

Letters to the editor

Lessons

In the beginning the Creator set all the animals in line, to see what they would do for the new people—human beings. With that there became laws governing the people on how to take care of the resources given to them.

This was the first part of the testimony given to and by a medicine man at a medicine dance we called Wumpni. He was a Nez Perce man, his wife a Yakama woman. I remember this time. I was 7 years old, 1952 (at grandpa Charley's place).

He started singing his song to get under power to see things and interpret them to the people. His power was the bald eagle (Kum a mul). As he sang we danced in a circle, but different than washat. As the song ended his wife came around to each of the dancers and gave them a gift. I got a breast plate from that.

Then he sat down on a chair and an interpreter came out to echo his words. It was like this, "My people, I see a time in far days from now, the people will be given a sign, then they will gather food to last five years."

The first sign is the younger generation will rebel against their parents, not listening to what is told to them, disrespecting the laws set down by elders.

The second sign will be people from the south will come, learning our language and our songs. We have to be very strong during this time, because there will be no food anywhere, that they will eat people. So our people will have to band together and be strong against these people.

The third sign will be salmon, deer, berries going away. Air will be different, water will be low.

The fourth sign is a disease will come destroying many people, all peoples, so ready yourselves.

The fifth sign is the final sign. This land will be on fire, and the white man will have a hard time.

I may have been very young but I remember it.

Them days people would come from all over, Yakima, Rock Creek, Celilo, Umatilla and Idaho. That time we went for seven days and many gifts were hung up, many things were said, many people were worked on by the medicine people.

That man's name was Alec Pinkham, whose wife was Elsie (close relation to my grandmother). I didn't want to take up your time during the meeting so I put it on paper. Thank you for your ears.

Ky-um-a-luc, Bruce Jim Sr.

Construction careers

October is Careers in Construction Month. The Warm Springs Community Action Team wishes to make interested community members aware of construction education opportunities, presented on-line by Build-Oregon.

The webinar series—open to anyone—is a chance to learn about opportunities in the construction industry from local contractors; hear from real-life apprentices; and go behind the scene for virtual tours of jobsites.

To learn more visit: build-oregon.com/careers-construction-month.

Also for more info or questions, please contact Aaron Bouchane at aaronb@agc-oregon.org

Schedule of events

October 6 will be Industry Day, focusing on commercial construction companies. Learn about the work they perform and employment opportunities; and experience a work day. There are four different opportunities, each focusing on a different type of construction company.

There is no pre-registration required. To join, go to link site you would like to join on the date and time listed.

October 6
9:30 to 10 a.m. Nate

McCoy, executive director of National Association of Minority Contractors - Oregon Chapter. Company profiles and site visits. Webinar link: <https://rb.gy/xnxcvz>

10 to 11 a.m. Raimore Construction, a general contractor performing heavy civil projects, is one of the biggest minority contractors on the West Coast. For over 20 years they have employed and mentored people from the community, with roughly 70 percent of employees being women or people of color. Webinar link: <https://rb.gy/xnxcvz>

10 to 11 a.m. EC Electric's construction portfolio includes commercial buildings, schools, hospitals, data centers, airports, campuses, and manufacturing and processing plants. EC often collaborates with general contractors and owners early in design to minimize initial cost and maximize operational efficiency for the life of the facility. Link: <https://rb.gy/bkn4mc>

1 to 2 p.m. Power Systems West has been providing backup power solutions since 1955. They specialize in sales, service, and parts distribution of industrial power products, with service centers in five Western states. Link: <https://rb.gy/hjckb3>

1 to 2 p.m. Signature projects across the Pacific Northwest form the portfolio of Todd Construction Inc.: They were established in Roseburg in 1942 and built dozens of schools, government buildings, and businesses before migrating north to Tualatin in 1987. <https://rb.gy/rdxbrt>

About census in Indian Country

Running Strong for American Indian Youth and Billy Mills have delivered more than 2,020 signatures to Senate leadership to reinstate the census deadline extension.

Mr. Mills is an Olympic track medalist, and spokesperson for Running Strong for American Indian Youth. Mr. Mills, Oglala-Lakota, commented:

The census is one of the most valuable tools for change and representation in Indian Country. Our Native American communities deserve to be counted and heard.

In early August the U.S. Census Bureau announced their decision to move the 2020 Census reporting date up to September 30, citing costs and logistical difficulty due to the coronavirus pandemic.

However, Native Voices Network projects the new deadline could mean up to \$1 billion in lost federal funding for Indian Country annually, as well as even more losses due to non-federal grants and other programming opportunities which rely on census data to determine funding levels.

Covid-19 obviously hindered the census count events in Indian Country, said Cheryl Kary, director of Sacred Pipe Resource Center, a center for Native American support in Mandan.

Sacred Pipe Resource Center is a program partner of Running Strong for American Indian Youth, and one of the many non-profit organizations involved in grassroots tribal community counting efforts. We are able to provide information, however, in preparation for self-

response events later this month and in October.

Running Strong for American Indian Youth works to help Native American communities meet their immediate critical needs. To learn more about the organization programs visit the Running Strong site at: indianyouth.org

8:05-8:30. The Sidwalter Fire Hall 8:30-8:45. The Seekseequa fire hall 8:30-8:45.

Wishes...

A very Happy Birthday, Chief. From Donna and Bubba.

Happy Birthday to Leona Tenorio, Love, Dad.

School meals

Jefferson County School District 509-J Food Service offers meals weekdays to youth 18 years and younger for the duration of Comprehensive Distance Learning. The free breakfast and lunch is being provided grab and go style. Meals are served 7:30-8:30 a.m. at the Warm Springs Academy bus drop-off area. Drop off locations in Warm Springs:

Wolfe Point from 6:30-6:45 a.m. Tenino Apartments at Elk Loop and Kalama Lane from 6:50-7:05. Upper Dry Creek at the north end of Tommie Street 7-7:15. Kah-Nee-Ta Hamlets 7-7:15 Trailer Court at Little Oitz and Kuckup 7:15-7:30. Crestview and Sunnyside Drives in Sunnyside from 7:30-7:45. Simnasho 7:45-8 a.m. By the Greeley Heights Community Building 7:45-8. Poosh and West Hills Drive in West Hills

Friends, family

To all my relations and good friends back home,

I send all my love and prayers in this time of need, and hope you are all well and good. I also want to wish my baby girl a very Happy Birthday, and pray she has many more to come. Let her know that her dad loves her always.

I have been praying hard for all our people back home, and those living elsewhere that we all get through this epidemic safely. I pray for those back home that we have the strength and determination of mind, body and soul to keep moving forward. I wish you all the best and that I miss you all so very much. And if you feel like writing, please feel free to do so. So take care and God bless. **Leon Tenorio**, no. 690004, 11540 NE Inverness Dr., Portland OR 97220.

Ways to help during the wildfires

For weeks the Lionshead fire on the reservation and beyond was among the largest fires burning in the West. And a dozen or more fires in Oregon were destroying hundreds of homes and killing several people, with some still missing.

There are many ways the more fortunate of us can help fire evacuees and those helping to fight these blazes.

A great place to start is with the Warm Springs Red Cross. You can reach out to: margesohappy@wstribes.org rose.alarcon@wstribes.org

Here are some other ideas:

- Donate to the 2020 Community Rebuilding



Firefighters, masked for Covid-19 safety, on the Lionshead fire, the reservation.

Fund, established by Gov. Kate Brown. Both long-term and immediate relief fund portals are available at oregoncf.org

- Sign up to volunteer at the Oregon Office of Emergency Management. The website is:

at.oregonrecovers.org.com munityos.org

- Donate or volunteer with the Salvation Army Cascades' Division Emergency Disaster Services at: cascade.salvationarmy.org/cascade2/oregon-wildfire-response



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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.mcmechan@wstribes.org
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During crises, young volunteers help provide items to members

Young people with Heart of Oregon, AmeriCorps, their Thrift Store in Madras this month prepared 150 emergency hygiene packets for distribution. They worked with support from First Interstate Bank.

The packets support the Warm Springs community, which has been challenged by ongoing water issues that are further exacerbated by fire and Covid-19 restrictions.

The community service effort was scheduled to coincide with First Interstate Bank Third Annual Volunteer Day, with bank volunteers helping at Heart of Oregon and other organizations throughout the region.

In the past, First Interstate Bank volunteers have assisted Heart of Oregon with its own pro-



Volunteers at the Thrift Store prepare care packages

grams, but since community service is woven into many Heart of Oregon programs this was a natural way to come together in the service of a greater need.

With Heart of Oregon's Madras Thrift Store currently closed due to Covid-19, volunteers were able to use the retail space to sort and stuff the packets con-

taining 12 essentials such as hand sanitizer, shampoo, and toothbrushes.

The packets were distributed through the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs GROW program to its residents.

Heart of Oregon extends gratitude to the businesses who contributed funds, in-kind items, and

time to this effort:

Dollar General, First Interstate Bank, Grocery Outlet, Inn at Cross Keys, Mid Oregon Credit Union, Safeway, and Quality Inn, as well as our generous individual donors.

Heart of Oregon Corps is a nonprofit organization invested in inspiring and empowering change in the lives of Central Oregon youth through jobs, education, and stewardship. Their programming creates pathways out of poverty while stimulating regional economic growth. They apply a 'work-earn-learn' model that invests in local young people, many of whom come from disadvantaged backgrounds, to prepare them for the workforce and to encourage their self-sufficiency. For more information or to apply, visit: heartoforegon.org