

Time of transition

by Alyssa Macy

The transition of spring to summer also marks a new transition for many students, as this is the time of year for graduation. It's been great to see all the smiling faces, graduation photos, and well wishes for the graduates on my Face-book timeline. I am proud of each and every one of you and excited about what the future holds for you.

Many of you are heading off to college and what an exciting time this is. My undergraduate years were some of the best of my life. I made lifelong friends while at Arizona State University (go Sun Devils!) and a few classes I took helped greatly in my career endeavors, and opened doors I did not even know were possible.

Several professors were instrumental in guiding me through my education and encouraging me to think bigger. It wasn't always easy and there were times I struggled but I stuck with it and I'm glad I did.

Whether you are going to college or starting work, as you enter into adulthood, you will be faced with many choices, some good and some not so good.

One thing that all of us humans have in common is that along the way, we've all made a bad choice (or two). When you stumble, consider these learning experiences and opportunities to change behaviors for the better. One decision can alter the course of your life forever—don't be the person who makes a bad choice that costs your freedom or worse, your life.

What does it take to be a good decision maker? There are a few things that I think help.

First, trust your gut feeling. Your instincts can be very valuable and I found them the most helpful when it came to making friends. Sometimes, you just KNOW that certain people should not be in your inner circle.

Second, work with facts and data. Don't make decisions on hearsay. Take the time to do the research and understand the facts. Finally, if you are faced with a big decision, take the time to think it through. There is nothing worse than jumping the gun on a major decision and having it turn out bad. It's okay to sleep on it.

To this day, I write my goals down along with

timelines for getting them done. I list the steps that I need to accomplish and enjoy checking those boxes.

Occasionally when faced with choices, I still list the pros and cons and use it to help me make a decision. I ask for advice and often pray. I am always reminded that choices today influence so many aspects of my life including my credibility and reputation. I take it seriously and I encourage each of you to be smart with your decision-making. Indians never forget and a bad choice now could follow you for the rest of your life.

I've gotten some good advice throughout my life and I'll share some of the tidbits that I've been told. First, you are born to dream. Dream big and take the necessary steps to make those dreams come to fruition. Don't let your past or your upbringing or the things you didn't have be an excuse for realizing your potential. Be accountable for your actions, be ethical with your behaviors, be kind, laugh and work hard.

And finally, never forget you are a gift from the Creator, perfect in your imperfections and loved.

I'm rooting for or all of you! Go forth and make us proud!

Spilyay Speaks

Letters to the editor

big river, the wild Indian ponies were here. There were thousands. This breed was and still is beautiful with rare shades of dun, red roans, blue grullos and buckskins, pintos and some Appaloosa.

Indian tribes always did have horses. These same horses, this breed the wild Indian pony, deserves some respect, as they did serve many Indian tribes well. They were used for hunting, packing, travel and war, also racing. The high plateaus and arid steep canyons look much better with them than without them. Their fate is literally going to the dogs, by route of the 50 million buffalo. Respectfully,

Anthony Littleleaf

From Housing

My name is Jonathan Smith Sr., and I am the new Resident Opportunity Self-Sufficiency (ROSS) Residential Service coordinator.

My office is located at the Warm Springs Housing Authority building, 1238 Veterans Way, Warm Springs.

I have lived here on the reservation for over 40 years, and enjoy the opportunity to once again work within the local community.

Here are some facts about our challenges with the local community:

Did you know that according to the U.S. Department of Labor, those who have a high school diploma and a college degree earn significantly more money on average than do those without a high school diploma and college degree?

The unemployment rate is higher for those who do not have a high school diploma or

higher education degree.

Those who earn more income and have higher levels of education are more likely to have better health, according to the Center for Disease Control.

Did you know that an estimated per capita income in Warm Springs is below the poverty rate?

Did you know that unemployment in Warm Springs is above 60 percent, and the poverty rate in Warm Springs is 57 percent higher than the state of Oregon average?

With these things in mind, we want to engage the local community, and create awareness about access to resources that we can offer.

We can help you achieve some of your personal goals by coordinating access to services you may not know are available. Access to program resources can mean the difference between knowing that your goals are well organized and supported, versus having to face these challenges alone.

Empowering our residents and tenants to achieve their goals is our main priority. Helping our residents and tenants become successful is a key part of our program.

If you are low rent Housing tenant, or if you are in the Mutual Help Program, please stop by at the Warm Springs Housing Authority office to sign up for assistance, or call me personally to find out more information.

Any questions and comments can be directed to me at 541-553-3250.

Jonathan Smith Sr., ROSS Residential Services Coordinator, Warm Springs Housing Authority.

Births

Chris James Jim Picard

Gibson Danzuka and Patricia Jim of Warm Springs are pleased to announce the birth of their son Chris James Jim Picard, born on May 28, 2015.

Chris joins brothers Gabriel, 4, and Michael, 4.

Grandparents on the father's side are LaDonna Picard-Squiemphen of Warm Springs, and Vernon Squiemphen.

Grandparents on the mother's side are Christina Culps, and Shawn Jim, of Warm Springs.

Jericho Dion Jackson

Jordan Jackson Sr. and Lyla Williams of Warm Springs are pleased to announce the birth of their son Jericho Dion Jackson, born on May 27, 2015.

Jericho joins brothers Jordan Jr., 4, and Johnatthen, 18 months.

Grandparents on the father's side are the late Louella Squiemphen, and Gregory Jackson Sr., of Madras.

Grandmother on the mother's side is Judith Kalama of Warm Springs.

life and seriously injured his wife, Lisbet Hornung. Lisbet is also a retired and dedicated 509-J teacher and active community member.

Steve was a life-long champion for children and education in our community. He dedicated his entire teaching career to the students, staff and families at Madras High School, where he worked in the classroom for more than 36 years.

Following his retirement in 1995, he continued to teach social studies, civics and advanced placement government at MHS and also provided exceptional added support as an academic coach and head of the MHS social studies department.

His dedication and passion for education continued with nearly seven years of volunteer service as a member of the Board of Directors for the Jefferson County Education Service District.

Sincerely,  
Rick Molitor, 509-J district superintendent

Hope to hear

To the community of Warm Springs, Hello, my name is Stuart A. Smith Sr. I'm writing to family, friends and loved ones to let you know I've been sentenced to 20 months in the Department of Corrections. Please feel free to write me at the address below. Thank you, humbly and respectfully, Stuart A. Smith Sr., sid #12275256, CCCF, 24499 SW Grahams Ferry Rd., PO Box 9000, Wilsonville, OR 97070.

Recent loss

Dear Jefferson County School District and Education Service District staff, families and friends,

We recently lost a true community and education leader, mentor and friend. Steve Rankin was involved in a car accident that took his

KWSO welcomes development director

Bruce Irwin has joined KWSO, and will serve the radio station and the Confederated Tribes as development director, with primary job responsibilities to secure funding for KWSO operations.

This will be done through underwriting, website sales, special events, membership programs, donations, researching, preparing and submitting grant funding proposals, and other revenue generating activities.

Bruce was recently employed as an assistant planner and grants specialist, with the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians, headquartered in Coos Bay.

He started learning his new job responsibilities on June 2, and is getting familiar with his position duties and how he can develop sustainable financial resources for the KWSO Media Center projects and programs.

Before Bruce's work with the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw tribe, Bruce served in various administrative management capacities in his chosen career field in Parks, Recreation and natural Resources Management.

He earned a BA De-



Bruce Irwin

gree from San Diego State University in Parks and Recreation Administration.

He worked for public government agencies most of his career, having served in management capacities in two state parks agencies (in Washington and New Mexico), and five counties: Kitsap, Whatcom, Lewis, Mason in Washington State and Los Alamos County, New Mexico.

Bruce also worked for four special districts: Parks and Recreation, and the Merced Irrigation District in Merced, Calif., managing major big lake recreation areas—Lakes McClure and McSwain, measuring more than 8,000 surface acres at high gross pool.

And he served as director of a City Parks and Recreation jurisdiction in Hastings, Nebraska, with a population of 26,000 residents. In that job he completed construc-

tion of the Aquacourt, a full service aquatic park facility in May 2004.

Throughout his public parks and recreation career, Bruce has more than 20 years of grant getting experiences and has endeavored to earn capital improvement project (CIP) funds by preparing more than 67 grants to earn new sources of funding—\$32.5 million—to accomplish agency goals and objectives.

Bruce will be researching and analyzing the best grant sources to support KWSO Media Center's programs and services that provide public benefits to the Warm Springs tribal organization and local community.

He plans to research and identify potential new funding sources that will assist the KWSO Media Center to grow in a variety of ways, providing for the needs and benefits of tribal departments and related enterprises.

As a non-profit organization founder, Bruce has an interest to develop plans to build a fish viewing "stream profile chamber," an underground fish viewing facility.

The future visitors to this unique natural resource interpretive center, featuring an aquarium-like setting on a natural body of water, is where the region's fish can be

observed and appreciated in a combination indoor/outdoor setting.

Bruce is married and has three grown daughters who live in other states. He and his wife intend to relocate to the Jefferson County area and get established in the local community in a capacity whereby they can contribute to better the area in which they reside.

KWSO's development director position is being funded by a grant from the Oregon Community Foundation (OCF) supported by: the Casey Family Fund; the Fred W. Fields Fund; and the Daryl L. and Patricia L. Swenson Fund.

This is a capacity building grant and the goal is for the Development Director to be self-sufficient in three years. The mission of the Oregon Community Foundation is to improve life in Oregon and promote effective philanthropy.

OCF works with individuals, families, businesses and organization to create charitable funds to support the community causes they care about. Through these funds OCF awards nearly \$70 million annually in grants and scholarships.

**Spilyay Tymoo**  
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