

Letters to the editor

Taking smoke detector sign-ups

These are the simple Christmas safety tips from Warm Springs Fire and Safety, Warm Springs Fire Management and Warm Springs Red Cross:

Fire and Safety recommend that you keep your live Christmas tree filled with water to prevent your tree from drying out and catching fire.

Check your Christmas lights for possible exposed wires: This can short out and start a fire. Replace them.

Keep all your doors closed in the inside of your house, so if a fire does break out the fire has no where to go.

Fire Management suggests that you keep the area around the home clean of bushes, trees, twigs—anything that can catch fire.

Both agencies recommend that you keep your chimney cleaned out, because debris from burning wood such as sap can build up on the inside of your chimney, thus causing a fire.

Red Cross is currently taking smoke detector sign-ups to install detectors, if your home does not have any, or if the ones in your home are 10 years or older.

There are smoke detectors for the hard of hearing and blind persons, once the person is given a test to see if he or she qualifies for a special smoke detector. These are free to the person who needs a special detector.

Vincent Simtustus and Bend Red Cross have already installed over 570 units in Warm Springs. This is about 34 percent of Warm Springs homes. Thank you Vincent and Jack from Bend Red Cross for making a difference to our Warm Springs Community.

Taking sign-ups now, our target date to install detectors is December 15, between 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This is a one-day only service.

If you would like to sign up, please call 541-553-4955; or if you see Vincent or Mushy, ask to be placed on the list for a smoke detector.

So have a safe and Merry Christmas, and let us try to make your home a little safer with a smoke detector in your home. Thank You.

Rose 'Mushy' Alarcon

Olympia WA 98513.

Or: Aaron Squally, c/o Nisqually Corrections, 11702 Yelm Highway SE, Olympia WA 98513.

Tina Aguilar

Wedding



Rena Suppah and Aaron Shippentower are pleased to announce their Marriage Ceremony on Monday, December 31, 2018 at 4 p.m. at the HeHe Longhouse.

Please join them for their Wedding Celebration Reception to follow the wedding at the HeHe Longhouse.

For more information call Rena at 541-460-0678 or Inez at 541-300-5409.



Tribal Council

The following are some of the items on the Tribal Council agenda for the rest of December:

Monday, December 17

9 a.m.: Secretary-Treasurer and Chief Operations Officer update Michele Stacona and Alyssa Macy.

10: January 2019 agenda/review minutes with Michele.

11: Draft resolutions.
1:30 p.m.: Legislative update calls, federal and state.

2:30: Enrollments with Lucille Suppach-Samson of Vital Stats.

3:30: Fund 122 - 2019 budget with Caroline Cruz.

Monday, December 24: Early shutdown at 12 noon.

Monday, December 31: Early shutdown at noon.

Items for future consideration: Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians winter convention, January 28-31.

Voc Rehab move

The Vocational Rehabilitation Program office has moved to the old boys' dorm.

Check in at the Culture and Heritage office in the Education building, and they will direct you to the correct office.

Winter shelter

The Jefferson County winter shelter provides a safe cold weather shelter this win-

Students plan exciting adventure to Tomi City, Japan

Next summer, four students from Madras High School will make a grand journey to the town of Tomi, population about 29,000, located in central Japan.

Kiandra Smith of Warm Springs is a senior at the high school, and will join three classmates—Kimberly Juarez, Katherine Parodi and Elan Rios of Madras—for this rare experience.

The chaperone on the trip will be Andrew Smiley, language arts teacher at the Warm Springs Academy middle school.

The June 2019 trip will mark the third year that Madras High School students will visit Tomi, the Sister City of Madras. In turn, students from Tomi visit Madras, as a cultural exchange and learning adventure.

Mr. Smiley joined the Sister City exchange program two years ago, and the trip in June will be his first time visiting Tomi.

The student exchange opportunity is open to juniors and seniors at the



Kiandra Smith with schoolmates Kimberly Juarez, Katherine Parodi and Elan Rios (from left), and teacher-chaperon Andrew Smiley.

high school. Last year two students from Warm Springs made the trip to Tomi.

The June 2019 visit will happen during the Yunomaru Highland Azalea Festival at Tomi. The town in the winter is a ski resort.

In June the ski lift is used as transport to the highland area, which features a vol-

cano crater lake, an excellent view of Mt. Fuji, and the azaleas.

Clearly, the students will have a learning and memorable experience; and toward this goal, for the rest of the school year, the students will be hosting fundraising events to help pay for the their trip.

Meanwhile, the Madras

Sister City group will be looking for more students to make the Tomi, Japan trip in the summer of 2020. You can learn more about the program at their Madras Sister City Facebook page. Or talk with Mr. Smiley. You can reach him at 541-460-0186. Or his email is: asmiley@509j.net

Higher Education

All students can start applying for 2019-20 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) now with your 2017 tax return. Contact Carroll Dick at Higher Education, 541-553-3311, if you have any questions or need any assistance.

Apply now through March 1 to earn more grants for school. Tribal scholarship recipients are required to apply for at least five other scholarships in addition to the FAFSA. Higher Education has a list you may qualify for.

For veterans

A Jefferson County Veterans Service Outreach officer is in Warm Springs at the Warm Springs Senior Center on the third Tuesday of each month. In December the Outreach officer will be in Warm Springs on Tuesday, December 18.

Appointments are available for the morning by calling 541-475-5228. Other-

wise, the Veteran's Service Officer will be available to answer questions during and after the senior meal that day.

Homefront

Operation Homefront provides veteran and active duty military families with stocking stuffers for military children.

There is a stocking stuffer event on Monday December 24 at the Madras Senior Center at noon.

Advocate

A Jefferson County Victims Assistance advocate comes to Warm Springs on the third Wednesday of every month at the Victims of Crime Services office located at 1108 Wasco Street.

Folks can get help with things like case assistance, paperwork, and other resources. Appointments can also be made for other times. For information call **Ken Clark** at 541-475-4452 or VOCS 553-2293.

Gala, concerts

Saturday, December 8: At the Madras Performing Arts Center, the Fifth Annual Holiday Gala.

Wednesday, December 12: Jefferson County Middle School Band Winter Concert at the Performing Arts Center.

Thursday, December 13: Madras High School Music Department Holiday Concert.

Diversity Coalition

The Let's Talk Diversity Coalition is hosting a **Cultural Awareness training** class this Thursday, December 6. The training explore how poverty is linked to health disparities and how populations of color become impacted. The session will be from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Madras. You can get more information and register online at: letstalkdiversity.net

Or contact Jesus at 541-475-4292. The registration deadline is November 29.

At WSCAT

The Warm Springs Community Action Team is offering their *Financial Skills for Families* course two times in December.

The classes will be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays: December 15 and December 22 at the Community Action Team office.

To register call 541-553-3148. This course is a requirement for IDA program participants.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program funds are available in Warm Springs. Go by the Social Services office at the Commodity Warehouse for an application.

Great program for youth continues in 2019

Heart of Oregon YouthBuild is recruiting youth ages 16-24 years for our winter 2019 cohort, starting next year on January 21.

We work primarily with youth who either have dropped out of high school, or are on the verge of being dropped from traditional high school.

Our YouthBuild members earn their GED, high school diploma, college credit, and job skills. They work on credit recovery while serving their communities through building affordable housing.

Many Warm Springs youth have participated in and completed YouthBuild, with great and lasting suc-

cess.

Members in our program divide their time between classroom, the field—home construction sites—and leadership development.

Through AmeriCorps service at YouthBuild the youth can earn the AmeriCorps Segal Education Award worth \$1,566 towards post-secondary goals.

There is a 12-month commitment to the program, followed by a year of follow-up services.

We will be hosting information sessions starting on December 11 at Bridges High School in Madras. Later sessions in January will be at our Cloverdale location; and on January 10 at

Heart of Oregon's new Prineville Facility.

Mental Toughness—YouthBuild orientation—begins January 21. If you know of any youth who may be interested, and have not been successful in a traditional high school setting, please encourage them to attend.

You must attend one of the information sessions to be considered for the YouthBuild Program.

Please bring a government issued photo ID, birth certificate, and Social Security card to the information session.

For information contact **Katie Bauer**, program assis-

tant, by replying to this email or call 541-526-1380 to sign up for one of the following information sessions:

• **Tuesday, December 11, 10:30-11:30 a.m.**, Bridges High School, Madras.

• YouthBuild program, **Tuesday, January 8, 5-6:30 p.m.**, 68797 George Cyrus Road, Sisters.

• **Thursday, January 10, 5-6:30 p.m.**, Prineville.

• **Tuesday, January 15, 5-6:30 p.m.**, YouthBuild in Sisters.

Please reach out to YouthBuild at 541-526-1380. Or email: katie.bauer@heartoforegon.org

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