

Letters to the editor

Money game

The Warm Springs Community Action team is featuring *Spending Frenzy*, a money game, that gives you the opportunity to manage money.

This game for Native Youth will be at the Community Center Social Hall on Monday, December 23 from 10 a.m. to noon. For more information you can contact Nettie Dickson at 541-553-3148.

Cosmic Tubing, swim with Prevention

The Warm Springs Prevention team has some great and exciting youth activities coming up this month.

First is nighttime Cosmic Tubing at the Mt. Hood Ski Bowl, this Friday, December 20. About Cosmic Tubing Ski Bowl says:

We feature over 600,000 LED lights, laser light shows, black lights, colored lights, rocking music and more—The most fun you'll have all weekend! Hood's only dual conveyor lifts are dedicated to tubing, so relax all the way to the top!

The team bus will leave from the Prevention Center, 1112 Wasco St. (the former elementary school), at 6 p.m. on Friday; and return about 10:30 p.m. Open to the first 25 kids to sign up. Ages 8 years and older. Contact the Prevention team at 541-615-0123. *Remember to dress warm!*

The Prevention team will be hosting a youth outing in December to the Madras Aquatic Center. This will be on Monday afternoon, December 30. First 20 kids 8 years and older are welcome to sign up: Contact Prevention at 541-615-0123, or 541-615-0036.

The bus will leave the Prevention Center at 1:15 p.m. on December 30, returning around 4:30. Supplies to bring: Bathing suit, towel, and snack money.

From IHS

What a difference a strong nominee makes when it comes to Indian Country's health and wellness. Michael Weahkee, member of the Pueblo of Zuni, was embraced by Republicans and Democrats alike as last week he went before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs for his confirmation hearing.

Mr. Weahkee is the new director of the Indian Health Service, an agency that had been without a permanent leader for more than four years.

Births

Ella Marie Clements-Howtopat

Coder Grant Clement and Tylaysha Marie Howtopat of Warm Springs are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Ella Marie Clements-Howtopat, born on December 2, 2019.

Ella Marie joins brother Julian Lee Martinez, 9.

Grandparents on the father's side are Ross Kalama Sr. of Warm Springs, grandpa; and Greta White-Elk of Warm Springs, grandma.

Grandparents on the mother's side are Irene Marie Garcia of Warm Springs, grandma; and Bob Rabbie of Warm Springs, grandpa.

Sydney Roberta Poitra

Joshua L. Poitra and Ida Tewee of Warm Springs are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Sydney Roberta Poitra, born on December 9, 2019.

Sydney joins brothers Jaden, 15, and Benjamin, 14; and sisters Vivian, 17, Aalinah, 16, Kellyann, 15, Independence, 11, and Clara, 8.

Grandparents on the father's side are Lester Poitra and Peggy Williams.

Grandparents on the mother's side are Floyd 'Sluggo' Tewee Sr., and Vivian 'Skiv' Youngman.

New CEO of Environmental Council, Conservation voters

Dear family, friends and colleagues,

I'm pleased to share that I have accepted the position of chief executive officer of the Washington Environmental Council and Washington Conservation Voters, beginning in early January.

As the first woman of color to lead this organization, I'm excited and honored to join this dynamic team of professionals working on some of the most critical environmental challenges in Washington and the region.

It's bittersweet to leave Warm Springs and the State of Oregon. I attribute much of who I am, my values, and my commitment to responsible environmental stewardship to my upbringing on my reservation. My community, culture, and heritage lead me on this journey to make a difference and drive change.

This exciting next step in my career will provide an opportunity to expand upon my past work by providing a platform to directly impact critical environmental concerns that affect the Northwest's indigenous population and all



Alyssa Macy

peoples of the region.

It is also an extraordinary opportunity to build effective partnerships with a diverse number of organizations around complex environmental issues during a difficult political climate, and I do love a challenge.

I look forward to staying in touch. My new contact information will be available after January 13, and I hope that you will reach out and stay connected.

Warmest regards,

Alyssa Macy

(Upon the announcement of hiring Ms. Macy as chief executive officer, the Washington Environmental Council and Conservation Voters made the following announcement:)

Following the tenure of Joan Crooks as chief executive officer, the Environmental Council and Conservation Voters made a thorough and inclusive search for a new CEO. The search yielded a diverse field of very strong candidates.

I am now pleased to announce that Alyssa Macy will be the new CEO of Washington Environmental Council and Washington Conservation Voters.

Alyssa brings a strong professional background in political action, social justice, and tribal leadership, grounded in a deep, personal connection to our land, our water, and the communities they sustain.

Alyssa comes to us from the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, where she served as Chief Operations Officer for the tribal government.

Prior to her time at Warm Springs, Alyssa worked as the national political director for the Center for Civic Participation (National Voice) and has run multiple political campaigns, as well as running for school board herself.

She has also raised funds for the Native Arts and Cultures Foundation, and served as a tribal liaison to state governments.

The work of our organizations requires a leader who can bring communities together around complex environmental issues and use our combined strengths to prevail in a challenging political climate.

Alyssa's breadth of experience, proven leadership, and commitment to coalition building and authentic partnerships makes her the right person to lead WEC and WCV.

Alyssa's first day in the office will be January 13. Joan is excited to support and help Alyssa as we move through this transition. With legislative session starting in January, and an election in November, Alyssa will jump into these activities—and many more—with both feet.

WEC and WCV are strong organizations with talented staff, dedicated boards, and an ambitious vision for the future. I look forward to seeing Alyssa become an essential and valued leader in our community.

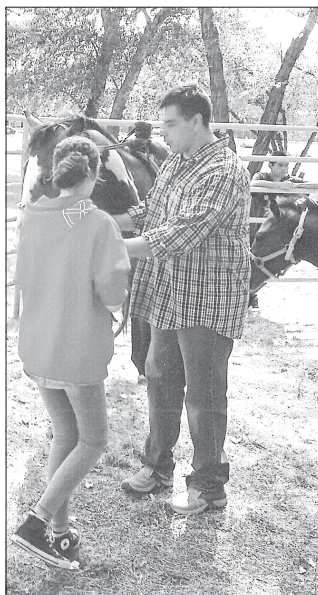
Sincerely,

Julie Colehour, board chair, Washington Conservation Voters and Washington Environmental Council.

A thank you for the Equine White Clay Holistic Wellness program

It' ukdi kadux,

I would like to take this time to express my gratitude to Ricky Graybael, Bill Reynolds and Natural Resource workers for setting up the livestock panels, enabling the Equine White Clay Holistic Wellness program to present at the Nine Tribes Youth Camp, as the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs was the host this year.



Lydell with Equine camp student.



Lydell Suppah, Mona and Dr. Spence at the Equine program.



Dr. Spence with Equine program students.

My appreciation to Rosanna Jackson for the invitation on the Nine Tribes Youth Camp agenda, regards the Equine White Clay Holistic Wellness program that took place in August 2019. We saw a good turnout.

I would like to take this time to extend my gratitude to Dr. John Spence and Lydell Suppah for the team work in keeping the positive momentum going with the youth and adults who participated; not to mention the Equine White Clay Holistic Wellness program is volunteer, and keep in mind these two gentlemen

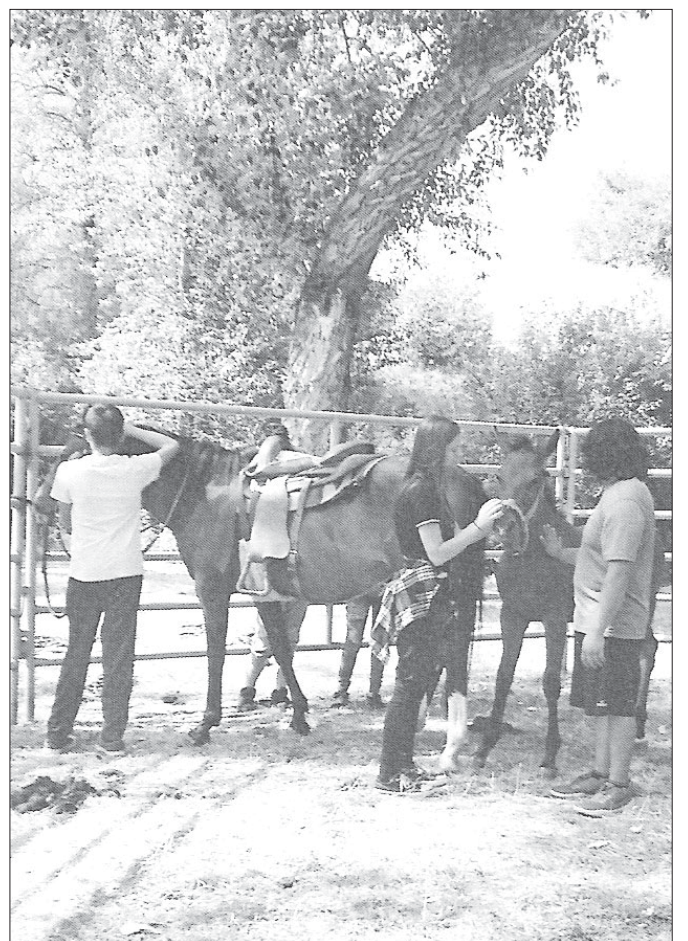
traveled from out of the area. The visitors enjoyed themselves, as well as the community members.

Thank you all for implementing the wonderful team work, and keeping the positive stamina flowing—That is what makes a Healthy Village and Healthier Tribes, family and positive energy.

God Bless All of You,
Mona Cochran, M. Ed., CADCIH, QMHP—Wasco-Snoqualmie. The Warm Springs Behavioral Health Center

1115 Wasco Street
Warm Springs

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.



Students with the Equine White Clay Holistic Wellness program, held this year with the Nine Tribes Youth Camp.

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