

## Letters to the editor

### Huge thanks

We would like to extend a huge Thank You to all the departments and community members who participated in the Early Childhood Education Halloween events last Friday. You made these events a great success.

We appreciated all of the donations of candy, costumes, and most importantly the time each parent and family and community members had taken to be involved in our events.

A great big Thank You to all the departments who took the time and participated, such as McGruff the Crime Dog, the Warm Springs Police Department, Ron Gregory for assigning our police officers to assist in our Lil' Pumpkin Parade, Fire and Safety, Fire Management, the Prevention team, Housing, Tribal Council, Behavioral Health, Credit, Prevention, KWSO, the Community Action Team, Emily Courtney/Pictures, OSU Extension, Elders Judy Charley, Jeffery Saunders, Shirley Saunders, Sylvia McCabe, Lucy Smith, Melinda Frank, Lori Fuentes.

All of our own ECE staff, Head Start teachers, Day Care teachers, ECE administrative staff, and the Food Program staff—Thank you so much! Everyone did a great job.

*Note: ECE will be celebrating Indigenous Week November 16-19.*

**From all of the ECE staff.**

### Healing Hearts

Health Hearts with Good Medicine has been rescheduled to this Friday and Saturday, November 5 and 6. The event includes Introduction to Equine, starting at 3 p.m. Friday in the grassy field by Behavioral Health and the Old Elementary School.

Come and enjoy the horses, the speakers and a snack. Sponsors of Health Hearts with Good Medicine are White Clay, and volunteers and the Community Health Education Team. You can find out more by calling the Behavioral Health at 541-553-3205 ext. 1020.

### Welcome supplies donation to tribes

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in October donated 24 pallets of food and supplies to the Confederated Tribes.

Missionaries from the church and tribal members unloaded the supplies that the

church sent from its Bishop's Storehouse in Salt Lake City.

The church maintains 15 farms, five canneries and 110 food distribution centers called Bishop's Storehouses, all staffed primarily by local volunteers.

The church also has five additional processing plants that specialize in meat, milk, bread, grain and pasta, and soap. These facilities help provide assistance to church members in need and to local community partners.

The church in 2020 also provided the Confederated Tribes a smaller supply of food at the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Earlier last month, Mitch Wilcox, president of the Redmond Stake for the church, contacted Danny Martinez, the emergency response officer for the tribes.

Mr. Martinez said he was grateful for the help, as the tribes have been providing meals to quarantined families on the reservation since the beginning of the pandemic.

Dan relies on Dorothea 'Dot' Thurby as the manager of the social needs organization for the tribes.

Dorothea wishes to thank the church and volunteers for the generous help.

The donated food, along with cleaning supplies, will be distributed by Ms. Thurby's team as needed for quarantined families and those who find comfort in the warming shelter provided.

Looking back, in 2020 the church overall sent more than 800 truckloads of food to 380 food banks, homeless shelters and charitable agencies throughout the U.S.

Amazingly, in total these trucks supplied over 26 million meals to those in need. These truckloads came from several of the church's 110 bishops' storehouses in the U.S. and Canada.

The main warehouse distribution center is located in Salt Lake City, with five additional regional hubs located in Oregon, California, Indiana, Georgia and Canada. The food was delivered by 46 dedicated long-haul truck drivers for Deseret Transportation, who drove more than 1.6 million miles during the Covid-19 pandemic.

### Champion for Children

A week after being named the School Board Member of the Year, Laurie Danzuka was honored by the Madras-Jefferson County Chamber

### To Veterans, families of the tribes

Attention all Warm Springs Veterans and Families:

It appears that a local memory care facility in Hillsboro was referring veterans and surviving spouses to a private legal group out of Tennessee that charges families a 'pre-consultation filing fee' for both Pension and Compensation: \$1,000 for compensation, and \$800 for pension.

Then the memory care facility would absorb the fee if they got into the home with the benefit.

There is no charge when filing for either pension or compensation through the VA. Please be aware that this may happen in our area as well, and please let me know if you encounter a situation like this. Thanks,

**Frankie Williams**, Tribal Veterans Service Officer, 541-460-0605. frankie.williams@wstribes.org

**Note:** This year Veterans Day is on Thursday, November 11. The tribal organization is closed on that day in honor of the veterans and their families.

### Inspiring Alumni



**DR. JANICE CLEMMER**  
CLASS OF '59



**ALYSSA MACY**  
CLASS OF '93

Dr. Janice White Clemmer and Alyssa Macy were honored recently at the Madras High School Homecoming. With fellow graduates Judge Dan Ahern and Stephen Hillis, Dr. Clemmer and Ms. Macy were honored as Inspiring Alumni.

They were introduced during a break at the high school Homecoming game, and presentations were shown on video in the high school classrooms.

Alyssa was the tribes' chief operations officer for a number of years. She now the chief executive officer of the Washington Environmental Council and Washington Conservation Voters.

of Commerce with the Champion for Children Award.

This is a new chamber award created by the Jefferson County School District 509-J.

Ms. Danzuka is the chairwoman of the school district board. She works in Warm Springs at Ventures.

At the awards ceremony last week, Louise Muir presented the Business of the Year award to Black Bear Diner owners Joe and Nancy Davis, in appreciation for their support of local events, youth programs, senior citizens and veterans in Jefferson County.

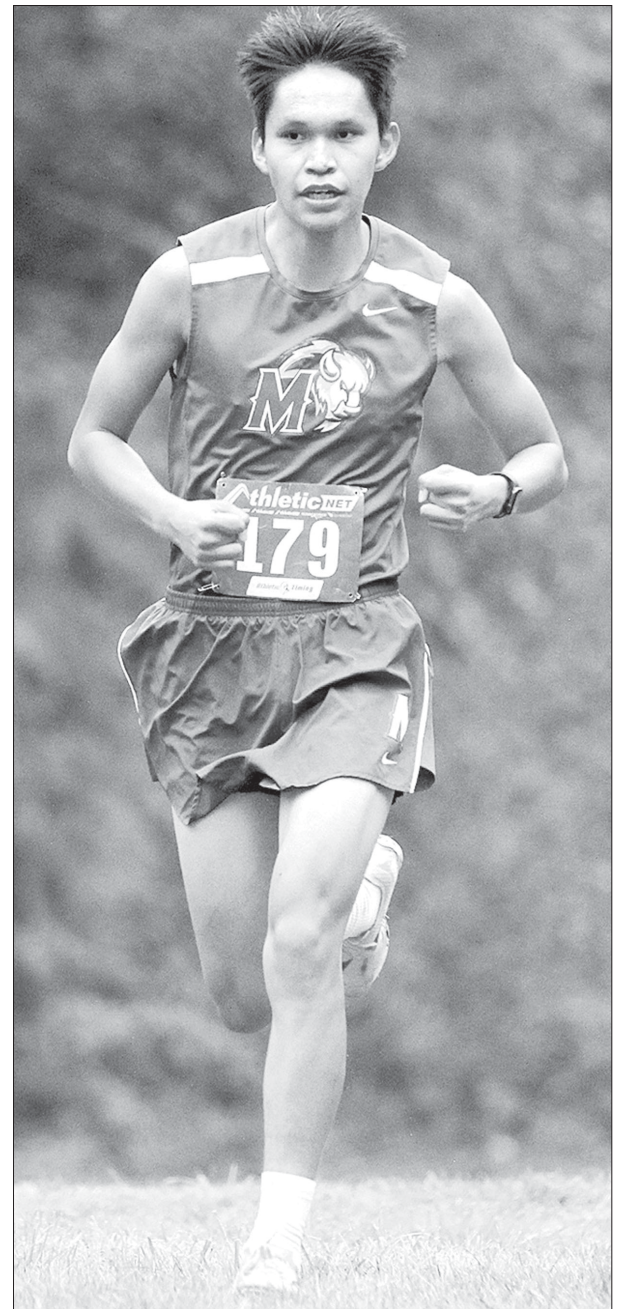
Other award winners are Senior Citizen of the Year Shawn Stanfill, Volunteer of the Year Jennifer Grant, Community Champion of the Year Angela Rhodes, and Public Servant of the Year Sheriff Marc Heckathorn.

### Housing seeks wood cutters

Warm Springs Housing is starting the process of recruiting wood cutters to cut and deliver wood to eligible clients.

To learn more you can stop by Housing. KWSO has more information posts at kwsso.org

### At State meet



Jayson Smith photo

**Isaiah Wapsheli and fellow Madras High School junior Hannah MacDuffee qualified for the 4A State Championships. They both had top-five finishes at the Tri-Valley District meet in late October. The state meet is this Saturday, November 6 at Lane Community College in Eugene.**

You can call to schedule a Covid-19 vaccination, get on the list for a booster shot, and get your child ages 5-11 on the list for a vaccination. Call the clinic at 541-553-2131.

  
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## Community update: Covid-19 vaccine, cases update

As of early this week, there were 20 people on the reservation with active covid, and 24 close contacts receiving daily monitoring.

There were three people hospitalized with Covid-19; and zero on ventilators.

The Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center has conducted 15,348 total tests. Of the total, 14,293 have come back negative since the pandemic and testing began.

There have been a total of 1,019 positive cases among the tribal community. The overall positivity rate has been 6.64 percent.

St. Charles Medical has been at more than 78 percent capacity.

The Warm Springs Indian Health Service and Commu-

nity Health have given 2,993 primary covid vaccinants.

Total number of Primary Covid Vaccinations given: 2993, including Moderna, Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson.

Total number of second vaccinations was at 2,525. This includes both the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines.

The booster shot count was at 159, including the Pfizer, Moderna and J&J.

The clinic is now scheduling booster vaccines. If you are 65 or older, call the clinic vaccine line at 541-553-2131 to schedule an appointment.

The goal at IHS through early November is to get the

booster to all of the community's 65 and older population, for those who choose to have the dose.

If you are 18-64 years old and meet the criteria for a booster dose, please call and let the clinic know you are interested in receiving your boost dose.

A person between 18 and 64 would qualify for the booster if he or she is at high risk of severe Covid-19—such as those with underlying medical conditions.

A person would qualify if he or she is in frequent institutional or occupational place of exposure to Covid-19. This would include a long-term healthcare facility resident, healthcare workers, first responders, education

staff, corrections, etc.

Please get vaccinated, along with masking, social distancing, avoid gatherings, wash hands.... Be safe.

In the state of Oregon, health officials this week announced 1,420 new coronavirus cases.

A new state forecast indicates that while hospitalizations will continue to decline, that decline will be slower than it has been in the weeks since hospitalizations peaked last month.

By around Thanksgiving, total beds filled with Covid-19 patients is projected to fall to about 400 from the current 513. The projection was developed by the Oregon Health Sciences University.

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