

Letters to the editor

To family, friends, tribes

The family of Lena Tewee Santos would like to sincerely express to the Warm Springs community, the love and support you had given to our beloved mother who recently passed in early November 2016 from cancer.

We would like to especially recognize those who stood by us before, during and after her passing.

There are not enough words to express the heartfelt thanks to the Warm Springs Tribes community, friends and families who came together by providing a helping hand, songs and prayers, a hug, or just words of profound encouragement.

To head cook Roma Courtney, including the root preparation and huckleberry donation for the last meal—heartfelt thanks. This includes helpers Gidget Robinson, Toodie Isadore, Leslie Robinson, Allegra and Andrew Gilbert.

Recognition to Liya and Tatum for the delicious huckleberry cakes for the last meal. It was an honor and privilege to be able to participate in our momma's final ceremonial meal and plate—thank you Cassie Rhoan.

To all those who hunted elk and deer for their 'Grandma Lena', Anthony Santos and Joel Santos, Kevin Williams and Lauren Denny.

Acknowledgments also go out to Public Utilities for their hard work at the cemetery, and Fish and Wildlife for the salmon donation. To all those who donated Pendleton blankets and shawls, we are forever grateful for your kindness.

Thank you to the Seven Drum Service and to Lawrence Slockish who officiated at the memorial including drummers Carlos Calica, Wilson Wewa, Guy Wallulatum, Russell Charlie, Richard Tewee and Shawn Jim.

Carlos Calica, we will never forget the vigil you kept with our Momma at the hospital, at home and throughout the East Cascade services with your prayers, drum and songs—surely you are a blessing to have in our family!

We were honored to have Rosie Johnson and Eliza Jim for Lena's ceremonial dressing services. Thank you to our brother Rick Santos, and Susan Santos for the buckskin donation.

Our Momma often talked of leaving on her 'journey dressed in white buckskin'—

Thank you, Donetta....

We truly appreciated hearing the special stories that were shared by family and Elders who grew up with our Momma. Often they had lifelong memories and close ties within Simnasho and the hardships our families endured. We have often enjoyed the stories as shared by our Grandparents Mable and Bill Eyle, and their ties to the Shaker Church.

To the Shakers who lent so much support of songs and prayers at the hospital—including up to our Momma's last moments—we offer our humblest thanks to Matthew Joseph and Vivian Smiskin commencing a final song in her passing. To all the Charley Family's Shaker service at the Longhouse and East Cascade, and a special thanks to the graveside speakers, Judy Charlie and Carlos Calica—We are forever thankful for your sincere, comforting words, songs and prayers of solace.

Finally, we want to especially thank my niece Jamie McKinley for her energy, dedication and teachings of our traditional tribal customs as taught by our relatives—your vigil to stand by our family was over-whelming and heartfelt whether it was at the hospital, Longhouse or at the cemetery. Additionally, thanks goes to Jamie M. and Theresa Howe who cleansed our Momma's home and hung up rosebush.

In closing, we are forever thankful for your tribal support, to those who kept a day and night vigil at the hospital, and to those who donated their time and energy to make our Momma's passing a memorable one.

Acknowledgements go out to Warm Springs Tribes, usage of the Simnasho Agency Longhouse and to Emily Yazzie for the beautiful Memorial cards.

Respectfully,
Lena Tewee Santos Family

Poles for KNT

Kah-Nee-Ta Resort is taking bids for lodge poles for the resort Teepee Village.

Specifications: 360 peeled 30-foot lodge poles, delivered to Kah-Nee-Ta on or about February 19.

Bids are due by Monday, January 23. Submit bids or questions to: jbankson@kahneeta.com

Jim Bankson, general manager, Kah-Nee-Ta Resort & Spa. 541-553-1112.

From VOCS

January is National Stalking Awareness Month—a time to focus on a crime that affected 7.5 million victims in one year.

The theme this year—Stalking: Know It. Name It. Stop It—challenges the nation to fight this dangerous crime by learning more about it.

Stalking is a crime in all 50 states, the U.S. Territories and the District of Columbia. Yet many victims and criminal justice professionals underestimate its seriousness and impact.

In one of five cases, stalkers use weapons to harm or threaten victims. And stalking is one of the significant risk factors for femicide (homicide of women) in abusive relationships.

Victims suffer anxiety, social dysfunction, and severe depression at much higher rates than the general population, and many lose time from work or have to move as a result of their victimization.

Stalking is difficult to recognize, investigate, and prosecute. Unlike other crimes, stalking is not a single, easily identifiable crime but a series of acts—a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause that person fear.

Stalking may take many forms, such as assaults, threats, vandalism, burglary, or animal abuse, as well as unwanted cards, calls, gifts or visits.

One in four victims reports that the stalker uses technology, such as computers, global positioning system devices, or hidden cameras, to track the victim's daily activities.

Stalkers fit no standard psychological profile. And many stalkers follow their victims from one jurisdiction to another, making it difficult for authorities to investigate and prosecute their crimes.

Communities that understand stalking, however, can support victims and combat the crime.

Warm Springs Victims Of Crime Services currently has Women's Support Group every Monday from 3-5 to promote awareness and public education about stalking during the annual observance.

For more information, please contact Victims Of Crime Services at 541-553-2293.

For additional resources to help promote National Stalking Awareness Month, please visit: stalkingawarenessmonth.org And: www.ovw.usdoj.gov

Dorothy Kalama, Warm Springs Victims of Crime Services

YouthBuild

The 2017 Hearth of Oregon Corps YouthBuild graduation ceremony has been rescheduled to this Friday, January 20. The snow event caused a postponement from earlier this month.

The ceremony will be held

COCC Student Profile

Always a good time for higher ed

Michael Leecy tried college back in the mid 90's but made some bad personal choices and slipped through the cracks.

Michael is now back at Central Oregon Community College, with plans to graduate with a degree in Forestry in June.

He's been employed with Warm Springs Forestry, and they have been very supportive of his college pursuits.

In pursuing a college degree, Michael also feels it is important to have support of family members, as they motivate him to be a better person.

It also helps that his wife is also going to college and actually urged him to go back to college too.

How is he doing this time around? His lowest grade has been an A-minus.

When he first started



Courtesy Gina Ricketts/COCC

Warm Springs Forestry's Michael Leecy.

back at COCC he felt a little out of place because of his age.

"Then I realized, We're all here to learn and we all have to get out of our comfort zone if we want to pursue a better life."

Michael has learned to raise his hand in class and be a bit more confident and outspoken.

His goal is to get into Land Management positions, so he can make more meaningful contributions on how to

manage tribal forests and fire.

He wants to leave the land in good hands for his grandkids and others in the future.

Advice for those thinking of college?

"If you have the opportunity, go for it. Don't let your age limit you: You can continue to learn even if bad things happen.

"You just get back up and keep going after it."

at the Madras Performing Arts building located next to Madras High School, 412 Buff Street in Madras.

There are a number of Warm Springs youth who will be graduating.

The ceremony will begin on January 20 at 11 a.m. and conclude at 1 p.m.

Here are some of the items on the graduation day agenda:

Guest speakers Butch David, Native American liaison Madras High School; and HD Wedell, vice principal Madras High School.

Heart of Oregon Corps speaker Laura Handy, corps executive director. Graduate speaker: Scott Powell.

Mentor presentation, Mimi Ladine and Signe Johnson, followed by a slide show of the work of YouthBuild.

Graduation presentations: AmeriCorps Service Award; Home Builder's Institute Pre-Apprenticeship Construction Training Certificate; GED Attainment; and high school diploma completion. Reception to follow.

Pet owners

The monthly free spay and neuter clinic for dogs in Warm Springs is coming up on Sunday, February 5.

Dogs can be dropped off starting at 7:30 a.m., first come-first serve, at the Community Building in Greeley Heights.

The Humane Society will also be available to take dogs that need to be adopted from 8:30-10 a.m. The spay and neuter program is a project of Bend Spay and Neuter, a non-profit organization.

To people and departments that are planning to bring proposals before Tribal Council, keep in mind: All draft resolutions and ordinances, including any attachments or exhibits, are due by the first Friday of each month by 5 p.m. Send by email in Word form for review: michele.stacona@wstribes.org lynn.davis@wstribes.org

Birth

Shaylynn JoAnn
Brisbois

Vance Brisbois and Jaycelene Frank of Warm Springs are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Shaylynn JoAnn Brisbois, born on January 9, 2017.

Shaylynn joins brother Wylie, 17 months; and sisters Sharmiah, 5, and Winola, 3.

Grandparents on the father's side are Melvin "Jeff" Brisbois of Coulee Dam, Washington; and Marietta Grunlose of Nespelem, Washington.

Grandparents on the mother's side are Yahteen Frank of Simnasho; and Sheila Thrasher (Spino) of Warm Springs

CRITFC coordinator joins research center

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission hatchery production coordinator Maureen Hess was selected as a board member for the Oregon Hatchery Research Center.

The research center is a cooperative research project between the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the OSU Department of Fisheries and Wildlife.

The goal of the center is to explore scientific questions related to fish recovery and hatchery programs, including the differences that may exist between wild and hatchery fish, and how to better manage those differences.

Maureen has been



Maureen Hess

with CRITFC for the past seven years, six of which were at the Hagerman Genetics Lab that CRITFC operates with the University of Idaho in Hagerman, Idaho. Maureen has extensive research experience related to Pacific salmon and steelhead in the Columbia River Basin.

Her primary duties at

CRITFC, first as a conservation geneticist, and more recently as the hatchery production coordinator, have included:

Leading projects, communicating technical information to diverse audiences, authoring scientific studies on hatchery/wild fish interactions, and participating in regional hatchery coordination processes.

Her research interests have focused on use of hatcheries for both conservation and fishery/mitigation purposes, and use of research for adaptive management of hatcheries.

Congratulations, Maureen.

Spilyay Tymoo
(Coyote News, Est. 1976)

Publisher Emeritus in Memorium: Sid Miller
Editor: Dave McMechan

Spilyay Tymoo is published bi-weekly by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. Our offices are located at 4174 Highway 3 in Warm Springs.

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Annual Subscription rates: Within U.S.: \$20.00