

Letters to the editor

With gratitude

A look back with gratitude: I am writing this letter to reflect on all of the blessings that have been bestowed on my family as well as myself.

First, I would like to thank our Creator for his guiding hand in all that I do today. It has been only a few years of abstinence from my addiction(s) that brought a transformation of my life, one that can only get better as time goes on.

We have been fortunate to have programs such as the Warm Springs Police Department, Warm Springs Corrections, Parole and Probation, Tribal Court, Community Counseling, Children's Protective Services/Family Preservation, Warm Springs Vocational Rehab, and most recently the Warm Springs Housing Authority. And the Warm Springs Utilities Department for giving me a position in the custodial department.

I would name individuals personally for their service, but in my "new" walk I am learning that it takes a team to keep the wheels rolling smoothly. May our Creator bless you and yours in your daily walk. Ee-ow,

Lat Wat La Wat, Davis Swyer Sr.

Caregiver

I'm in need of an experienced caregiver to start work immediately. I can offer \$20 per hour.

I will be needing services for five hours at any time suitable to the provider, between Saturday, Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

This is for my mother-in-law in Warm Springs, while I am at work. She is suffering dementia. The provider would need minor skills in health care, nothing more.

My email is behappy4may@gmail.com

Or you can text to Thank you,
Jennifer.

Higher ed

Washington State University Native American Programs is hosting the Native Youth Exploring Higher Education summer camp July 17-21.

NYEHE is a summer camp for Native American high school students interested in exploring the opportunities a college education offers.

Forty Native American students entering ninth and

tenth grade in the fall of 2017 will be selected to attend the five-day camp held on the Washington State Pullman campus.

The five-day camp is free for participants. The students will form mock tribal councils, and through hands-on workshops explore how higher education can serve their nations.

A few of the workshops on the agenda are food sovereignty, health campaigns, robotics, sports science, podcast making, mural painting, and cultural activities including cedar weaving, salmon smoking, traditional games, and huckleberry picking.

Camp information and applications are available at native.wsu.edu

Or at native@wsu.edu The deadline to apply is June 9, 2017.

Summer work

This note is to all tribal youth who are still in high school (regular, alternative or boarding) or working toward your GED, and who will be at least 14 years old as of June 15:

The Native Aspirations Soaring for the Future work program is holding a recruiting round-up this month for the summer work program.

During this time the youth will be given the chance to get an orientation to the program for the 2017 summer.

Due to the number of positions that are left, there are only 30 training spots available; so register early if you are interested. Call 541-615-0141. Or email:

buffy@wstribes.org
The recruiting round-ups will be held in the evenings, from 5 to 7 p.m., so as not to conflict with school activities. Please make sure you eat a bite before coming. The location is the Family Resource Center conference room.

The first recruiting round-up is this evening, Wednesday, May 24. The next one is Friday, May 26; and the third and final one is Wednesday, May 31.

Please bring a combination of two of the following. These will be needed to fulfill the identification portion on the I-9 form: Identification, Social Security, Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB), driver's license, tribal ID, student ID, passport, school transcripts.

The Native Aspirations Soaring for the Future work program is sponsored by the

Oxbow Conservation Area dedication



Courtesy Brian Cochran/BNR

Paiute Chief Joe Moses, Tribal Councilman Ron Suppah, Fish and Wildlife Committee members Ryan Smith and Emerson Squiemphen, tribal attorney John Ogan, and Brian Cochran of Natural Resources were among participants at the dedication ceremony of the Confederated Tribes' Oxbow Conservation Area, on the Middle Fork of the John Day River.

Natural Resource and tribal leadership met at Middle Fork of the John Day River in May, dedicating the Oxbow Conservation Area.

The Oxbow project involves 1,022 acres of river habitat restoration.

The tribal officials were joined by their partners in the project, including the

Bonneville Power Administration.

The BPA and tribes partnered in the restoration work. The river at this site had been damaged by large-

scale mining operation in the early 1940s.

The Oxbow is now one of the largest stream restoration projects in Oregon.

Warm Springs Health and Wellness Branch.

Buffy Hurtado

Family, friends

My family and friends, When I lost my best friend, my sister Charlotte, I knew I'd never be the same. The Pendleton Round-Up happened shortly after her death. I can't believe people asked me, "How come you're not at the Round-Up?" I just lost my sister, I don't feel like celebrating!

Even if I should be protecting my teepee spaces I inherited from my husband, where our legacy was to take care of elders who camped there, I'm proud my little children agree with me and accept our ways. My daughter Aurolyn has inherited two teepee spaces. Wendell Greene and Jamey Wesley will inherit one each (with a teepee each).

The teepee spaces were willed to my husband Jimmy by his aunt the late Ida Showaway. Charlotte, I will never forget you.

X-tra Jon Culpus, I am very proud of you for the beautiful monument for your mother, my big sister Hilda. She shared a lot of stories with me. We did everything together. She taught me a lot. I love to give constructive criticism like I did at the Celery Feast.

I am an old, 4/4 Native person who has lived here all my life with our culture and traditions, of Sahaptin speaking origin. My lesson to all was terribly mistaken and rebelled against. Now I have to keep my nose extra clean or get sentenced extremely in our Tribal Court. I have always said, "Our Lord, our Savior said, 'Let revenge be mine.'" Anyway, I am,
Neda B. Wesley, Willa-ee-ee

Team raffle

The 2017 Portland to Coast Relay team is hold a raffle to help with this year's funding.

Raffle items include a cord of wood, \$100 cash, earrings, gift basket, \$25 cash, Beavers scarf, Ducks

scarf, Seahawks scarf, necklace with shell earrings, gift card, beaded earrings, set of coffee mugs, Lottery Scratch-Offs, Indian print men's sweatshirt with Pendleton pockets, and other items.

The drawing will be on Saturday, June 3. Need not be present to win. Tickets are \$1 or six for \$5.

See one of the following to get your tickets:

Saphronia Coochise, Rosanna Jackson, Marceline Smith, Samantha Gomez, Melissa Benson, Susan Jim, Karla Hawes, Mary Iwamoto, Kecia Florendo, Norene Sampson, Victoria Katchia or Val Squiemphen.

School board

I want to let you all know how grateful I am for your support. I am very excited to become part of the school board, and serve our community.

I am ready to roll up my sleeves and get to work. I hope you all will join me and find a way to support our schools. Get involved, and share your gifts and knowledge.

Our community has accomplished many great things, and together we can make our schools stronger.

Thank you to all the candidates who ran for school board. Every one of the candidates is an amazing individual who cares deeply about our community.

I commend them for stepping up and working to make a difference. They are moving mountains. Thank your

Laurie, Brian, Sue, Gary, Alyssa and Tom!

Being a member of the school board is a volunteer position that requires a lot of personal resources and time. I am grateful to all the school board members who are serving this community. I am excited to join your team.

So let's all jump into this together and build something we can be proud of! I hope to see you all at the parades, public meetings and assemblies supporting our students and staff.

Go 509-J!

Jamie Hurd

Presentation on climate change

Oregon Community College will host a discussion—Climate Change: Do the Math—on Wednesday, May 31. The discussion will be at the Madras COCOC campus starting from 5:30-7 p.m.

Truman Merrifield of Warm Springs Fire Management, and president of the COCC student association, is helping organize the event.

The Climate Change Working Group of the Confederated Tribes Natural Resources Branch will be a featured presenter; with 350Deschutes.org, a Bend branch of 350.org.

Refreshments and a short film will be followed by a question and answer session. The event is open to the public, sponsored by the Associated Students of COCC.

In advance of college

events, anyone needing accommodation or transportation because of a physical or mobility disability, contact Joe Viola at 541-383-7775. For accommodation for a disability such as hearing impairment, contact Disability Services at 541-383-7583.

Best interest

I want to thank everyone who encouraged and supported me in my run for a seat on the Jefferson County 509-J school board. I didn't win the election but enjoyed having the chance to talk about ideas around designing an educational system that not only advances our youth academically but also lifts them up by offering a helping hand.

I think it's critical to continue to push for initiatives beyond just academic achievement to help students and families feel like they are indeed at the heart of our public school system. My hope is for educators to increase their understanding of trauma informed practices, wrap around services, culturally appropriate curriculum and educational equity.

We all need to learn more about these types of support systems. Continue to encourage your kids. Engage with teachers and administrators at every opportunity to share your knowledge and experience. And remember we are in this for the long haul with the best interest of all the children at the forefront.

Sincerely,
Sue Matters



Courtesy KWSO

Anyone interested in being a Pi-Ume-Sha Vendor can contact Cassie Katchia to sign up at 541-325-1573.

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Any written materials submitted to **Spilyay Tymoo** should be addressed to:

Spilyay Tymoo, P.O. Box 489, Warm Springs, OR 97761.

Phone: 541-553-2210 or 541-771-7521

E-Mail: david.mcmehan@wstribes.org.
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