

## W.S. Chamber discussing mission, future

The Warm Springs Area Chamber of Commerce will hold a brainstorming meeting on Tuesday April 9.

The meeting will be from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Family Resource Center.

The Warm Springs Area Chamber of Commerce vision currently is stated as follows: An organization that operates as an advocacy group on behalf of its members.

During the upcoming meeting, the members will discuss whether, or how, to expand the vision.

The Chamber mission is stated as follows: Bring pri-

ivate business owners together to pursue common interests.

At the meeting they will discuss whether to expand the mission.

The Chamber goals are: Self-sustaining; self-governing; unified voice; coordinator of training opportunities for business owners; communication hub and voice for private business development in our community.

History: The Warm Springs Area Chamber of Commerce evolved from the former Warm Springs Business Association, and was formally established in 2003.

Future: The Chamber ex-

ists for the benefit of prospective and current business owners and depends completely on your participation. Come help guide the direction of the chamber and mold it to something you can call yours.

Questions for 2013 and beyond can include:

How do you visualize the chamber working?

Do you see any benefits from participating in the Warm Springs Area Chamber of Commerce?

Does the business community see any benefit from the Chamber? If so, what are those benefits?

If not, share and maybe we can develop and get better.

Possible groups to work with as a member include: Membership, tourism, downtown development, certifications, projects, advocacy, fundraising, infrastructure (physical and legal), mentorship, youth, leadership, education, and marketing.

Opportunities are available for anyone willing to participate in our private businesses on the reservation.

Gerald J. Danzuka, Warm Springs Area Chamber of Commerce president.

## Poling place open 8-8 on Thursday

The Confederated Tribes this Thursday, April 6, will elect the Twenty-Sixth Tribal Council.

The polling place at the Community Center will be open from 8 a.m. till 8 p.m.

On the ballot there are 27 nominees for the Agency District; thirteen for Simnasho; and six for Seekseequa. Agency and Simnasho will elect three Council members, and Seekseequa voters will choose two.

The Agency District nominees are: Carlos Calica, Luther Clements, Mona Smith Cochran, Lynn Tanewasha Davis, Reina Estimo, Eugene Greene Jr., Anita Jackson, Kahseuss Jackson, Louise Katchia, Kim LeClaire, Dan Martinez, Dabid Rodriguez, Jeff Sanders Sr., Mary Sando-Emhoolah, Alex Smith, Alvis Smith III, Carlos Smith, Claude Smith III,

Jonathan Smith, Randy Smith, Robert Smith, Ryan Smith Sr., Wissy Smith, Lola Sohapp, Marcia Soliz, Roy Spino, Gabriel Walker.

The Simnasho District nominees are: Duran Bobb, Orvie Danzuka, Raymond Moody, Evaline Patt, J.P. Patt, Rafael Queahpama, Cassie Rhoan, Sal Sahme, Emerson Squiemphen, Aurolyn Stwyer, Delson Suppah Sr., Ron Suppah, Raymond Tsumpti Sr.

The Seekseequa District nominees are: Reuben Henry, Wendell Jim, Scott Moses, Myra Johnson Orange, Lee Tom, Wilson Wewa.

As soon as the voting is confirmed, the results will broadcast on KWSO 91.9; and posted at the Post Office, the administration building, and other areas around the community.

## Healthy Outing



Courtesy photo.

The Diabetes Prevention Team would like to thank all of those who made it to the recent Bunny Run.

"It was so good to see families out walking and running together," said Stefanie Hurtado, Health Technician and Lifestyle Coach.

The next run/walk will be on April 27. For more information please call 541-553-7718.

Bunny Run participants at the Diabetes Prevention Team-sponsored event.

## Legislature could alter mascot ban

(AP) — The Oregon Board of Education's decision to ban Native American mascots is less than a year old but attempts are already being made to weaken it.

The board last May gave Oregon schools until July 2017 to comply or risk losing state funding. The rule, one of the nation's strongest, requires 15 high schools, mostly in small towns, to erase Native American logos from uniforms, sports fields, trophy cases and other items.

Schools identified as the Braves, Indians and Chieftains also must adopt new

nicknames. Schools called the Warriors are allowed to retain their nickname if they alter their mascot.

Though the board's vote was nearly unanimous, public opinion was more evenly split and legislators have responded with a trio of bills.

Senate Bill 215 and House Bill 3397 would let schools keep their mascots if they get permission from a nearby tribe. Senate Bill 501, meanwhile, would prevent the education board from withholding money because of the mascot issue.

At a public hearing this

week, supporters of SB 215 said giving Oregon tribes a say in whether schools keep their mascots is a reasonable compromise. Reyn Leno, tribal council chairman for the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, said he is more concerned about how tribal history is being taught in schools than in the mascot debate.

"High schools do not adopt derogatory figures and slogans; they adopt admirable and inspirational figures," he said.

Others testified that while leaders of some of Oregon's largest tribes may not object to the mascots, the Native American population as a whole is deeply divided on the issue.

"When we have these

names out there, they become common and people take it for granted that it's OK with everybody. It's not OK with everybody," said Art McConville, a Pendleton resident and member of the Umatilla tribe.

Sen. Mark Hass, D-Beaverton, who chairs the Senate Education and Workforce Development Committee, said the differing opinions among Native Americans leave many Oregonians feeling "a little bit flummoxed about what the right thing (to do) is."

After the hearing, Hass said he's unsure if the bills will advance out of his committee. "It's difficult," he said. "I think we'll let the issue breathe for a couple of weeks."

## Rally in support of Indian Child Welfare Act

RAPID CITY, S.D. — Rallying supporters of the Indian Child Welfare Act carried signs calling for an end of human trafficking of Indian children and waited in the cold for the historic filing of a class action lawsuit against the State of South Dakota.

Oglala Sioux Tribal Attorney Bernice DeLorme said that the unwillingness of the state to comply with ICWA has surprised her. Having worked in social services and as a tribal attorney in Washington for the Puyallup Tribe, DeLorme expressed astonishment at the Pennington County Court. "In Washing-

ton, the state developed its own ICWA law and worked with tribes from all over, including Canada," she said, noting that Washington was not the only state to have a state ICWA law.

DeLorme said, "The ACLU monitored Pennington County Court for a year and saw that the rights of parents and the children were being violated and they did not have an opportunity to be heard. In the last year, 700 kids, 90 percent of whom are Oglala, were removed from their home by South Dakota Department of Social Services."

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## Prized Hood River corridor protected

Columbia Land Trust and Hood River County received 400 acres of prized Hood River waterfront property that is home to threatened fish species and a variety of bird and wildlife species.

The property formerly owned by Portland-based utility company PacifiCorp extends from the site of PacifiCorp's former Powerdale dam downstream 3.5 miles to the City of Hood River.

Hood River County will receive 101 acres total at both ends of the corridor. Columbia Land Trust's property comprises the less-developed middle portion of the corridor.

"We have conserved the very nature of the Northwest in both place and experience," said Glenn Lamb, Vancouver, Wash.-based Columbia Land Trust executive director. "Just moments from the City of Hood River, you'll see soaring eagles and osprey,

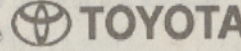
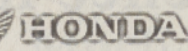
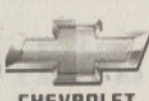
fascinating American dippers, or steelhead queuing up behind rocks and riffles heading home to spawn."

Now Columbia Land Trust and its partners will turn their attention to restoring fish and wildlife habitat, maintaining recreation access, and working with adjacent property owners—including orchard operators and Mount Hood Railroad—to address potential impacts of the transfers, said Ian Sinks, Columbia Land Trust stewardship manager.

Today's property transfer from PacifiCorp to the two partners is the culmination of a decade-long process that began with the utility's decision that decommissioning and removing its Powerdale dam was in the best interests of its customers. The project ceased generating in 2006, earlier than expected, due to severe damage caused by a flood event and was subsequently decommissioned.

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