



# Spilyay Tymoo

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## April elections to decide Council, Constitution

The Bureau of Indian Affairs this week is mailing the ballots to registered voters in the April 11 election, regarding the tribal Constitution and by-laws. The BIA is planning to mail the ballots by this Friday, March 18.

Ballots must be returned to the agency in the pre-addressed, postage-paid return envelopes provided. The BIA must receive your ballot no later than April 11. As stated in the BIA election summary:

Official ballots must be received at the Warm Springs Reservation Post Office no later than 4 p.m. on April 11. Also:

Officials ballots may be hand delivered to the BIA election board chairwoman Denys White Schjoll until 4 p.m. on April 11. Her office is in the administration building.

### New Council could serve 3 years

Regardless of the outcome of the April 11 vote on the tribal Constitution, the Twenty-Seventh Tribal Council could serve a three-year term, according to the BIA.

The membership will choose the new Council during the tribal election set for Monday, April 4.

If the membership on April 11 votes in favor of one or more changes to the tribal Constitution, these changes would

take effect 45 days after the election. The tribes could interpret this to mean that the changes apply to the next Council election, in 2019. Or the tribes could decide to hold an earlier re-election under the changed Constitution.

**Tribal Council nominees**, please stop by the media center with your candidate statements. These will be in the next *Spilyay Tymoo*.

The time to register to vote in this election passed earlier this week, on Monday, March 14.

This is a federal election, not a tribal election. So if you have not registered specifically for this elec-

tion, you are not eligible to vote in the April 11 election.

The list of registered voters is posted at various public locations on the reservation, and on the tribal website.

The election is in regard to 15 proposed amendments to the tribal Constitution and by-laws. The 15 proposed amendments are being voted on separately, as according to federal law.

Voters must use the official ballot contained in the BIA mailing.

If you do not receive your official ballot in the mail, or accidentally spoil or mutilate your official ballot, contact the BIA at 541-553-2411. A replacement ballot will be mailed to you as soon as possible.

Any qualified voter who has registered to vote can contest the election results. This must be done within three calendar days following the posting of the election results. The challenge is to be made with the BIA, stating the grounds for challenge.

There are 15 proposed amendments, divided into four categories:

1. Organization of Tribal Council, with 11 proposed Constitutional amendments;
2. Qualifications for office, with one proposed amendment;
3. Salaries, with one proposed amendment; and,
4. Meetings and procedure, with two proposed amendments.

See **ELECTION** on 3

Madras High School girls varsity basketball guard Lynden Harry and teammates leave the Warm Springs Eagle Academy.

The academy students met last week in the commons area with the MHS players and coaches, before the team left for the state tournament.

Coach Butch David announced the winner of the 50/50 raffle that helped with some of the travel expenses. The Warm Springs Police and the Fire Department provided the escort for the MHS athletes' bus, as they made their way out of town. *More on page 5.*



Jayson Smith/Spilyay

## Veterans parade and expo

The Eugene Greene Sr. American Legion Post and Auxiliary Unit 48 this month will host the First Annual Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Parade and Expo.

The inaugural Vietnam Veterans Parade and Expo is set for Wednesday, March 30. The parade is scheduled for noon, and the expo will be from 1 to 5 p.m.

The event is part of the local recognition of Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day, March 30.

The Warm Springs American Legion Post #48 and the Auxiliary are organizing committee and hosts.

Veterans are invited to attend from around the region. One veteran is expected from as far away as the United Kingdom, said AJ Atencio, of the American Legion Post. There will be a Color Guard, and motorcycle group from Redmond, said Charles Tailfeathers, also of the Post.

The day is scheduled to start with a veterans and families gathering at the gymnasium at the old elementary school. The parade line-up will be on the campus, at 1109 Wasco Street. The expo will feature information and assistance on services to veterans. For more information go to [wsala48.org](http://wsala48.org)—Or call 541-460-8212.

The American Legion Post 48 and Auxiliary are hosting Bingo tournaments on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The tournaments are to raise money for the March 30 event.

There is a \$100 jackpot for the Bingo nights. On the final night before the Parade and Expo, the jackpot will be \$300. *(See page 6 for Bingo details.)*

The Warm Springs American Legion Post has close to 20 active members. Another project they are working on is a Veterans Memorial at the grounds of the Museum at Warm Springs.

### For Better Health

## Focus on treatment, prevention of diabetes

Diabetes is a main health concerns on the reservation. Hundreds of tribal members are dealing with the disease, and many are focused on preventing diabetes. The Indian Health Service and the tribes are helping in the fight, with the Diabetes Program and Diabetes Prevention.

"We all believe in these programs," said Montell Elliott, Prevention coordinator, who is also the interim Diabetes Program director.

"I had pre-diabetes, and I've been able to prevent it," Montell was saying recently. Others on the staff have gone through the programs as well, and are now working to help others.

Some of the staff are lifestyle coaches, working one on one with the clients. Some

people have been in the Prevention program for many years, and have avoided the disease.

Exercise is a big part of the solution, Montell says. A study has shown that exercise is more effective than medication in preventing diabetes.

Walking is the usual place to start with exercise. "We usually start out with 150 minutes of walking per week," Montell says.

Montell is an Alaska Native—Haida Tlingit. She has been with the tribes for 23 years now.

### Health report

The Joint Health Commission annual report looks at the leading causes of death on the reservation, year by year.

See **HEALTH** on 7

## Mill closure due to rainy weather

The Warm Springs Forest Products Industries mill had to shut down this month. The problem was a log inventory shortage, because rainy weather had made the logging roads impassable.

The closure was expected to be about three weeks, said John Katchia Jr., mill director. The mill management and board met with Tribal Council last week to update the Council on the closure.

The discussion also turned to the long-term viability of the mill, and its plan of operation. The goal has been to make the mill at least a break-even enterprise.

One way to help achieve this goal would be to pay off the debt the mill owes to its log selling partner. This would allow the mill to ask for bids from other potential selling partners, mill board member Ben Brisland said.

Because of the debt to the company, the mill is required to keep a certain amount of log inventory on the premises. This was also a con-

tributing factor that led to the recent shut-down, John Katchia said.

The mill is making payments to the tribes in order to make up for missed payments from last year. One way to pay off the debt to the log selling company would be to suspend the back payments to the tribes, board and management said.

Instead, payments would go to the company, and the debt could be paid off this year, they said.

The situation at the mill has repercussions through the organization. Part of the mill debt, for instance, is to the Credit enterprise, and some is from the tribes in the form of a Business Investment Revolving Fund (BIRF) loan.

Importantly, the WSFPI payments to the tribes help fund the Senior Pension Fund. The WSFPI payments are from a trust asset, the timber. So the pension payments to the seniors are not taxed.

The Pension Fund could be replenished with non-trust tribal funds.

See **WSFPI** on 3



**MARCH**

**\$60,000**

**IN CASH AND PRIZES**

- \$21,000 MONEY MADNESS
- \$14,000 4<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
- \$4 BLACKJACK TABLES

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CELEBRATING 4 YEARS of LUCKY DAYS!




\* Includes all promotions taking place March 1 - March 31. All promotions require Players' Club membership to participate. Management reserves all rights. Minimum points required. See Players' Club for complete details.