

## Letters to the editor

### SSA COLA

The new Social Security Administration cost of living (COLA) letter is being mailed out. If you would like to stop by the Family Resource Center, we can photo-copy your new benefit letter for the 2023 year.

We will then store your letter, so when you need to show proof of income we will have your copy. This would save time of having to call the Bend SSA for a replacement proof of income.

The letter could take three to 10 days or more to receive; however, if we have a copy of your letter stored, that would be easier for all.

Some programs that require proof of income are the Heap and wood, Neighborhood Impact, Home-owners programs and other programs just to name a few. Thank you.

**Rosemary 'Musy' Alarcon**, Social Services SSA/APD Aged Persons with Disabilities.

### Birth

*Juddson Grady Henderson*  
Jesse Henderson and Teagan Kerr of Madras are pleased to announce the birth of their son Juddson Grady Henderson, born on November 26, 2022.

Juddson joins sister Brylie. Parent on the mother's side is Tim Kerr.

*Kyra Ivy Alvarez*  
Rico Alvarez and Treana Blueback of Warm Springs are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Kyra Ivy Alvarez, born on December 6, 2022.

Kyra joins sister LaRae Holliday, 4. Grandmother on the father's side is Alvarez of Portland.

Grandparents on the mother's side are Kevin and Leana Blueback of Warm Springs.

*Dwayne Ray Estrada*  
Adan R. Estrada and Desirae Redshirt of Madras are pleased to announce the birth of their son Dwayne Ray Estrada, born on December 3, 2022.

Grandfather on the father's side is Adan Estrada of Madras.

Grandparent on the mother's side is Tonia Locke of Pineridge, South Dakota.

### A reminder

The Early Childhood Education Center would like to give a friendly reminder that the first Monday of each month is Teacher In-Training Day. If you have questions call 541-553-3241.

### Indigenous Bowl in Minnesota

An athlete and Yakama tribal member from Wapato was one of 75 indigenous athletes from around the country chosen to play in this year's Indigenous Bowl in Minneapolis. Matthew McConville III, or as he's known by his friends as 'Tre, is a senior at Wapato High School. The Indigenous Bowl is the premiere event for the 7G Foundation to further the goal of molding the next seven generations of native leaders through education, athletics, culture, and real-world support.

## A message from your Veterans Service Officer

Hello again Warm Springs!

Your Tribal Veterans Service Officer—TVSO—here to help the Veterans, currently serving members and those thinking about joining the military.

A little advice to pass on to our currently serving members of our military because they will be knocking on my door someday and there is no reason we shouldn't start that relationship now.

There are openly known secrets that never make their rounds like, "Get a copy of your medical records before you get out!" They are harder to get after discharge because they are U.S. government property and don't actually belong to the service member... even though it is the service member's medical history.

Another is, "A service member doesn't need to wait for discharge to join the Department of Veterans Affairs, if you have proof of service, I.D. card, enlistment paperwork, etc...." You can join the VA: I did that before I retired in 2017.

Now, the one thing I can't stress enough is Never Never Never throw away documents the U.S. Department of Defense gives you!

And pay attention to your veteran after discharge.

A little knowledge for families that are confused by our military vernacular, speak, code: Lingo.

Every soldier, sailor, airman, marine has an 'MOS' or Military Occupational Specialty in 'civvies speak'—meaning their job.

A MOS determines what training the service member receives and determines how their slice of the puzzle fits into the pie piece, and it is



Rain Circle, Veterans Service Officer of the Confederated Tribes.

just as confusing as that analogy.

My MOS was '19D10B3' and the Late Erland Suppah was an '11D10'. Exact same job: Armored Reconnaissance Specialist just decades apart with a *slight* difference. The 19 series is the 'Armor Branch' category—tanks and other armored fighting vehicles.

The 11 series is the Infantry Branch category. These soldiers walk everywhere with their whole life in their beloved rucksack. Useless note for you: Rucksack is the German word for backpack i.e. Ruck (pronounced 'rook'), meaning back. Sack (pronounced 'sock') meaning sack. So when said in German, it sounds like 'rook-sock'.

Anyway, 'D' is the specialty under that branch, Armored Recon Specialist (there are multiple) or Cavalry Scout.

Lastly the '10' denotes rank. From the first rank of Private to the fourth level Specialist/Corporal, a soldier is known as '10 level' on paperwork. As the soldier is promoted the level goes up 10, 20, 30, 40. So he was a Cav Scout in the Infantry and I was a Cav Scout in the Cavalry, it makes sense in the Army.

So, the two of us worked

in reconnaissance for armored tank units, him in the '60s and me in the '90s. A tank is best used 'buttoned-up' which means all closed up and the crew locked inside. But since they can only see straight forward or through periscopes, their view of the world is limited and that is where the Cav Scout comes in.

As Scouts we would move ahead of the tanks and locate, fix and report on all enemy activity the tanks would encounter. We would find the enemy, report on where they were, what they were doing, how many there were, what unit they were part of, what kind of equipment they had, where their fuel, medics and artillery were, or whatever information our commanders wanted us to find or confirm or deny.

It is kind of like being a government-paid noseey ex-tattle-tale snitch stalker with heavy artillery to kill with at any and every chance we were allowed to. Now, when tanks are in direct combat with each other, there are many other weapons out there being used, what is called a 'three-dimensional battlefield.'

This means that just because we see their tanks and we are fighting their tanks, we still have a need to make sure something else doesn't kill our tanks. One way to destroy a tank unit is to 'tie them down' or halt their movement, i.e. shoot at them and get them to stop, 'fix 'em'.

When a tank is fixed (stopped), this is a great time to fire huge explosive bullets over hills (artillery), from areas they can't see, to blow them up from above; and the best part is that the Cav Scout is hidden in the terrain

doing this unseen with a radio and Yes, it is as badass as it sounds.

Back to the point: The MOS tells you what your fighter does or did, and that list can be found online.

Try searching for: 'Military MOS' with the specific military branch your veteran or service member is in—Army, Navy, Marines, Airforce, etc. The reason you want to be specific is that not all MOS's are written the same way.

The U.S. Army MOS for Infantry is 11B. In the Marine Corps it is: 0311. It is just how each branch keeps track of their people.

It is also important to remember that the MOS can change in classification. While I was in, there was an MOS shift in some jobs but not in others.

I know the frustration and confusion of military paperwork very well. Please bring in your DD-214.

Don't have it? I can help you get it. If you haven't brought your DD-214 in for archiving, please do so.

I would hate for you to have that 'inked' copy lost or destroyed without a back-up copy. I can be that archive.

Also, if you have your 2-A/2-1/201 file on disk (or other storage device) and want it in hard copy form? Too easy, bring it in.

I hope these articles in our newspaper help you and your veteran(s). 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.

## New regulations to improve Indian gaming processes

The Department of the Interior has published proposed revisions to two regulations, one regarding the fee-to-trust process and one regarding Class III gaming compacts.

The updated regulations will provide clearer and more efficient processes for tribes that are applying to place land into trust or enter into gaming compacts.

The proposed rules reflect input and recommendations provided by tribes during consultations held earlier this year. The department will

conduct further tribal consultation before the regulations are finalized.

Fee-to-trust land acquisitions, also called 'land-into-trust,' transfer a land title to the federal government to be held in trust for the benefit of an individual or tribe. Acquisition of land in trust is essential to tribal self-determination and will help maximize the tribe's eligibility for federal services and programs.

Federal policies dating back more than a century have eroded the land base

of Indian tribes across the United States. By placing lands into trust status through the department, tribes can reacquire lands within or near their reservations, establish a land base for tribal communities and clarify jurisdiction over their lands.

Tribes have faced delays and increasing costs in efforts to develop housing projects, manage law enforcement agencies, and develop local economies as a result of unnecessary hurdles in the land-into-trust

process.

The changes being considered to 25 C.F.R. Part 151 would lead to a more efficient, less cumbersome, and less expensive fee-to-trust process by clarifying the Secretary of the Interior's authority to take land in trust for tribes, reducing processing time, and establishing clear decision-making criteria.

The proposed amendments also place an express focus on taking land into trust for conservation purposes.

**WARM SPRINGS ECE**  
*Christmas*  
*Pow-wow and Lunch*  
Agency Longhouse  
10:00am-12:00pm  
Lunch from 12:00pm-2:00pm  
**28 DECEMBER**

**Spilyay Tymoo**  
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## YOUTH BASKETBALL

Grades: PreK/K, 1st/2nd, 3rd/4th, & 5th/6th

**REGISTRATION OPEN**

Season dates: **January 3 - February 18, 2023**  
Fees\*: \$78 in-district, \$100 out-of-district  
Location: TBD 509J Gym

*This program is dependent on volunteer coaches. If you are interested in coaching this season, please give us a call!*

\*Scholarships are available for up to 50% off

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