

Letters to the editor

Safe Sweats

'Exercise Safe Sweats' is a new video with a powerful health and safety message, posted this month on Youtube. The video features Native athletes—some from Warm Springs—exercising, and sharing a message on keeping our elders safe in this time of pandemic. See the video at: youtu.be/OysNk-fUY6w

(Note: Watch for Dana's sons Paige and Joshua; and Angie's daughter Rosa.)

Exercise Safe Sweats partnered with Northwest Native American Center of Excellence at OHSU, We R Native, We Are Healers, and the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board in the campaign to 'Exercise Safe Sweats.' As their message says,

Elders are the foundation of our communities, the living legacies of traditions, and they must be Kept Safe.

Now more than ever is the time to seek out their wisdom on how we can adapt our ceremonies and practices at home. We must protect the ones we love. Join us in the fight to keeping our #elderssafe

YouthBuild recruiting

Heart of Oregon Corps—YouthBuild is now accepting applications. The next YouthBuild program is scheduled to begin in mid September.

YouthBuild at Heart of Oregon Corps is a 12-month program designed to engage young people 16-24 who wish to complete their high school education, and learn construction skills through building affordable housing in Central Oregon. To apply go to the website: heartoforegon.org/programs/youthbuild

You may also call 541-526-1380; or program assistant Briana Binder at 541-274-2128.

Through YouthBuild, the youth work with a team of their peers, gaining valuable job training. The students earn money and scholarships; and learn by preparing for their GED or high school diploma.

There are information that are at present scheduled to begin in June.

Here is the schedule of the information sessions for the next YouthBuild program beginning in September (all applicants must

attend at least one information session). The sessions are on Tuesdays at the YouthBuild main campus, 68797 Cyrus Road, Sisters:

June 23; July 21; August 25; and September 1, 8 and 15. Or attend the Mental Toughness Start Date session on September 21.

Public transportation is available to the participants in YouthBuild. Students are recruited from Warm Springs and throughout the region.

SSI payments

The Social Security Administration would like to provide this update on the Covid-19 Economic Impact Payments to certain groups of Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) beneficiaries.

Beneficiaries who have their regular monthly payments managed for them by another person, called a representative payee, will begin receiving their EIPs from the IRS in late May.

The Social Security Administration has been working with the IRS to provide the necessary information about Social Security and SSI beneficiaries in order to automate and expedite their Economic Impact Payments, said Andrew Saul, Commissioner of Social Security.

"While millions of our beneficiaries have already received their EIPs from the IRS, we continue to work hard for those beneficiaries who are awaiting their payment from the IRS."

For additional information about payments to beneficiaries with representative payees, please refer to: socialsecurity.gov/coronavirus/#reppayee

OSU campuses

Oregon State University is planning to resume in-person instruction in late summer and fall term on its campuses in Bend and Corvallis and Bend, pending state authorization.

"The health and safety of our students, faculty, staff and those we serve is our top priority," said Edward Feser, Oregon State's provost and executive vice president.

"We are aiming to resume university activities gradually and with flexibility to adjust to guidance

from public health authorities, Covid-19 conditions and the availability of medical services in the communities in which we operate."

Under a best-case scenario, OSU campuses and facilities would be open and most employees would be back at their work sites by September 1; fall classes are scheduled to begin Sept. 23.

Most in-person instruction and other activities would resume, though with modifications for physical distancing. Over much of the summer, the university will continue to provide remote instruction.

"While there is uncertainty ahead for all of us, we want everyone to know that OSU is here for them," Feser said. "We will accommodate the uncertainty together and support students on their path to graduation and success in life, career and community. And we will continue our efforts to solve the world's most pressing problems through our research and innovation and to advance the prosperity of all Oregonians and their communities through the work of the OSU Extension Service."

Some concerns

During the shutdown during this coronavirus epidemic I feel very embarrassed to be one of a number of persons having to measure distance from other customers. In Madras I stood in line for 45 minutes while the store cashier visited with the customers ahead of me. I was still in line when my granddaughter's paternal grandmother offered me to check out ahead of her. I was very proud of Kuthla for her kind offer.

I have yet an additional concern. I purchased a steel iron gate for my property but persons are still driving in to my property trying to sell junk or bumming for rides. I purchased the gate to keep myself and my grandkids safe! Please respect my family and my home.

I am doubly worried about

Howlak Tichum

Valerie Mallory ~ 1976-2020



Valerie Mallory passed away on Sunday, May 10. She was 44.

Mrs. Mallory is greatly missed by the Warm Springs Academy community, where she was serving as the Academy behavioural health specialist.

Mrs. Mallory passed away May 10, Mothers Day, in a paddleboarding accident at Scout Lake.

She had been a teacher for many years, at the Redmond district, and then at the Academy.

Just last month Mrs. Mallory gave a Teacher Testimonial at the Academy, sharing her views on the work was doing as Academy behavioural health specialist:

I am a firm believer that children do well when they can.

I see myself as a teacher who works hard to make connections and build relationships with my students and families.

The goal for me is to connect with kiddos who need one more person in their corner.

When the child is not doing well I want to be there to support, connect and help the student build skills to make it in this fast paced world.

Warm Springs Academy Principal Bambi Van Dyke shares the following:

Dear Warm Springs Academy families,

It is with a sad heart to inform you of the unexpected passing of our be-

loved teacher, Valerie Mallory.

Mrs. Mallory has been in the district since the fall of 2018, initially as a substitute teacher and then as our special education behavioral health teacher.

Whether or not your child received support services, they most likely knew who Mrs. Mallory was, as she has also seen most students throughout various duties in our district in our school.

Mrs. Mallory was a champion for students and everyone who knew her connected easily with her. She was a leader on our school team who had been relentless about keeping everyone together for our students during the current pandemic. We will miss her dearly.

Respectfully,
Bambi Van Dyke,
Academy Principal.

our tribal people. I am listening to our neighboring tribes and I'm wondering where are our Tribal Council members. And... Where is help for our tribal members? Or are we so worried about Council members. How come our tribal members do not know about extra expenses? And.... one more item. I recall only one person working in the old Agency and the checks were always distributed in a timely manner. With all the sophisticated equipment we have today why is this happening? Does anyone even care?

I am,
Neda Wesley, T#74

Tamkaliks

After careful consideration, Nez Perce Wallowa Homeland and the Tamkaliks Committee have made the difficult decision to postpone the Thirtieth Anniversary of the

Tamkaliks Celebration and Friendship Feast until 2021.

This will be the first summer in 30 years without a Tamkaliks Celebration taking place in Wallowa.

"We are saddened to make this announcement but recent comments by

Governor Kate Brown have cemented our decision," said Sara Averbeck, Tamkaliks administrative assistant."

"We feel strongly that this is the best way to protect the health and safety of our Tamkaliks family."



Among the helpful street and roadside banners on display around the community, during these days of staying at home.



The Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center has set up a new Orange Tent (above) outside the clinic building.

The tent allows for a drive through operation in screening individuals who have Covid-19 symptoms; or who have been directed to the Covid-19 screening area.

Follow up then continues with Public Health nurses making contact with everyone who has been tested.



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