

The fire response

A thank-you goes to all the fire fighters and camp crews who helped fight the Countyline 2 fire. The effort of these fire teams kept a bad situation from getting much worse.

On the reservation, two families lost their homes to the flames, and one person lost all his possessions in a trailer that burned.

Some neighborhoods had to evacuate, with families spending time at the Red Cross-Health and Human Services shelter. But things could have been

Spilyay Speaks

much worse: The drought conditions, and high winds during the first days of the fire, made the Countyline 2 blaze very hard to contain. For a time there was a potential for major structural loss, such as happened with other fires in the region.

Generous donation

Jim Lane, owner of the Prineville Men's Wear store, is a good friend to tribes. He has known Wasco Chief JR Smith for some time. Jim gave Chief Smith a very nice Pendleton blanket when JR became Chief.

Then more recently, Mr. Lane made a donation for people who have lost belongings during the County Line 2 fire, or are in need of help with clothing.

Mr. Lane gave the tribes five Prineville Men's Wear gift cards, value of \$150 each.

This story goes to show, Hard times can bring out the best in people.

Tradition of service

On another topic: A recent report shows that American Indians enlist in the military at higher per capita rates than any other racial or ethnic group in the U.S.

The report, from the Defense Department, says that the high rate of service translates to the military's special forces:

Four percent of the enlisted Navy SEALs are Native Americans, while Native Americans represent just 1.2 percent of the general population, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

So Native Americans are far more likely to advance to the elite units than other groups. Additionally, another 53 Native Americans serve in the Special Operation Forces.

Head Start celebration

Warm Springs Head Start this month is celebrating its Fifty Year anniversary, with an all-day celebration on Monday, August 31, at the community center.

Letters to the editor

At Commodity

The Warm Springs Commodity Food program will now be open at 7 a.m. daily and through the lunch hour, 12-1 p.m., for food pickup.

Any questions, or if you need a delivery, feel free to call the Commodity Program at 541-553-3422.

Enterprises

Warm Springs People, Gaming and Kah-Nee-Ta began as separate business ventures for the Tribe and subsequently merged based on two things:

1) politics to push out board members who couldn't be manipulated; and,

2) to bring financial balance to Kah-Nee-Ta.

Gaming's sole intent was to generate revenue for tribal government with focus and priority funding for Public Safety, Social Services and Education.

However, due to political maneuvering, it became an automated money machine for Kah-Nee-Ta. There has been argument that the casino borrowed money from Kah-Nee-Ta to build the current building; however, the reality is all money generated at the old casino facility is what paid for the new casino.

The Council never voted to close Kah-Nee-ta. In fact, it was a board member who subsequently resigned who recommended that the tribe close Kah-Nee-Ta.

Kah-Nee-Ta is a seasonal enterprise with expected layoffs beginning in late fall, as it has always done. What is expected of Kah-Nee-Ta, is for it to stand on its own as it should and has done in the past. Kah-Nee-Ta has always found itself in the red; however, we have had three general managers in the past that proved it could generate profit. So it will take an effective general manager to generate revenue for Kah-Nee-Ta.

We, as a people, must give no energy to the negative Facebook page created to spread continued false gossip to separate us as a people. I would recommend to the Kah-Nee-Ta board to terminate all employees participating in embarrassing our tribal business with their personal agenda to create community chaos.

Most importantly, terminate the creator of the Facebook page. We, as a community are tired of you who generate bad feelings. Maybe when you are not benefiting from "tribal" dollars, you will learn to appreciate

your tribe.

We have a lot of community members who need work, so we could fill your shoes real fast.

Warm Springs Forest Products Industries, good work to all you workers who took the measures in a positive way, through innovative decisions to keep this business operational. Kah-Nee-Ta, you could learn from WSFPI, this is how a business is operated.

Leona A. Ike-Smith, tribal member

Lost item

Lost at the Agency Longhouse (four months ago): A green Five Back Pack, contents very important. Return, no questions asked. Contact Wendell Green, message phone, 541-553-1538.

Birth

Major Walter Summerhalder Michael Summerhalder Jr. and Tia Bean of Madras are pleased to announce the birth of their son Major Walter Summerhalder, born on August 1, 2015.

Major joins brothers Derick, 20, Ohshay, 19, Jyden, 11, and Justus, 6; and sister Sha'Rita, 13.

Grandparents on the father's side are Tina Smith of Madras, and Rose Summerhalder of Madras.

Grandparent on the mother's side is James Bean of Calif.

Indian Business Talk

New classes and comments on Chow-tun and E-itis

Credit Building 101 – Tuesday, August 25 from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Credit Enterprise building, presented by the Mid Oregon Credit Union. Please call 541-553-3201 to reserve your seat in the room.

We can handle 30. Learn how to build a good credit history. Learn how to repair credit. Learn what works best and how to avoid the scam artists. Adults, this is for you and for your Highschoolers. Come one; come all. The benefits can last a lifetime.

Pathways Home – Starts Tuesday September 15, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. for seven weeks at Credit Enterprise.

Co-sponsors are the Warm Springs Housing Authority, Community Action Team and Tribal Credit Enterprise. Call 541-553-3148 to reserve your seat.

This comprehensive course will help you become a savvy successful homebuyer and homeowner. You will learn how to find, value, finance and maintain a decent, safe, sanitary and healthy home for your family.

We now have eight certified instructors from the train-the-trainer class that was held at Kah-Nee-Ta in July. We are fired up! We will all be there at one time or another for you. Come join us.

Life balance a key to health for Courtney

by Montell Elliott
Coordinator, W.S. Diabetes Prevention Program

Don Courtney is an advocate of maintaining life's balance. Don explains that balance includes spiritual, mental, emotional and physical.

The Diabetes Prevention Program helps with the physical.

Don started classes in May of 2007, and has continued to be active in the program for eight years.

He recently ran the Cascade Lakes Relay. And at the Glo Run in Warm Springs he ran dressed as Elvis.

Don also continues to be selective when making food choices, remembering to include fruits, vegetables and water. With the help of his coach, he has looked into recipes that include less fat and salt, including traditional foods such as smoked salmon.

He joined the Diabetes Prevention Program because of test results in the borderline range for blood sugar results, which is a diagnosis of pre-diabetes.

He then was referred to the Diabetes Prevention Program, and learned more about it. He recalls thinking, 'It sounds like a pretty good thing'

In class he learned about his then-favorite jalapeno burger being



Courtesy photo.

Running is a favorite for Don Courtney.

very high in fat (at least 44 grams, most of a day's worth of fat). By the way, he says, he hasn't had once since...

Reading labels to fit into a fat budget was a learning experience that has made Don more conscious of what he purchases at the grocery store.

Diabetes classes also taught him about balance of what is taken in for energy, such as portion control, fat intake and water, as well as leaving things out, like fried foods.

The class was his favorite part, because of the learning. The series of topics interested him, because of his belief that education is important.

Topics include nutrition, becoming active, problem solving, stress and motivation.

Having one-on-one coaching, continuing to meet every other week, has been

very helpful in keeping his balance.

Don notes that every winter he used to gain between 10 to 15 pounds. This year he was able to maintain his optimum weight.

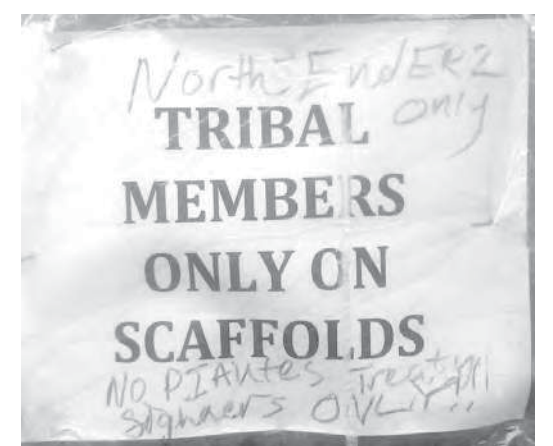
In closing, as a message to those reading this, Don says 'Just Do It.'

"If you have a family history of diabetes or have been told you are borderline or diagnosed as pre-diabetic, it is up to you to do something about it."

The next class starts in October, though you need to get signed up by September 18.

The Diabetes Prevention Program is located on campus in the white building by the Family Resource Center.

The phone number is 541-553-7718.



'Ignorance shows its ugly face,' of all places at Shearers Bridge, submitted by Dave Belgard.

Visit from Alaska



Courtesy Lewis Pitt

Members of the Ukpeagvik Iñupiat Corporation of Alaska visited Warm Springs in July. They toured the reservation enterprises, and met for an information meeting with Warm Springs Ventures.

They presented Tribal Council (including Paiute Chief Joe Moses, above) with carry bags with the corporation name and logo of their Native Alaskan corporation.

— Bruce Engle, Loan officer, Credit Enterprise

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