

Letters to the editor

Spiritual items from Longhouse

When the Agency Longhouse was shut down due to the meth contamination in previous years, there were hand drums and other personal items still at the longhouse.

After holding the hand drums and personal items a few weeks, a former chief operations officer stated that these items were going to be destroyed, since the meth seeped onto the hide of the drums, and the fear was that the contamination could not be removed from them.

Since hand drums and other items (bells) are spiritual tools used for Our Way Of Life (Washut), the Agency Longhouse Leader told the previous chief operations officer to hold off throwing those out and give them to one of our medicine men, Richard 'Animal' Tohet. Richard held on to them a few more weeks, sealed in clear plastic bags, and some of the owners, making inquiries, had their hand drums returned to them. Those that were not claimed were taken care of, like our loved ones are, by ceremony and burial. They were not treated like trash and thrown out and the garbage dump.

There were drummers that assumed that those hand drums were put away in my sister's storage shed, but they were not. She did not want any meth contaminated items taken to her home or storage. Thank you.

Louise Katchia.

Excellent grades at the Academy

The Warm Springs Academy announced the students who have Honors, High Honors, and Highest Honors. Congratulations to the following students!

Sixth grade

Honors: Ellison Chavez Jr. Tairia Govenor. Riley Heath. Lynnelle Danzuka. Mar Rie Gill. Harold Greene.

JoLessa Main. Mylez Stevens. Jadrian Kalama. Myla Spino. Siddalee Suppah. Mason Frye.

Jared Jim. Kaylee Johnson. Askewin Tom. Joshua White.

High Honors: Jicelle Gill. Warrian Graybael. Jesiah Johnson. Toaali'i Smith. Tyree Starr.

Katlyn Victorino. Brylee

Berry. Mya Blackwolf. Derise Jefferson. Miayala Suppah.

Highest Honors: Fiske Clark. Mikaylah Dowty. Sequoya Edwards. Cherish Parra.

Seventh grade

Honors: Kristopher Caldera. Colten Culps. Caldera Kade Fuiava. Lucius Stevens. Abigail Eriza. Jamie Ike. Sam Jackson Jr.

Davin Slockish. Delton Switzler. Dennis White IV. Kiona Aguilar. Leander Williams. CaitLynn Hunt Anson.

Giselle Medina. Arthur Miller Jr. Donnie Polk Tewee. Dustin Tanewasha. Ciara Wolfe Lahr.

Amare Brunoe. Nokian Jackson. Riyah Stacona. Orion Wewa.

High Honors: Kiellan Allen. Haydyn Cross Dog. Elijah Domingo. Kyra Eastman. Jaycee Merrifield. Aiyana Saunders.

Tuimanua Smith. Harlan Waheneka Jr. Caden Greene. CheyLene Mireles. John Buffalo Ball Jr. Liam Circle. Kylan Stevens.

Eighth grade

Honors: Cody Brunoe. Richard Crooked Arm. RedSky Waheneka. Yamilei Adams. Evaristo Antunez Jr.

Brayden Hintsala. Aja Nah Jefferson. Irenecia Smith Queahpama. Dakota Wewa. Ramon Greene.

Deklyn Parton. Amarius Stevens. Daunte Hurtado. LeQuisha Jackson. Janea Ike. Jason Rabbie Jr. Gavin Williams.

High Honors: Jare Anderson. Jalena Howe Weaselhead. Mahayla Cisco. Myron Crooked Arm. Maria Johnson. Heaven Stwyer.

Arema White. Wallace Herkshan. Kalyssa Fuentes. Paradise Smith. Skye Victorino.

Peyton Frank. Cayman Ippolito. LaRhia Stevens. Jessica Johnson. Donavon Tanewasha.

For my school

I am helping my school with a really cool fundraiser! It's easy for you to participate and I would greatly appreciate your support.

To participate, all you need to do is go to SchoolStore.com

At the site there are great options to show your support.

The easiest way to show your support is by donating a Caring For Classrooms gift card to my teacher. One-hundred percent of your do-

nation goes directly to my teacher to purchase valuable classroom resources.

When you help me support Warm Springs K-8 Academy, I earn points toward awesome prizes and Warm Springs K-8 Academy earns much needed funds.

I hope you are able to help me. Thank you for your time and support!

Annabelle Yahtin Arthur

Rodeo season opening in the region

The Coastal High Desert Stampede is returning to Redmond this March. This annual PRCA NFR Playoff Series ProRodeo stop is back bigger than ever as one of the top 60 rodeos in the country.

We are expanding to four nights to give contestants and fans additional opportunities to participate. Join us live and in-person March 23-26 at the Deschutes County Fair & Expo Center's First Interstate Bank Center. Let's rodeo!

The Coastal High Desert Stampede Professional Rodeo Cowboy's Association NFR Playoff Series kicks off professional rodeo for the entire West Coast each year.

This exciting new series highlights the biggest rodeos in the nation and provides top Wrangler National Finals

Rodeo hopefuls the best opportunity to punch their ticket to Las Vegas in December.

Each of the three fast-paced performances at the High Desert Stampede are composed of eight professional rodeo events including: Bull, Saddle Bronc and Bareback riding, Team and Tie-down Roping, Steer Wrestling, Barrel Racing and now Breakaway Roping.

This year, The Coastal High Desert Stampede will start on Wednesday, March 23 with a Broncs, Bulls &

Brawn special section. This fourth night is a special performance of rough stock rodeo featuring more of our outstanding animal athletes as well as the likes of all three Wright brothers last year.

Rodeo Tickets are on sale now at Coastal on Highway 97 in Redmond and online: highdesertstampede.com

Ownership

The Warm Springs Community Action Team and Warm Springs Housing Au-

thority are hosting their next Financial Education class *Pathways Home: a Native Homeownership Course*, starting this Thursday, February 10.

This will be a Zoom class with five sessions on Thursdays 5:30 to 7:30.

This course is required for anyone in the Community Action Team's Individual Development Account program for home ownership.

To sign up email leah@wscat.org

Their phone number is 541-553-3148.

Tough decision having to resign

I have submitted my formal letter of resignation to the Tribal Council.

It has been an honor and a pleasure to work for you and with the many tribal departments, and mostly the tribal veterans and their families.

I have worked in this capacity as the tribal veterans service officer since December 2020.

The reason that I have decided to resign is mainly due to the travel requirements.

It is 100 miles one way, and approximately 600 miles a week back and forth to Portland,



Frankie Williams, W.S. Veterans Representative

which is over 13 hours of travel a week.

That has become very exhausting over the last year, so I have decided to take a job that is closer to my home and the travel is much less.

It was a difficult decision to make since I have made many friends here at Warm Springs and the support has been outstanding. It saddens my heart to have to leave but the travel was just too much.

I will continue to pray for the tribal families and members of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs tribal nation.

My last day of work here at the tribe was February 7. Submitted respectfully,

Frankie Williams, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Tribal Veterans Service Officer.

Parenting, Anger Managing support groups starting soon

The Behavioral Health will host a Parenting Support Group next Thursday, February 17, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Join them for this free support group.

The gathering will be at the Behavioral Health Center, 1115 Wasco Street (previously called Community Counseling). This will be the first meeting of this state-certified group, meeting parenting class requirements for the Department of Human Services and Children's Protective Services.

Snacks and drinks will be provided. What will you learn? This parenting support group is an opportunity to:

Learn about child developments ('Is my child's behavior normal?'). Share parenting strategies ('What do you do at bedtime?'). And connect with other

families to create a community where children can thrive. Call 541-553-3205 for information.

Managing Anger skills group

Earlier in the day on Thursday, February 17, from 2:30 to 4 p.m., Behavioral Health will host a Managing Anger Skills Group. This meeting will meet the Anger Management requirements for Children's Protective Services, the Department of Human Services, Parole and Probation. What you will learn:

Self-control skills to take power over thoughts and actions. The root causes of anger, and anger as a secondary emotion. Effectively managing anger; and How to honor anger without aggression or destruction. Call 541-553-3205.

Anger is normal. Going it alone isn't.

Managing Anger Skills Group

Thursday Feb. 17, 2:30-4:00

Did you know? Feeling anger too often or too intensely places extreme physical strain on the body.

Call 541-553-3205

Join Us For Free

Join us at the Warm Springs Behavioral Health Center, 1115 Wasco St., previously known as the Community Counseling Center and the old girls' dorm. Drinks and snacks will be provided. Meets anger management class requirements for CPS, DHS, and parole and probation.

What You Will Learn:

- Self-control skills to take power over thoughts and actions.
- The root causes of anger/"anger as a secondary emotion"
- Effectively managing anger
- How to honor anger without aggression or destruction.

Teen dating awareness message from W.S. VOCS

Every February, young people and their loved ones join together across the country in the national effort to raise awareness about the issue of teen dating violence. This year the awareness month is dedicated especially to advocacy and education to stop dating abuse before it starts.

Michele Gonzales, advocate, and Warm Springs Victims of Crime Services would like share this information to help raise awareness.

Roughly one and a half million high school girls and boys across the U.S. admit to being intentionally hit or physically harmed in the last

year by someone they are romantically involved with.

Teens who suffer dating abuse are subject to long-term consequences like alcoholism, eating disorders, promiscuity, thoughts of suicide, and violent behavior.

One in three young people will be in an abusive or unhealthy relationship. Thirty-three percent of adolescents in America are victim to sexual, physical, verbal, or emotional dating abuse.

In the U.S., 25 percent of high school girls have been abused physically or sexually. Teen girls who are abused this way are six times more likely to become pregnant or contract a sexually transmit-

ted infection.

Females between the ages of 16 and 24 are roughly three times more likely than the rest of the population to be abused by an intimate partner.

Eight States in the U.S. do not consider a violent dating relationship domestic abuse. Therefore, adolescents, teens, and 20-somethings are unable to apply for a restraining order for protection from the abuser.

Violent behavior often begins between sixth- and twelfth grades. Seventy-two percent of 13- and 14-year-olds are 'dating.'

Fifty-percent of young people who experience rape or physical or sexual abuse

will attempt to commit suicide.

Only one-third of the teens who were involved in an abusive relationship confided in someone about the violence.

Teens who have been abused hesitate to seek help because they do not want to expose themselves or are unaware of the laws surrounding domestic violence.

If you or anyone you know is experiencing Teen Dating Violence please contact the Warm Springs Police Department, Victims of Crime, 541-553-2293. Or come to our office located at 1108 Wasco Street in Warm Springs. **Michele Gonzales**, VOCS advocate.

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