

## Letters to the editor

### Regarding poaching incidents

Hello Tribal Hunters,

It has come to my attention that there have been ongoing issues with theft, damage and poaching in and around the tribal farm, including both the Culpus pivots and Moody pivots.

This past fall, during the buck deer reservation season, several bull elk were poached and left to rot and go to waste.

With support from the Fish and Wildlife Committee, the Branch of Natural Resources will authorize 'administrative No Hunting Areas on the tribal farmlands.' This includes the road passing through the farm area and the fenced surrounding regions.

The tribes have invested hundreds of thousands of dollars into the farm, and don't want to risk further damage due to shooting or vehicle traffic damage.

The Tribal Conservation Enforcement and Branch of Natural Resources staff will monitor the area. Any violation of this administrative order will violate the Hunt-



Courtesy CTWSBNR

Tribal area clearly closed to hunting (above); and poached elk left to waste.



ing and Trapping Chapter 350 and other tribal codes as they apply.

Thank you for your time and consideration on these matters.

**Austin Smith Jr.**, Branch of Natural Resources general manager.

### Veterans Correction

The names of three veterans were inadvertently not included on the Veterans list in the previous Spilyay. The veterans are Raymond Calica Tsumpti Sr.; Raymond Calica Tsumpti Jr.; and Norman A. Nathan. The Spilyay Tymoo apologizes for this oversight, and has corrected the current tribal community veterans list.

### Medicare, Social Security discussion in Warm Springs

A Medicare and Social Security presentation is coming up this week in Warm Springs. The presentation will explain Medicare Open Season and enrollment times for parts A, B, C and D.

The presentation also will explain the new changes for the 2023 cost living adjustment, or COLA. Another subject is the SSA benefit amounts and cost of Part B Medicare.

The presentation is this Thursday, November 17 at the Family Resource Center conference room. Lunch will be from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., serving garden salad, pasta with beef, and Geris' fried bread.

The discussion will be from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m.

Michael Collins, director of Managed Care, will explain Medicare Parts A, B, C and D enrollment dates and ending dates.

Rose Mary 'Mushy' Alarcon will discuss the 2023 COLA changes. A question and answer session will be from 1:15 to 1:30 p.m.

### Spilyay Tymoo

The Spilyay Tymoo publication of the tribes is back to the original spelling. By way of explanation: Earlier this fall the Culture and Heritage Department welcomed the new Ichishkiin dictionary that contains the most definitive spellings, definitions and translations of the Ichishkiin language. The dictionary indicates the spelling of the words 'Coyote News' would be 'Spilya Taimu,' as opposed to 'Spilyay Tymoo.'

At the time at the Spilyay, the thinking was to respect the work of the dictionary.

However, in hindsight now, the original Spilyay name has existed since the first publication in the spring of 1976. And the name is most accepted by, and familiar to the readership of the publication. So the original spelling makes the most sense; and the Spilyay Tymoo apologizes for the mistake.

**David McMechan**, editor.



Thanksgiving Wishes from Award Winning Contemporary artist Travis Bobb.

## An introduction to your Veterans Service Office

My name is Rain Circle and I am your new Tribal Veterans Service Officer in Warm Springs. I am here to help the veterans, those currently serving, and those thinking about joining the military.

I was born in Madras and raised in Warm Springs. I enlisted into the U.S. Army in 1992 and graduated in 1993 from Madras High School.

I spent 10 years in the Regular Army, and finished my career in the Oregon Army National Guard as a recruiter, where I learned even more about the importance of security in handling sensitive personal information for service members and their family or 'dependents,' so I know the frustration and confusion of military paper-



Rain Circle, Veterans Service Officer of the Confederated Tribes.

work very well.

I am here to work with the veterans and their dependents with all the aspects of filing for benefits, requesting records or answering questions they might have. A first point of business for us would be:

'Bring me a DD-214 or request one through my office.'

The DD-214 is the Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, and Proof of Military Service that all veterans have.

This document is the first one needed to get things started. It shows many important aspects of the service member's time in uniform and is critical in determining receipt or denial of benefits to the service member.

If you don't have it? I can help you get it.

It is a sensitive subject but I hope all of you veterans who haven't prepared for the inevitable will bring your DD-214s in to get prequalified for the great beyond.

You know how the VA monster works, how complicated and time consuming it

can be to request the benefits you are entitled to; so imagine how your survivors will cope with that. Don't make it harder on your dependents: Bring in your DD-214, and any other paperwork you have on hand, so we can get you in the system and line up your benefits, to be ready.

I am excited and look forward to the coming years as your Veterans Representative and I hope the articles I submit to our newspaper help you. My contact information is below feel free to call me with your questions, thank you!

Rain Circle, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs TVSO, 1144 Warm Springs St., Warm Springs, OR 97761.

Cell: 541-460-8971. Office: 541-553-2234.

### Comp, benefits

The annual Warm Springs Employee Compensation and Benefits meetings continue this Wednesday morning at the Fire Management training room. The meetings start at 9, 10 and 11 o'clock.

The deadline for all forms to be submitted is Wednesday, November 30.

A hard copy of all forms must be submitted to the Human Resources Department at the Tribal Administration building.

### Future of tribal sovereignty in court's hands

It is a possibly grim sign for tribal sovereignty that the Supreme Court last week heard oral arguments in *Haaland v. Brackeen*.

The justices are considering whether the Indian Child Welfare Act, or ICWA, which has governed adoption proceedings for Native children for the last 44 years, is a constitutional use of Congress's plenary powers over tribal affairs.

Congress passed the law in 1978 to end a series of

practices that collectively amounted to cultural genocide: the adoption of Native children by non-Native families who then effectively severed their connections with their tribes and their cultures.

However, last week's oral arguments are not strictly about the ICWA, as the law is also known:

At issue in *Brackeen* is not just whether one non-Native family or many non-Native families can adopt certain

children or whether the tribes should get a say in their eventual placement.

Nor is this case entirely about precisely when and how Congress can pass laws that affect tribal sovereignty.

The justices will find it impossible to answer these questions without deciding whether tribal governments—and this country's Indigenous peoples—are a legitimate part of the American constitutional order.

### Warm Springs Recreation Department Presents:

## Christmas Ndn Night out MC: Ray "Captain" Moody



Open to all Dancers for Exhibitions

Open to all Drum Groups

Raffle for Prizes Need to be present

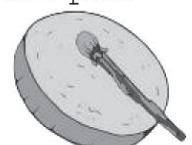
Family Fun Games

Monday December 19th, 2022  
Community Center Gym

Bring your favorite dish for everyone to enjoy at the 5:15pm potluck

Social Dance and Drummers Jam at 6:00pm.

Bring your own hand drum



For more info contact recreation dept. at 541-553-3243/3244.

**Turkey Trot**  
November 18, 2022

Please join The Recreation Department for the Annual Turkey Trot giveaway. It will be a walk around the Community Center walking path at 12pm. Drawings will begin at 1pm. No need to be present. A working number will be needed.