



# Spilyay Tymoo

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## Recreation hosting new bowling tourney

Warm Springs Recreation announced a new bowling tournament—the First Annual Pacific Northwest Native Classics Bowling Tournament—coming up Friday through Sunday, March 31-April 2.

After some long-term planning and negotiating, Austin Greene, Recreation director and tournament coordinator, announced the new tourney will be at the Wildhorse Resort & Casino Quaking Aspens Bowling lanes in Pendleton.

The tournament will be Doubles and Singles, Mixed Team, Masters, Mixed Doubles, and 9-Pin No Tap Mixed Doubles. The host hotel for the weekend will be the Wildhorse Resort & Casino, featuring special room rates for the event. If you would like more information, contact one of the following individuals:

Austin at Recreation, 541-553-3243. Email:

[austin.greene@wstribs](mailto:austin.greene@wstribs)

Birney Greene-Boise at 541-553-5667. Email:

[Birney1953@gmail.com](mailto:Birney1953@gmail.com)

Margie Tuckta, 541-419-2558. Email:

[margie.tuckta@gmail.com](mailto:margie.tuckta@gmail.com)

## Community notes...

The Warm Springs **Easter Basket giveaway** will be on April 7, the Friday before Easter Sunday, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The giveaway, sponsored by Health and Human Services, will be a drive-by event by the Family Resource Center. Meanwhile:

A planning session for the Warm Springs **Seniors Day** is coming from 1:30-2:30 p.m. on Monday, April 3 at the Seniors building.

Warm Springs Seniors Day will be all day on Friday, May 12. For more information, to contribute or volunteer, stop by the April 3 meeting, or speak with Tribal Councilman Wilson Wewa Jr., Senior program director.

The Chehalis Tribe's Third Annual Elders Luncheon gathering is coming up Thursday, April 20, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Luncheon will be at the Lucky Eagle Casino in Rochester, Washington. Any questions, call Sam Boyd at 360-529-7839 or email: [sboyd@chehalistribe.org](mailto:sboyd@chehalistribe.org)

The community is invited to the **Family Summit** at the Warm Springs Academy, planned for next month. The Title I Family Engagement Night will be from 5 to 6:30 p.m. on April 27 at the Academy.

There will be family activities, food and education resources. No registration required. Hosted by the Confederated Tribes, Community Health programs, Reservation Impact, Papalaxsimisha, Native American Success, Warm Springs Recreation, the Community Action Team and others.

## Getting ready for skatepark opening

Workers are putting the finishing touches on the new Warm Springs Skatepark at Elmer Quinn Park. The concrete structure is impressive with a large skating deck area, quarter and half pipes, mini ramps, vertical ramps, spines and extensions, to use the skatepark terminology.

The project has been a volunteer and non-profit effort, bringing a new activity for the youth of the reservation, said Michael Collins, manager of tribal Managed Care. Mr. Collins has been the local lead person in coordinating the construction, working with Tactics skateboards and The Skatepark Project.

The new park replaces the previous wooden ramps that had been in place for almost 20 years. Some other added new features at the park will lights for nighttime skating, and a frisbee golf course.

The grand opening for the skatepark will be next Wednesday, March 29 at 11 a.m. There will be a blessing ceremony, guest speakers, the ribbon cutting, skateboard demonstrations, a DJ, food, giveaways and more.

Portland-based Tactics, a leader in the field, is a retail shop specializing in skateboards and snowboards, with a team dedicated to promoting these sports.

The Skatepark Project,



The construction team is putting some final touches on the new Elmer Quinn skatepark, ready for action next week.

founded by professional skater Tony Hawk and based in California, helps underserved communities create safe and inclusive public skateparks for youth.

There are many sponsors who have made the skatepark happen, including the Confederated Tribes and Jefferson County, and the generous groups mentioned on the Grand Opening flyer (page 2).

## Education Language Conference starts Sunday

The Healing Through Our Languages conference opens this Sunday, March 26 at the OSU Cascades Campus in Bend. The Confederated Tribes, Education and Culture and Heritage are hosting the event, with tribal language teachers and guests arriving from around the Northwest and California. The conference opens Sunday morning at 10 a.m. with Washut led by Dallas Winishut of Culture and Heritage, and friends.

On Sunday the conference will also host a field trip to the High Desert Museum, where a Northwest Native Art show—*Creations of Spirit*—is on display.

The Language conference opening prayer ceremony is at 4 p.m. Sunday, followed by posting of the colors, honor song, welcome dance, and opening speech by Valerie Switzler, the tribes' Education general manager. The Tribal Council chairman and other are also opening speakers before for the dinner at 6 p.m. in the OSU-Cascades cafeteria.

The conference language teaching and sharing sessions begin Monday morning, March 27. The morning keynote speaker will be Jeri Brunoe, youth leadership trainer, prevention specialist and consultant among many accomplishments.

The conference participants then meet in groups by conference topic category: Teacher to teacher; Linguistics Computer Technology; Youth Leadership; and Native Lifeways in Education. The group sessions are throughout the day, followed by dinner and an evening keynote speaker.

Brent Florendo, Academic Programs coordinator of Native American Studies at Southern Oregon University in Ashland, is the scheduled Tuesday morning keynote speaker of the conference. Following the day sessions on Tuesday there will be a salmon bake at the campus, and social dance with the Wasco Dancers and Swan Dancers.

JoDe Goudy, of Redthought.org and former Yakama Nation Council chairman, will give the morning keynote address on the final day of the conference. Wednesday morning will also feature the silent auction winners, closing ceremony, retirement of the flags and Farewell Dance.

If you would like to attend the Healing Through Our Languages conference, please contact Lori Switzler at 541-553-3290. Or email: [lori.switzler@wstribs.org](mailto:lori.switzler@wstribs.org)

Or contact Gina Ricketts at: [gricketts53@gmail.com](mailto:gricketts53@gmail.com)

Or email Valerie at: [valerie.wwitzler@wstribs.org](mailto:valerie.wwitzler@wstribs.org)

## Warm Springs case shows complex legal question in Indian Country

Legal jurisdiction in criminal cases that arise on tribal lands is a confusing subject, at times even for the experts in the field. This is because a number of unique legal factors come into play when a crime happens on tribal land. Some of these factors include whether the defendant is an Indian or non-Indian; whether the crime is major or minor; whether or not there is a victim of the crime, and whether the victim is Indian or non-Indian, for instance.

Some of the questions remain in dispute to this day, as shown by a case—still making its way through the court system—that happened in 2016 on the Warm Springs Reservation.

Jurisdiction refers to the power of a court over a particular person or matter. Criminal jurisdiction can be tribal, federal or state. Usually, for major crimes in Indian Country the jurisdiction is with the federal government, except in some cases when the suspect is non-Indian and the victim is non-Indian. Then the jurisdiction can be with the state court.

The case of *Johnny Ellery Smith v. the United States* presents another scenario that may end up at the U.S. Supreme

Court, as the case has already been ruled on by U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and then appealed by the defendant to the U.S. Supreme Court. The question involves criminal jurisdiction in Indian Country.

What happened was the defendant apparently attempted to elude police while on the reservation. Tribal police arrested the person, who was charged in federal court. He was charged with violating Oregon state laws. The point of contention is summarized as follows:

“The defendant filed a motion to dismiss the indictment on the ground that the federal government lacked jurisdiction to charge him in federal court for a state law violation alleged to have been committed by an Indian in Indian country.”

The case involves legal interpretations of the federal Assimilative Crimes Act; the federal General Crimes Act; and the federal Indian Country Crimes Act; plus the state law regarding fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer. After much litigation so far, the case is on appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, a clear indication of the complexity of criminal jurisdiction in Indian Country.



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