

Letters to the editor and opion

For the MAC

Having the Madras Aquatic Center, the MAC, and the Madras Aquatic Center Recreation District makes Jefferson County a better place to live. We are a happier, healthier and safer place to live with the MAC and MAC recreation district. We will be voting 'yes' on both measures to support the Madras Aquatic Center Recreation District this May. Our family has benefited from the Madras Aquatic Center through swimming laps for exercise, attending exercise classes, and participating in every MAC Dash sprint triathlon that was held at the MAC. Our children have greatly benefited from MACRD in many ways. All three of our children learned to swim in that pool from the swim instructors and have had the opportunity to compete on the Madras Swim Team. The school district and MACRD work together to provide swim lessons and water safety to the second and third graders in our schools. With access to the lakes, rivers, creeks, ponds, and pools all over Central Oregon, knowing how to swim is an incredibly impor-

tant and lifesaving skill each person should have. The MAC is also a field trip destination for many students in our district. Several birthday parties have been held at the MAC and a wonderful time has been had by all. The MACRD gives us a safe and healthy option for recreation. Flag football, soccer, and basketball are all sports our children and countless others have competed in through the MACRD. The MACRD has provided the opportunity for employment for many teenagers in Jefferson County through lifeguarding, refereeing youth sports, and other jobs. It is completely understandable that people have been frustrated with some of the issues the MACRD has experienced over the years and some of the changes that had to occur to keep this place open. However, we truly believe that Jefferson County is a better place to live with the MACRD open and serving the people of our county. We will be voting Yes and Yes on both measures to support the MACRD this May. Cody and Sara Kollen

A thank you for fishing class

Papalaxsimisha would like to take the time to acknowledge and give a huge thank you to the Youth Salmon Hook and Line Fishing Class 2025 instructor Jeremy Thomas for his time, effort, knowledge, dedication, patience and follow-through with this class. Once Jeremy agreed to put this class on, he hit the ground running with all of the details he put into it, as well as advocating for the youth. We would also like to give a big Thank You to Jordan Holliday, Owen Danzuka Sr., Owen Danzuka Jr. and Erland Suppah Jr. for their time, patience, knowledge and all of the help they offered to the youth as well, whether in the classroom or on the river. Thank you all for being good to our youth while teaching them, and for being happy for them and their experience. We'd also like to acknowledge and thank the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Fish and Wildlife Committee, and Mark



At Tribal Council last week: The blanket presentation for outgoing Council members Jim Manion (above), Wilson Wewa (right) and Rosa Graybael (not pictured).

Manion for their support, as well as Reina Estimo, Thomas Medina, and the Warm Springs Community Action Team for arranging and providing transportation for youth. And last but not least, a huge Thank You to the youth and their families for joining the class! An opportunity like this is just as important and critical for our youth and families as school and sports. As many of you know,

you can't learn everything about fishing in two days, but you can learn something. Our hope is that every single youth enjoyed the class and their experience, and will carry something that they've learned for the rest of their lives and can pass it on to others as well. The classroom day was a long day and a bit too hot and crowded and confined. Then once these kids were on the river it was a whole different story.

Being outside, rainy, overcast, sunshine, cold, hot, wind... open, free and fresh air, interacting with each other, helping each other, laughter, patience, kicking back on the rocks, many came out of their shells and it was just a whole other vibe and it was pretty amazing to witness. Their fishing story is theirs to tell, but overall, it was a beautiful day out on the big river together. Papalaxsimisha.

On View
This Summer!

"Saddle Up:
Ranchers and Rodeo Life
of The Confederated
Tribes of Warm Springs"

June 26 - Sept. 27, 2025





Youth Salmon Hook and Line Fishing Class 2025.

Reminder to
please report
smelt catch

Tribal members are reminded to report your smelt catch from this year's Cowlitz and Sandy rivers fishing season.

Please report the catch to the harvest manager. He can be reached at 541-460-0272 or by email at: mark.manion@ctwsbnr.org

From the tribes regarding resort application to county board

Dear Commissioners: I am writing on behalf of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs of the Reservation of Oregon, a federally-recognized, sovereign Indian tribe and legal successor-in-interest to the Indian signatories of the Treaty of June 25, 1855, with the Tribes of Middle Oregon, 12 Stat. 963. The Tribe is a party to this land use proceeding and intends to participate in the

remand hearing, ordered by LUBA on February 26, 2025, to protect its treaty-reserved fishing rights. We have reviewed the Notice of Public Hearing, dated April 9, 2025, to assure that we are given meaningful opportunity to be heard in a manner consistent with the Court of Appeals clear direction in *Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon v. Deschutes County*. We wish to raise two

important issues affecting our due process rights. The May 7, 2025 hearing date was set without consulting the Tribe. The hearing date is scheduled for the same week that we are seating the Thirtieth Tribal Council. This will make it difficult for us to prepare for, and participate in, the hearing, in a manner befitting its importance to our people. As a matter of inter-governmental comity, the Tribe asks

that the Board consider rescheduling the hearing to the first week of June 2025 so that we may adequately prepare and participate in the remand hearing. We also observe that the Court of Appeals provided the following instruction for this remand hearing: "...we highlight that remand will allow an opportunity for the Tribe to present evidence of indigenous expertise and knowledge for the board's consideration that the Tribe asserts it did not have adequate time to present due to its late involvement in the proceedings." We, thus, ask that the Board exercise its discretion to modify its hearing time limits and to allow 30 minutes for testimony to be provided by the Tribe consistent with the court's clear direction. We also request that the Board re-open the record to receive the evidence that the Tribe is allowed to present on remand. If you have any questions, please have your legal counsel contact our counsel, Ellen Grover and Josh Newton. Thank you in advance for considering our requests. Sincerely, Jonathan W. Smith Sr., Chairman for Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon.

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4pm

&

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