extraordinary times:

High Lookee Lodge is closed to the general public. Staff only, with the exception of medical providers and necessary delivery workers—following all proper precautions—are allowed in the building.

At the same time High Lookee Lodge is a fully licensed assisted living facility, meaning the residents themselves are allowed to come and go as they wish. In a vehicle family or friends can pull up in front of High Lookee, pick up a resident, go for a drive, stop by a residence or store; and then return to the lodge.

The 2020 Census is under way on the reservation and among tribal members. Because of the coronavirus and stay-at-home requirements, the time to submit your census information is extended from the previous end date of July to October 31.

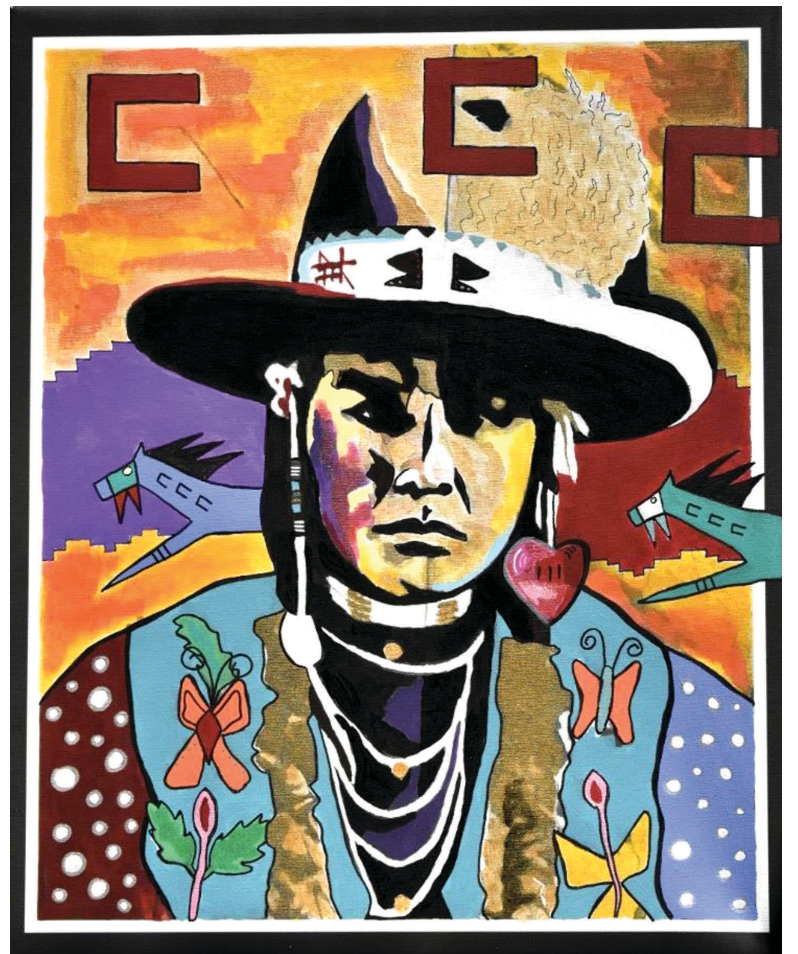
Monitoring the Covid-19 situation on the reservation, the Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center by mid April had tested about 200 residents.

Thankfully, many of the test samples came back negative; while eleven have come back positive, as of mid April.

The state lab where the samples are evaluated is taking between one and two days for results, said Hyllis Dauphinais, Health and Wellness Center chief executive officer. In a statement Mr. Dauphinais said:

"Today and every day since we stood up our incident command and our Tribal Partners Response Team, I have worked together with an amazing team of committed community members in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

"This team has been tasked with providing recommendations to the Tribal Council. I would like to rec-



Early 2020 Tribal Member Exhibit artwork by Ellen Taylor.

ognize the members of the current Tribal Partners Response Team.'

May

Ballots are out for the May 19 Oregon Primary. There are local, state and federal candidates on the ballot, partisan and non-partisan. Examples of more localized races:

Carina Miller is running in the Democratic primary for Oregon State Senate District 30. Incumbent Lynn Findley is running in the Republican primary for Oregon State Senate District 30.

A position is open on the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners. The candidates for county commission position no. 3 are Kenneth Bicart, Wayne Fording and Kim Schmith.

(Review continues December 16)



Sue Matters/KWSO

A safety and parking logistics planning meeting at the clinic among Yvonne Iverson, Amy Whistler and Dr. Locker (from left).

In the Tribal Court of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Petitioner vs Russell Charley Jr., Respondent; Case No. FG11-19. TO: Russell Charley Jr.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Pre-Trial Hearing has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for **January 6, 2021 at 3:00 pm**

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Petitioner vs Preston Tom, Respondent; Case No. CR215-20. TO: Preston Tom:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Discovery Hearing has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for **January 6, 2021 at 3:00 pm**

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Petitioner vs URSELA RUSSELL, Respondent; Case No. CR170-20. TO: Ursela Russell:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Show Cause Hearing has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for **January 5, 2021 at 8:00 am**

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Petitioner vs Shanell Kalama, Respondent; Case No. CR180-20. TO:

Shanell Kalama:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Discovery Hearing has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for **January 6, 2021 at 3:00 pm**

PROBATE

In the matter of the estate of Mernic C. Polk, W.S., U/A, deceased. Estate no. 2011-PR01. To Cecelia LeClaire, Alvin Wells, Travis Wells, Michelle Wells, Anthony Guerin, Raymond Wells, Angel Wells and Martirai Ramsey:

You are hereby notified that an informal probate hearing is scheduled for **2 p.m. on December 16, 2020.**

In the matter of the state of Darrell Anthony James Smith, W.S., U/A, deceased. Estate no. 2015-39. To Cheryle Smith and Mackalin Kalama:

You are hereby notified that an informal probate hearing is scheduled for **11 a.m. on December 28, 2020.**

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Plaintiff, vs Katie Smith, Defendant; Case No. CR160-20. TO: Ellery LeClaire:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Criminal Arraignment Hearing has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to

appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for **December 29, 2020 @ 8:00am**

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Plaintiff, vs Jayce Allen, Defendant; Case No. CR563-19. TO: Jayce Allen:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that ORAL ARGUMENTS has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for **January 14, 2021 @ 9:00am**

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Plaintiff, vs Ellery LeClaire, Defendant; Case No. CR162-20. TO: Ellery LeClaire:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Criminal Arraignment Hearing has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for **December 29, 2020 @ 8:00am**

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Plaintiff, vs Louis Tewee Jr., Defendant; Case No. CR151-20; CR81-20; CR560-19. TO: Louis Tewee Jr.:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a SHOW CAUSE HEARING has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for **December 8, 2020 @ 8:00am**



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