

Letters to the editor

Special guest

The Warm Springs YouthLine office will host a visit this Thursday, April 18, with Shelby Rowe, recognized suicide prevention expert. Mr. Rowe is a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation, inspirational speaker, mother, award-winning bead artist, and nationally recognized suicide prevention expert.

She is the program manager for the Suicide Prevention Resource Center at the Oklahoma University Health Science Center; and 2016 Chickasaw Nation Dynamic Woman of the Year.

A public intervention expert, and herself a suicide attempt survivor, Ms. Rowe has been a leader in the suicide prevention movement at the local, state and national levels since 2007.

If you would like to meet Shelby, please stop by the Warm Springs YouthLine Office, 1112 Wasco Street, between 2:30 and 3:30 this Thursday. Please RSVP to **Rosanna Jackson** at: RosannaJ@linesoflife.org

Social Security

Social Security is decreasing the default over-payment withholding rate for Social Security beneficiaries. The decrease is to 10 percent (or

\$10, whichever is greater) from 100 percent: This significantly reduces financial hardship on people with overpayments.

Sincerely, **Rose Alarcon**, Warm Springs office, Elders with Disabilities.

New program

Starting this summer, a new option will be available locally for a person wanting to become a nurse. The new program is a project of co-operation among the Oregon Health and Science University, St. Charles Health System and Central Oregon Community College.

The OHSU School of Nursing's Accelerated Bachelor of Science Program has opened a new location in Bend. The program will begin teaching its first group of eight Central Oregon-based students in July. More information is available on the OHSU School of Nursing website.

Community notes...

The **Culture and Heritage** Department has open class times to support the teaching of cultural crafts. It is open on Sundays, Mondays and Wednesdays from 1-5 p.m.; and from 1-7 p.m.

on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Projects could include wing dresses, ribbon shirts, moccasins, baskets and beadwork. Some materials are provided, and you can bring your own.

The tribes' Range and Agriculture Department will host a **horse teeth floating clinic**. The cost is \$25 per horse for tribal members. The clinic, provided by Oregon State University Veterinary School, is on Saturday, May 11 at the rodeo grounds. This is for halter broke horses only. For information and to reserve a spot call Suzi Miller at 541-553-2007.

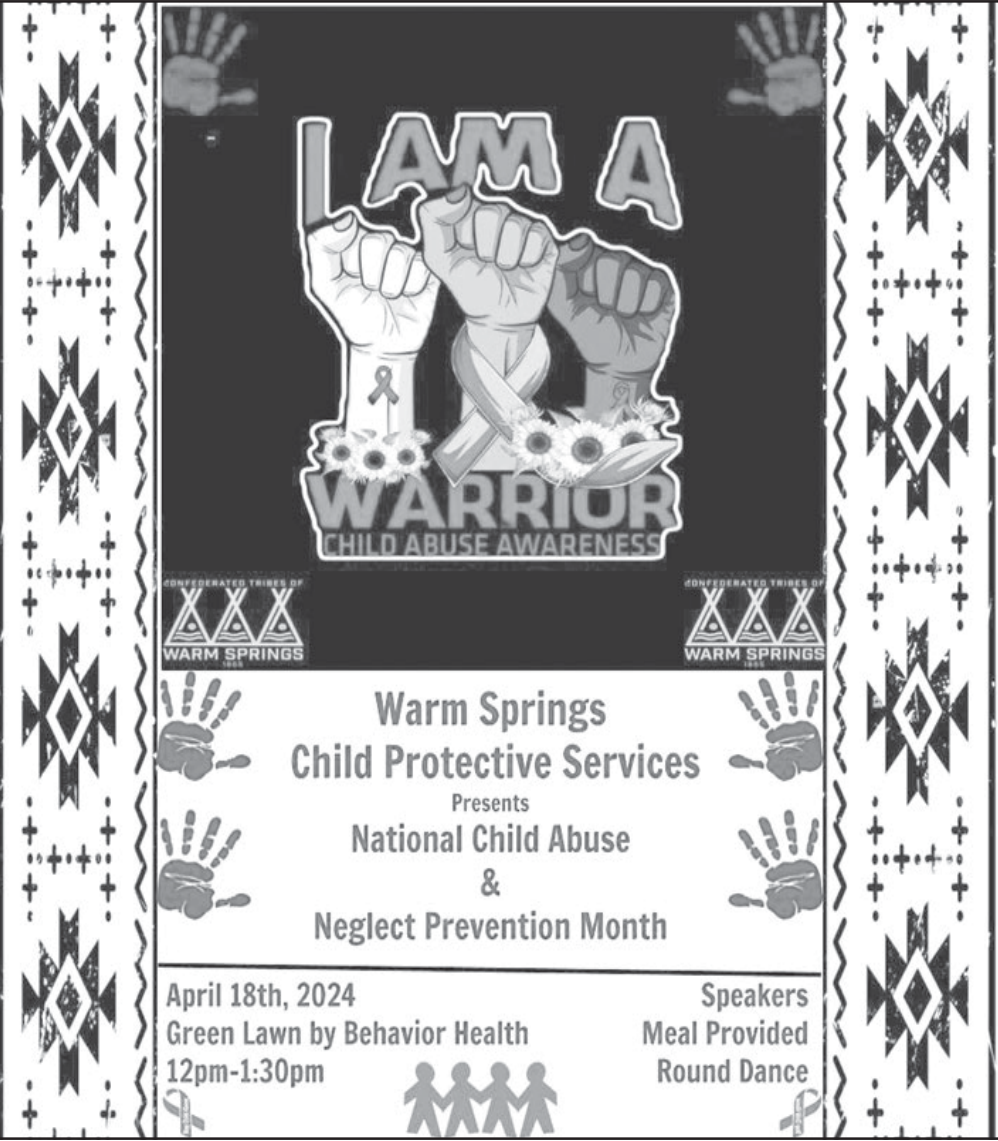
Birth

Thomas James Thunder Williams Charley
Leonard Y. Charley Sr. and Delberta P. Williams of Warm Springs are pleased to announce the birth of their son Thomas James Thunder Williams Charley, born on April 11, 2024.

Thomas joins brother Leonard Jr., 17, and Richard, 1 year and nine months; and sister Minnie, 3 years and four months.

Grandparents on the father's side are Timothy Barnett of Oklahoma; and Minnie L. Charley of Warm Springs.

Grandparents on the



mother's side are Warner Williams and Josie Williams, both of Warm Springs.

Automotive education

The Roots Automotive Technology program in Warm Springs is an opportunity for students earn high

school and college credit, while gaining hands-on skills in the automotive field. Courses are offered at no cost to the students.

A Central Oregon Community College instructor teaches the courses at the War Pony Training Center at the former vehicle pool garage.

Transportation to and

from the center is provided by the school district, and the program is open to both high school and Bridges students. This is a cooperative project of the Confederated Tribes, the Education Branch, the school district, and COCC.

Students who are interested should connect with his or her high school counselor.

!DATGUP IDUIHAMAX IKIAX!

MHS Language classes update ~

by Rain Circle

From Kiksht Class at Madras High School, It'ukdi wigwa! Atasinmawkst Aktmin is drawing to a close and the Native Language students are still hard at work in their classroom. The Native Language learning group at the high school is still doing great things and they continue to make long strides.

These kids are still balancing essential required classes with their newest sports changes. They are still juggling their social and home lives and whatever challenges in their daily routine, new and old, on top of learning one of the hardest languages there is to learn. And we haven't lost any learners to dropping the class, expulsion or academic issues. They make me proud.

Last month had an additional day for Kiksht and we were grateful for it. The skills of the Kiksht students continue to impress. It is of course the season for spring sports, so we will have to compete with away games and more than average sanctioned absences but I am sure we will manage.

So the classroom got

down: My ancestors, my male ancestors, my female ancestors, my/your/their mother, my/your/their father. My father's brother, my mother's brother, my father's sister, my mother's sister. My sister(s) (oldest, middle, youngest). My brother(s) (oldest, middle, youngest).

My brother's son, my sister's son. My brother's daughter. My sister's daughter. And if that seems like a lot? Pheeeewww! It is.

In Wasq'u kinship it really does have to be thought of like it is worded previously. When one puts the straight forward way of ancient speaking, and the intramarrying among Wasq'u tribes Wima/ba, the need to define the relationship between oneself and others, or others to others, would be quick in the Kiksht method, whereas the Bushtanxul version of "once removed, twice" etc. is just as confusing and complex but in their way.

What I am most excited to let you in on is the Madras High School EOY—End Of Year—Kiksht Final Showcase Presentation, KFSP.

See, towards the end of

the last school year at the Warm Springs Academy, there was a Knowledge Bowl for the Native Language students to compete in. But the Madras High School participation was low because of a myriad of conflicting issues, and it was voluntary for the high school students.

I put the Knowledge Bowl to my students as an option and they were concerned with End of Year Madras High School final testing conflicts; and a date for the Warm Springs Academy Knowledge Bowl hasn't been set, so rather than be at the whims of others, we decided to have our own showcase.

Actually, 'we' is a bit of a stretch. It was me, I decided that my people weren't going to finish the year without being able to demonstrate to themselves and others what we have learned together this school year.

It is the rookie year for Numu and Kiksht at the high school. This is the first time in the high school history that

specifically the Wasq'u people have a class to re-acquire their voice.

There were Native American groups at the high school up until at least the 1970s. Then through the '80s and '90s that interest and support waned, and now we are rebuilding that tribal diversity with less pan-Indianism and more specificity in Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs ethnic groups. There is cultural and ethnic diversity in our tribe, and it starts with the languages and the rest will follow from there.

What motivated me to have my students present their knowledge in an intimate showcase, versus a Knowledge Bowl, was the complexity of the Kiksht Awawat and some of the Ichishkiin Elders I worked with on the Ichishkiin Dictionary.

They told me, and I have heard it from other sources that feasts, name givings etc. were very much a family affair, even into the 1960s, so why not do the same with language exposition. The way we showcase our Ichishkiin,

Numu and Kiksht students is unheard of in most schools but and is very much a community event but it really doesn't show the complexity of Kiksht nor does it demonstrate conversational Ichishkiin, Numu and Kiksht abilities. That's where the Kiksht Final Showcase Presentation comes in. Now, if you're thinking 'I want to watch that Kiksht Final Presenation,' I would have to say, 'Learn the Kiksht Awawat with the tribes' Culture and Heritage Department. And you can live it every single day.'

There is a *music* to Kiksht, a melody in the words so to say, and in a Knowledge Bowl situation all we are getting is that song one 'musical note' at a time and not always in the right order... So we end up missing out on the beauty of the song. There is a syllable emphasis in words that is easy to pass over in one-word answers, there is a beat

that is missed in not using distils and adjectives that leave a listener wanting. And most importantly, the place isn't filled with the discernable word sounds that make that link to our ancestors, who created this language for us, the knowledge which we have squandered for the words of the colonies.

So here is what the Kiksht Final Showcase Presentation is going to look like. The order of events:

Introductions: All self-translate Kiksht to Bashtenxul.

First student: Day/ month and self intro.

Next array of students: Self introductions.

Last student introduces the Kiksht teacher.

Regional History of the Wasco People: Information taken from our Kanamdmax assignment.

(Continues on page 7)

JOIN US APRIL 18, 2023

MEET SHELBY ROWE

APRIL 18, 2024 2:30-3:30 PM

YOUTHLINE OFFICE: 1112 WASCO ST

MS. ROWE IS THE PROGRAM MANAGER FOR THE SUICIDE PREVENTION RESOURCE CENTER AT THE OU HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER, AND THE 2016 CHICKASAW NATION DYNAMIC WOMAN OF THE YEAR. A PUBLIC INTERVENTION EXPERT, AND SUICIDE ATTEMPT SURVIVOR, MS. ROWE HAS BEEN A LEADER IN THE SUICIDE PREVENTION MOVEMENT AT THE LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL LEVEL SINCE 2007.

RSVP TO ROSANNA JACKSON RosannaJ@linesforlife.org



Courtesy Butch David

The YouthBuild working this spring on the reservation included Julian Rosales, William Clements Jr. and Ulysses Suppah (above). Heart of Oregon Corps YouthBuild helps young people transform their lives and roles in society through earning a GED, high school diploma, or college credits, learning job skills, and serving their community through a variety of projects. For more information talk with Butch; or call 541-633-7834 or 541-306-3703.

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