

Letters to the editor

Eagle Academy parents, families

Dear parents and family members,

We've reached the midpoint of another school year and we remain extremely thankful for the support that family members and the community of Warm Springs provide for our students and school staff.

Our teachers and support staff remain focused on improving student learning in reading, writing and math. In addition, we've added full time music and physical education staff to our school this year to ensure that students have a wide variety of activities to participate in during the school day.

Despite a tough winter and nine missed school days so far, we are encouraged by the success students are having in school.

One of our goals this year is to partner with family members to help students learn. We invite all families to ensure that students are reading at home at least 20 minutes a night. For younger students, who are not reading on their own yet, an adult or older student can read to the younger student during this time.

Additionally, our middle school students should have an additional 20 minutes of time set aside each night at home for completing homework or studying.

Family members can access their students "Power School" account using a password (received from school) to monitor their middle school student's grades and assignments. Note: Please contact school staff at any of the upcoming family engagement nights to receive your account information and a short training.

Sincerely,

Ken Parshall, Principal, Warm Springs K-8 Academy

On basketball

I was thinking more about why basketball, or Rez Ball is so popular, and why it means so much to our people. For one thing I think it just comes so natural to our people.

All it takes is one generation of people to start a tradition and their children to carry it on, and so on.

Talking with a friend, we started thinking about how our kids struggle in school, how most of our leaders were star athletes at some

point in their life, and about racial tensions when we desegregate our students.

Putting all these things together, basketball is the one thing that we can "beat them" at: We do it our way, and our way beats their way. Its like our little victory in communities where victories don't happen very often, and its one of the few things that showcase our youth's talents.

Basketball is important because it is one of the few places where kids get to showcase their talent and represent their community, and one of the few places where kids are exposed to leadership opportunities.

My friend and I we went a step further and discussed how we could take sports like basketball as an example, and how we could build more leaders if we create programs where kids can show off their unique talents. Unfortunately, schools don't really offer many of those opportunities for our kids.

When I was younger, Rez Ball was my way of getting off of the rez. I wouldn't have gotten off a whole lot if I didn't get to travel to tournaments. Some of my very best friendships, including with my now-colleague Shana Radford, started on the basketball court.

Reina Estimo, HHS

Births

Valance James Tohet

Jimmy Tohet Jr. and Angela Tohet of Warm Springs are pleased to announce the birth of their son Valance James Tohet, born on January 29, 2017.

Valance joins brothers Perry, 15, Mathew, 6, and Jamie, 5; and sisters CharlaMay, 10, Kyra 9, and RubyAnna, 1.

Grandparents on the father's side are Jimmy Tohet Sr. of Warm Springs, and Melinda Frank of Warm Springs.

Grandparents on the mother's side are the late Tom Dawalt, and the late Carol Herkshan.

Imani Melanie-Marie Jack

Rodger Jack and Kalia Berk-Coleman of Madras are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Imani Melanie-Marie Jack, born on February 4, 2017.

Grandparents on the father's side are Ida Marie Smith and Rick R. Smith Sr., born of Warm Springs.

Drone regs

Warm Springs Ventures and its unmanned aircraft systems program receives many requests about the requirements for flying a drone. The Federal Aviation Administration has rules for drone operators. Here is a summary of some of these requirements:

Register your aircraft at registermyuas.faa.gov

Obtain an FAA remote pilot certificate, and follow the FAA regulations.

Operators must be at least 16 years old. The UAS must weigh less than 50 pounds. The FAA regulations say the operator should conduct a pre-flight check to ensure the flight can be conducted safely.

Fly only within class G airspace—class B, C, D and E airspace need FAA approval.

Fly within visual line of sight. Fly at or below 400 feet. Fly during the day, and at or below 100 miles per hour.

Yield the right of way to manned aircraft, and do not fly over people. The operator may apply to the FAA for a waiver of one or more of these rules.

For more information go to:

Faa.gov/uas

The FAA may pursue enforcement action against anyone who operates an unmanned aircraft in violation of FAA regulations.

For more information on the Warm Springs UAS program, contact Aurolyn Stwyer at Ventures, 541-553-3565.

YouthBuild

The Heart of Oregon Corps YouthBuild program has helped several young people from Warm Springs to earn their high school diplomas or GED.

The program has helped them with job skills training and preparation for higher education, and provided an income.

Some good news recently is that state of Oregon

Higher Education Coordinating Commission awarded the Heart of Oregon YouthBuild nearly \$100,000.

The commission also awarded \$150,000 to the East Cascades Workforce Investment Board for its Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council youth program.

These were two of just 16 entities to receive this funding in the state.

Support through the two awards will allow COIC and Heart of Oregon YouthBuild to continue as successful GED programs in Oregon, focused on improving GED attainment rates through increased outreach and community partnerships, as well as individualized curriculum and intensive case management.

As one recent YouthBuild graduate said: "I've built houses, made friends, and done things out of my comfort zone. I had failed every math class in high school, but program teacher Kelly taught me math and I was able to graduate."

Wishes...

Happy 13th birthday to my son Vincent Jadden Cenerazzo. Love always, mom Jeanette Dawn.

Happy birthday to my cousin Annie Fuiava. Love ya sis. Jeanette Dawn Thompson.

Happy birthday to my brother Johnny Rae Smith Jr. I love and miss you! Love always eternally, your little sister Jeanette Dawn Thompson.

Traditional arts apprenticeship

The Oregon Folklife Network is now accepting applications for its Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program.

This program offers master traditional artists and culture keepers a \$3,000 stipend to teach their art form

to apprentices from their own communities, tribes, cultural, religious or occupational group.

The stipend pays masters to pass on their knowledge, skills and expertise to an apprentice of great promise, who is empowered through these lessons to continue carrying on Oregon's traditions.

Oregon's many traditional folk arts Native basket weaving and other traditional arts.

Recent Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program awardees have included an Iranian Santoor player, a hip-hop artist, a rawhide braider, and a storyteller from the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw tribes.

The Oregon Folklife Network encourages applications from Oregonians engaged in these kinds of living cultural traditions emerging from a particular heritage or tribe.

This program does not fund historic re-enactments, DIY revival crafts, or those who practice traditions that are not part of their own cultural heritage.

Please contact us first if you want to apply. Visit our website, ofn.uoregon.edu

Or contact Brad McMullen at:

ofn@uoregon.edu

Or call 541-346-3820 for more information about your eligibility in the program.

A fillable application can be downloaded at the OFN website. Applications are due at the OFN office by 5 p.m., March 1.

Send your complete application package to Oregon Folklife Network, 242 Knight Library, 6204 University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403-6204.

This program is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Oregon Arts Commission, and by a grant from the Fred W. Fields Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation.

OFN is administered by the University of Oregon and is supported in part by grants

from the Oregon Arts Commission, the Oregon Historical Society, the Oregon Cultural Trust, and the NEA.

Birth

JayLeo Frank Yabtin-Cloud

Julia Yahtin-Cloud of Warm Springs is pleased to announce the birth of her son JayLeo Frank Yahtin-Cloud, born on February 5, 2017.

JayLeo joins sisters Minnie, 7, and AnnaBelle, 5.

Appreciated

I would like to thank the Warm springs Police Department for giving me a courtesy ride a couple times during the snow storm we had this year.

I would also like to thank the Warm Springs community shelter for feeding me, clothing me and putting me up for a week or two. Sorry for any inconvenience I might have caused while there.

It is my belief that if we come together, we can make it happen. Koots-ya-ya. Hulish-qwat-xmot,

Wendell E. Greene.

Eagle Watch

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and Cove Palisades State Park will host the Twenty-Third Annual Eagle Watch in February.

The event, held at Round Butte Overlook Park, is set for February 25-26.

There will be live birds of prey on hand, plus sighting opportunities of the birds in the wild. There are kids activities, a silent auction, and much more.

The tribal traditional dancers and drummers are a popular part of the event.

The tribes, the park and PGE have hosted Eagle Watch every February since 1993.

VOCS message on Teen Dating Violence Month

by **Dorothy Kalama, W.S. Victims of Crime Services**

Teen Dating Violence Month is a national effort to raise awareness about abuse in teen and 20-something relationships, and to promote programs that prevent it.

Since 2010, the month of February has been Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month.

Dating violence is more common than many people think: One in three teens in the U.S. will experience physical, sexual or emotional abuse by someone they are in a relationship with before they become adults.

Help us spread awareness and stop dating abuse before it starts.

Abusive relationships are not exclusive to adults. In fact, one in three teens experience physical, emotional, or sexual abuse by a dating

partner.

Furthermore, girls and young women between the ages of 16 and 24 experience the highest rate of intimate partner violence nationwide, almost triple the national average.

Dating abuse has long-term repercussions too, from higher risk of teen pregnancy and STDs to depression, eating disorders, and future domestic abuse.

Warning signs

The following may be warning signs that your child or another young person you know might be in an abusive relationship:

You notice that their partner is extremely jealous or possessive.

You notice unexplained marks or bruises.

You notice that their partner messages or texts them excessively.

You notice that your son or daughter is depressed or

anxious.

Your son or daughter stops participating in extracurricular activities or other interests.

Your child stops spending time with other friends and family.

Your child's partner abuses other people or animals.

Your child begins to dress differently.

'Warning sign' is another way of saying 'opportunity for prevention.' If you are concerned about your child's relationship:

Tell your child you're concerned for their safety.

Ask questions that focus on their experience, and let them do most of the talking.

Believe them, take them seriously.

Be supportive and understanding.

Never put down their partner.

Avoid telling them what

to do. Remember that ultimately your child must be the one who decides to leave the relationship.

Contact Victims of Crime Services to speak with an advocate at 541-553-2293 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Or stop by our office at 1108 Wasco St.

After 5 p.m. please call Warm Springs Dispatch at 541-553-1171 and ask for the on-call Advocate to help start the conversation.

The good news? Talking about healthy relationships and dating abuse can help break the cycle of violence and stop abuse before it begins.

Each February, Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month highlights these issues through a number of events and programs across the country.

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