

Letters to the editor

Agency District meeting on August 14

The Agency District will host a district meeting starting at 3 p.m. on Thursday, August 14 at the Agency Longhouse. Dinner will be at 5:30 p.m., and the meeting continues after the meal. Some of the issues on the district meeting agenda:

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs priorities. The Adoption referendum, and the Cannabis referendum.

Museum membership drive in August

The Museum at Warm Springs is holding their annual membership drive during the month of August.

Last year's membership drive raised more than \$19,000, tripling their membership.

In 2025 and for the foreseeable future the Museum at Warm Springs is continuing to focus on 'renewal' of our museum—both exterior and interior spaces.

"This past spring it became apparent that we desperately needed a new roof," said Elizabeth Woody, museum executive director.

"Patching and other quick fixes were not doing the job anymore, so we reached a decision that we needed to do something as quickly as possible in order to protect our exhibits and priceless collections and archives from

potential, irreversible damage."

With the generous support of the museum boards of directors and regents, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, foundation partners—the Ford Family Foundation, the Roundhouse Foundation, and Oregon Community Foundation and Oregon Community Foundation—and individual donors, the museum was able to quickly secure funding to make this important project possible.

Annual museum memberships start at \$25 and are tax deductible as allowable by law. All members receive free admission for one year, 10-percent discount in the Museum Gift Shop, special invitations to exhibits and programs, and access to Oregon Historical Society's reciprocal membership program, with free admission to a different Oregon museum each month. Visit the museum website for information.

Legal services

Free legal clinics are coming up in Warm Springs in October and November.

The clinics will be from 9 a.m. to noon at the Warm Springs Community Action Team office. If you qualify for services, the clinic can help with:

Expungement of a conviction. Tenant rights. Employee rights. Protection from domestic violence.

Many thanks you for help with incredible Japan journey

To all my supporters,

My 10-day trip to Japan was an incredible journey and very insightful experience. It was in part of Madras High school under the guidance of Mr. Ian Garrett.

But it was the help of many with the purchases from my fundraiser efforts as well as donations towards this trip for which I am ever grateful.

Thank you to my par-

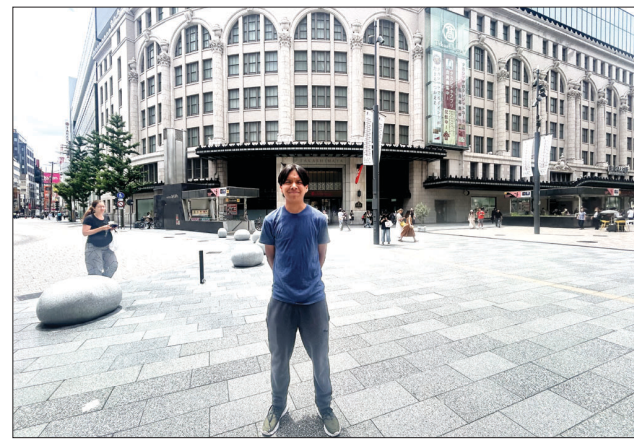


ents, Shayla and Jarvis Stwyer, for taking on this effort within a six-month time frame to reach my goal for this educational trip.

I reached out for sponsorship donations and am thankful to Indian Head Casino for their contribution, and another extended gratitude to Power & Water Enterprise for their help towards my trip. Many more pictures have been taken but here are a few to share from an unforgettable experience.

Thanks again to one and all with any help that contributed to my unforgettable trip to Japan.

Julian M. Stwyer



Public benefits. Bankruptcy. Wills. To make an appointment call 541-668-8352 or email:

lauren.guicheteau@lasoregon.org

Walk-ins are welcome but may need to wait. The legal assistance is provided by Legal Aid Services of Oregon, a non-profit law firm that offers free civil legal services to low-income people.

Court letters of apology

I am writing this letter to express my sincerest apologies for my actions in the beginning of June, when I got pulled over for drinking and driving behind the wheel while intoxicated, and fully understand that my behavior also put others at risk. For that I am truly

sorry. I take full responsibility for my actions and am committed to making things right. I am taking full responsibility for my behaviors and am working diligently to make amends. Sincerely, **Jarron Lopez.**

I am writing to express my sincere apology for my recent actions regarding driving under the influence. I un-

derstand that my behavior was not only against the law, but a betrayal to my community. There are no excuses for what I did, and I take full responsibility for my poor judgment. I recognize that my actions could have had devastating consequences. And I am grateful that no one was hurt as a result of my mistake. Sincerely, **Moses Gilbert.**

For the 2025 Community Wellness Center Baseball Camp

The Community Wellness Center staff would like to thank all participants of the 2025 baseball camp held in July at the ball fields (as in the photo):

Mason Caldera age 11, Zatsto Clements age 11, Ross Kalama age 9, Rudy Clements age 8, Ryden Medina age 10, Gabrielle So happy age 10, Roy Heath age 10, Deshaun Palmer age 8, Roman Thomas 10, Ryker



(Not pictured, Reyson Miller, coaches Richard and T-Mac.

Johnson 10, Raysen Miller 11, Don Pichard 8 and Rac Pichard 10.

The camp was to improve the basics of fielding, catching and throwing, hitting and running bases.

The instructors were Daniel Lawrence Sr., Richard Wolfe Sr. and Theron McDonald (T-Mac).

Cooks were Carol Sahme and Shaun Sohapp.

Big jackpot at Indian Head Casino

A lucky guest from Portland hit it big at Indian Head Casino, taking home a Wide Area Progressive Jackpot of \$52,172.54 while playing the Dollar Storm Pirate Machine.

Eldar M., visiting from Portland, won the jackpot on July 29, with a \$2 bet at \$20 a spin. The popular Dollar Storm series is known for its fast-paced play and life-changing payouts—and this jackpot certainly delivered.

"We love celebrating big wins with our guests," said Shawn McDaniel, Indian Head Casino general manager. "Seeing someone take home over fifty thousand dollars on a single spin is a great reminder of how much fun and excitement there is on our casino floor. Congratulations to Eldar!"

Indian Head Casino



Winner, Eldar M.

features a mix of slot machines, blackjack, and the recently added craps and roulette. The casino also hosts outdoor summer concerts, with the final show of the season featuring Original KISS Guitarist Ace Frehley on Saturday, August 9.

For more information about Indian Head Casino, gaming, and upcoming events, visit indianheadcasino.com

New chair for Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

Ashton Picard, Nez Perce, recently was sworn in as the new Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission chair. Mr. Picard succeeds Jeremy Takala, Yakama, who served as chair since last July.

"Ashton brings a thoughtful and grounded approach to the commission table," Ms. Takala said. "His reverence for the teachings of our elders and the voices of our youth are fundamental parts of his leadership that I both appreciate and expect will bring great strength to his time in this role."

Picard was elected to the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee in 2023, and currently serves as chair of the tribe's Natural Resource Subcommittee. He was appointed to serve as a CRITFC commissioner shortly after being elected to the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee.

With the year-long term as chair ahead—each member tribe rotates the chair position swearing in a new tribal leader each July—Picard considers what first



J. Gavin/CRITFC

Ashton Picard raises his right hand and recites oath of office during his swearing-in at the Clearwater River Resort & Casino. Jeremy Takala led Picard in his oath of office, as his last official duty as CRITFC chair before moving into his position as treasurer.

drew him into public service in preparation for his new role.

As chair he will be continuing a family legacy of CRITFC service. During the previous Nez Perce rotation of the chair position, his uncle Ferris Paisano served as chair. His brother Andre Picard also sits as a CRITFC commissioner.

"I was told by my elders that it's time for younger people to begin stepping up

into leadership. I was also told that if I waited much longer that I would no longer be that youthful voice," Picard said.

"That really stuck with me and I want to make sure the concerns of the younger tribal members are being heard and I will do my best to bring that perspective to the table while honoring the wisdom of our elders."

Fisher from a fishing family

Though only a few years of experience in tribal and CRITFC leadership, his relationship with Xuyelp—the Nez Perce name for the Columbia River—stems back to his childhood. Picard began fishing the Columbia as a young man with his father and uncles. He credits the experiences he had on those fishing trips for not only building a lasting connection and relationship with the river.

"I remember being a kid down at Zone 6 fishing sites and seeing CRITFC Enforcement check in," he said, "It helped me understand that our fish and wildlife commissions and CRITFC work hand-in-hand. That was my first glimpse into what CRITFC means to our people."

Picard shared that his upbringing, cultural teachings, and experiences all guide his decision-making for the resources and the tribal members who rely on them: "By listening and learning, I hope to be an advocate for the river and all the living beings who depend on it."

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