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Enrollment by Adoption

by Raymond Tsumpti Sr.,
Governmental Affairs director

In 1940 the membership voted to amend the Tribal Constitution and By-Laws requiring residency at least three years upon the Warm Springs Reservation immediately prior to the date of his or her application for adoption, and shall not be a member of any other tribe of Indians.

Two previous adoption elections failed due to not meeting the required 50-percent of qualified voter turnout. One of the reasons was no information of the applicants meeting the constitutional residency requirement.

The Twenty-Fifth Tribal Council 'enacted Enrollment Ordinance 94, Chapter 120.120.800.'

Basic requirements upon adoption:

The applicants must have proof of residency on the reservation at least three years immediately prior to application. Such proof may consist of rent receipts, letters from tribal Housing or tribal Credit, local school records, Indian Health Service verification, notarized statement of relatives or others. Such documentation should be to the Enrollment staff.

In all fairness to all applicants, they should be given the opportunity to provide proof of residency.

Raymond Tsumpti Sr., Governmental Affairs director.

Graduations coming up in June

The 2025 Madras High School Graduation Ceremony starts at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 7 at the football stadium.

The Bridges High School Graduation Ceremony will start at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, June 6 at the Madras High School Performing Arts Center. You can reach the Bridges school at 541-4750-4820.

There are more than 70 tribal member seniors who will be graduating this year, from the high school and Bridges.

The Warm Springs Academy will host the Promotion ceremony for eighth-graders at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, June 6 in the school gymnasium.

The Warm Springs Early Heat Start program and Early Childhood Education Center will host the 2025 Pre-K Graduation at 10 a.m. on Friday, June 6 at the Warm Springs Community Center.

Total 117 years of tribal service ~

This month, five dedicated employees retired from the Warm Springs offices of the Department of the Interior-Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The employees had a combined 117 years of government service. Choosing the voluntary retirement or resignation option from the agency are:

Mona Baez, Social Services, 29 years of service.

Owen Danzuka Sr., Equipment Operator, 23 years of service.

Michael Leno, DOI/DOT

Supervisor, 23 years of service.

Carmen Parkins, Realty Specialist, 22 years of service.

Greta White Elk, Realty Officer, 20 years of service.

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs wishes to thank them, and sends Best Wishes for your years of service and dedication to the tribes!

Retiring from the DOI-BIA in Warm Springs are Greta White Elk, Carmen Parkins, Mona Baez (from row); and Owen Danzuka Sr. and Michael Leno (back row).



Sandra Danzuka/TC Office Manager

Tribes' drinking water exceeds all standards

The Confederated Tribes and the public Utilities have made steady, and now significant progress in addressing long-standing safe drinking water concerns. And for the first time in six years, the reservation water system is considered safe according to federal standard.

Specifically, the tribes and reservation domestic water system are no longer subject to a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Emergency Order.

The EPA first issued the order back in 2019, when the reservation was seeing frequent boil-water notices due to possibly unsafe water; and water-

pressure issues caused by age-related problems at the Dry Canyon treatment plant.

The tribes and Utilities, who operates the treatment plant, have been able to return to compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act after securing long-needed funding to make critical updates, including:

Replacing antiquated equipment and controls in the existing water treatment plant.

Replacing two major water main crossings, and building redundancy lines to minimize future water main failures.

Reconstructing 27 pressure reducing valve systems to control water pressure flows, preventing

water main and service line breaks

Conducting a leak detection study, and water system assessments to address unaccounted water loss.

Creating and implementing water and wastewater master plans to help ensure regulatory compliance.

"Ensuring consistent access to clean drinking water is our first priority to our nation, and it improves the quality of life for our membership now and into the future," said Dennis White, Tribal Council chairman.

"We have always worked diligently to maintain the water system to the best of our abilities with the funding and workforce that we

have. We also have great working relationships with our neighbors in the state and federal government that assist our nation with taking on larger projects."

The treatment plant and delivery system improvements have been expensive, so funding was the first challenge.

"Securing funding, thanks to our strong relationships with the state and federal governments, allowed us to update key elements of the drinking water system that we had never before been able to update," said Chico Holliday, Utilities general manager.

Youth skills internship program at WSCAT

by Nehemiah Jackson,
W.S. Community Action Team

The Warm Springs Community Action Team workforce staff has committed to mentoring youth in fields such as business, photography, filmmaking, and the arts this summer. The Community Action Team's Workforce program managed over 50 youth last year in 300-hour positions.

This year's internships will see kids run their own small businesses, make their own short films, and managing a store.

The intention of the summer youth program is to provide workforce experience to youth, and provide financial literacy skills and other life skills.

Through the program, the WSCAT staff hope to provide the youth with wages to invest in their own businesses, start their own IDA accounts, or buy school clothes and supplies.

WSCAT staff thought it would be a good idea to have a separate building for summer workers, considering how busy the office was with the interns there in 2024.



Nehemiah Jackson/WSCAT

The Community Action Team has beeb remodelling the former Re-Use It store for the youth training center.

WSCAT recently leased the former Re-Use It store for 18 months with intentions of renovating it into a workspace for summer youth interns and for youth programming throughout the rest of the year. This is why you've

seen the WSCAT employees moving dumpster trucks of used furniture out of the old Re-Use It store, located by the Warm Springs Market and Post Office.

Interns will develop small business skills with Thomas Medina,

WSCAT's new Workforce Business Administrator.

Thomas is looking forward to having interns shadow him, hoping these experiences will expand the horizons of opportunity for kids in the tribe. And he hopes these experiences will help interns develop their own small businesses and "make our community a better place," Thomas said.

They will create t-shirt designs, use a direct garment printer to print custom t-shirts and other apparel, then sell the items. They will also prepare food for sale. This will introduce the youth to entrepreneurship and gain business knowledge, Thomas said.

WSCAT will put up a four-seasons food tent open to young food entrepreneurs, as well as those fundraising for youth events. The space will be equipped with a propane flat grill and restaurant booths that originated from Indian Trail Restaurant.

Interns will learn how to sew, make jewelry, coordinate youth activities, and assist with the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives resources and programming with Reina Estimo.

YOUTH continues on 6



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