

## Letters to the editor

### Developments at Early Childhood Education

Dear Parents, Guardians and Community,

The Early Childhood Education Center has had many changes recently that we would like you to be aware of.

We have had some change in staffing, and we are experiencing a shortage of teachers and teacher aids.

You may see different teachers or aids in the classrooms: This is to ensure we are meeting the required ratio to adequately serve the children and ensure their safety.

You are always welcome to volunteer in classrooms. If this is something you would like to do, please contact the front office for more information.

We are currently in the process of gathering information required to apply for a new facility, construction or major renovation funding through Head Start and Child Care Development Fund.

This process will take time and we are working with our Education general manager, Tribal Council liaison, funders and Utilities general manager on acquiring the correct documentation to continue this process.

Until this process is complete please understand we are doing everything possible to maintain the building for health and safety of the children.

We have contracted Jefferson County plumbing, who has already started work. We have also contracted Adams Flooring to do repairs in certain rooms, and we have a contract in place with monthly maintenance on pest control through Sprague.

For health and safety reasons the kitchen is still not being used. Simple meals and snacks are being prepped and served from the G-pod area.

Tribal Environmental Health Specialist Russell Graham and our state licensing specialist have both been to the prep area and approved this arrangement.

We are in compliance with Child and Adult Food Program, who reimburses the tribe for the meals we serve. Our meals follow the USDA guidelines and are reviewed by a licensed nutritionist to meet all required components (dairy, meat, etc.).

Upcoming renovations in G-pod are expected to start in November. We have a signed Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Oregon Disability Support

Network, who has written a grant to provide services such as speech pathology, occupational therapy and physical therapy to many of the children in our community.

The Disability Support Network has collaborated with others to make this happen, and the grant will help provide roof and room repairs to G2 and G3.

If any parents, guardians and community members would like to see any of our recent reports—such as the Fire Marshall report, Air Quality report, and State reports—they can be found at the front office of ECE.

We would like to thank everyone who is working hard at helping maintain our building, finding resources and collaborations.

Most of all thank you for your patience and understanding through all of this.

If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact the Early Childhood Education Center at 541-553-3241. Warm Regards,  
**Cassandra Moses**, Manager, Early Childhood Education.

### Indian-Preneurship starting soon

The Warm Springs Community Action Team and Tribal Credit are getting ready for a new series of Indianpreneurship—A Native American Journey into Business.

This is a chance to learn the basics you will need to start your business. Indianpreneurship will present business information for community members with varying experience, current or prospective business owners.

Are you unsure about what type of business you want to start, or if you want to be in business? Indianpreneurship will help answer these and other questions.

To register call the Community Action Team at 541-553-3148. Or email: [Dustin@wscat.org](mailto:Dustin@wscat.org)

The first series of classes will be on Saturday, November 2; and the next series will be on the following Saturday, November 9. For the first classes the topics are:

The Journey Begins. Creating Your Story. Good Scouting. The Road to Discovery. Getting Ready for Market. Find your place. The November 9 topics will be:

The Quest for Order. Tracking Dollars. Listen-

ing to Numbers. Gathering Resources. Dreams Into Action. Graduation.

Classes will be from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the above dates, lunch is provided. Classes will be at the Community Action Team office on campus.

### Employee Benefits meeting

Attention all employees of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and tribal enterprises:

The Annual Health Benefits meeting is coming up on Tuesday and Wednesday, November 5 and 6. The meetings will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Community Center social hall. *All are encouraged to attend (see schedule below).*

Tribal Human Resources staff and partners will be taking applications for the following health and supplemental coverages for 2020: Health Comp, employee medical benefits. UNUM, supplemental insurance, medical and life insurance. Allegiance: FSA Flexible Spending Account (childcare and medical).

You may also learn and inquire about the 401k plan with Milliman, 401k administrators; and RV Kuhns, 401k investors.

There will two sessions each day—9 to 10:30 a.m., and 2 to 3:30 p.m.:

Health Comp: 9-9:15 a.m., and 2-2:15 p.m.

UNUM: 9:15-9:30 a.m., and 2:15-2:30 p.m.

Allegiance: 9:30-9:45 a.m., and 2:30-2:45 p.m.

Milliman: 9:45-10 a.m., and 2:45-3 p.m.

RV Kuhns: 10:15 a.m., and 3-3:15 p.m.

If you have questions, please call Human Resources at 541-553-3262. The staff are Cheryl Tom, HR director. Kasheena Stevens, office manager. Lois Lesarley, Personnel director. Carol Funk, Comp and Benefits administrator. Janaiya Rowe, Comp and Benefits coordinator.

### Halloween at ECE

The Early Childhood Education Center will host the Annual Lil' Pumpkins Parade on Halloween morning from 10:30 to 11:30.

ECE is asking for donations from departments and enterprises, and the community. Some of the things to keep in mind for donations:

No peanut products: ECE is a peanut free building due to allergies. Please respond by October 25 by calling Jodi, Raisa or Paulette at 541-553-3242.

**Welcome donations:** Pre-packaged healthy snacks—nothing homemade. Prevention or promotional items, and material appropriate for preschool aged children. Decorations for tables are also welcome.

### Halloween Dance

The Jefferson County Disability Advisory Committee will host a Halloween



A Halloween greeting from artist Travis Bobb.

Dance at the Jefferson County Senior Center, 860 SW Madison Street in Madras. The dance will be Halloween evening starting at 5:30 p.m. Costumes are encouraged, as there will be a costume contest.

This is a family friendly function. There will be a photo station, and pumpkin painting. Members of the Intellectual and Development Disabilities (IDD) will be on hand. IDD members get in free. Otherwise \$3 entry.

For more information contact Sam Robinson at 503-990-1325; or email: [sam.robinson@advisorycommitteejco.org](mailto:sam.robinson@advisorycommitteejco.org)

### The Nammys

The Native American Music Awards are coming up on November 2. Hosting this year is actor Wes Studi, and WWE superstar and country singer Mickie James.

Ms. Studi—among whose many movies are *Dances with Wolves*, and *Last of the Mohicans*—will be inducted into the NAMY Hall of Fame, and this year becoming the first Native American to receive an Oscar.

Local musicians nominated for awards this year are: Kalliah Jackson who sings with Corey Rae White on *Dimmer*, nominated in the Best Independent Recording by a New Artist Single Release category. Other local nominees:

Blue Flamez for Best Rap Hip Hop Music Video for *Stand Up*, and Bigg B Featuring N8 is up for Best Music Video Recording for *Deep End*. You can check out nominations online at [NativeAmericanMusicAwards.com](http://NativeAmericanMusicAwards.com) where there is also a link to voting.

### Our diversity

The Columbia Gorge Discovery Center presents *Recognizing the Diversity Among Us* with Miguel Angel Herrada. The presentation will be on Thursday, October 24. The program

will be offered in Spanish at 5 p.m., an optional \$15 pork taco dinner begins at 6, and the program in English starts at 7.

This is at Columbia Gorge Discovery Center in The Dalles. This Oregon Humanities Conversation Project event is open to everyone. Admission to this program is free, but a \$5 donation per person is appreciated. For more information, call (541) 296-8600 ext. 201, or visit: [gorgediscovery.org](http://gorgediscovery.org).

### Free legal services to members

The Warm Springs Community Action Team is hosting the Native American Program—Legal Aid Services of Oregon.

The program is a statewide, non-profit law firm promoting equal access to justice: They offer free civil legal services for eligible tribal members. These are the upcoming dates when the service will be available at the Community Action Team office, 1136 Paiute Avenue, Warm Springs (all sessions available from 10 a.m. to noon):

Tuesday, October 29. Wednesday, November 13. Tuesday, December 3 and Wednesday, December 18.

Walk-ins are welcome during the above times and dates. You may also arrange an appointment by calling 1-800-546-0534 or 503-223-9483.

If the Native American Program cannot help with your legal need, they may provide you with another legal resource as available and appropriate to your need.

### Flea market

It is Flea Market time coming up at the fairgrounds in Madras. The market will be on Sunday, November 17.

I am reaching out to the Warm Springs community

to come and sell crafts and other items.

We have several 8-foot by 10-foot booths still available. In addition we've lowered the cost of the booths from \$95 to just \$75.

And I have created a discount code just for the Madras show. At check out the buyer would put in the discount code, and receive \$5 off. The code is 'madrascofm'.

*See you at the market! Thank you.*

**Greg Miller**

### Birth

*Sheree Elsiemae Johnson*  
Thomas Johnson and Amanda Johnson of Madras are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Sheree Elsiemae Johnson, born on October 15, 2019.

Sheree joins brother Kyle, 4, and Troy, 2.

Grandparents on the father's side are Alden Johnson of Wapato, Washington, and Leila Totus of Toppenish.

Grandparent on the mother's side is Kyle A. Cheney of Harrah, Washington.

### At the Landfill

Warm Springs Sanitation landfill hours are 7 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.: After that gates are locked.

After 1:30 everyone is asked to use a transfer station.

Please do not do illegal dumping outside the landfill. Also: Tires and batteries are no longer accepted.

If you have questions about the landfill, contact the tribal Sanitarian at 541-553-4943.

**Three Warriors Market fall and winter hours: Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Fridays, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Weekends, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.**

**Spilyay Tymoo**  
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