The Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center on Tuesday of this week tested a new case of Covid-19 in the community. This was out of 119 tests conducted.

People with these symptoms may please stay home.

The team working on the Warm Springs jail project have identified a potential preferred site for the future facility. The Warm Springs Community Health and Wellness Center has conducted a total of 18,126 vaccinations and has returned positive among community members.

Vaccination, testing, and protocols are key in the fight against the current wave of the Omicron covid variant, the booster especially so. Blood samples taken a month after a booster showed people harbored levels of omicron-neutralizing antibodies that were similar to amounts proven protective against earlier variants after two doses. “The emergence of Omicron further emphasizes the importance of vaccination and boost- ers,” according to a January U.S. Centers for Disease Control report.

Because of a staffing shortage due to the current wave, Indian Health Service also had to close to the public. The current tribal vaccination center shut-down calls for the regular work to resume on Monday, January 17. Listen to KSUY 91.9 for the latest updates.

New jail project now in sitting phase

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The goal of the district is to keep all schools open, and this has been successful since the beginning of the school year 2022-23. However, in the present circumstances: “In partnership with the Confeder- al Tribes, 509’s has determined to Tribal Council and their Covid-19 taskforce for protocols to prevent individuals against covid throughout the pandemic on tribal lands,” Mr. Matheson said.

Shut down.

Please call the clinic at 541-553-1196, or the refill hotline at 541-553-2610 to verify lab orders are safe, the clinic staff will continue

As of earlier this week, two tribal members have been hospitalised with Covid-19.

Preparing to conduct the initial Covid-19 test. Preparations by wearing a face mask and maintaining distance from others, and please get vac- cinated. And during the current wave, the booster is more impor- tant than ever.

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Council seeks to fill Election, Counting board positions

The Twenty-Eighth Tribal Council of the Confederated Tribes seeks to fill positions on the tribal Elections and Counting boards. The tribal member positions are:

One Counting Board member;

and one Election Board alternate.

The candidate should be community-oriented, and possess a positive rapport with the community. The candidate must have an interest in the tribal culture and heritage; and understanding and appreciation of and capability to interpret the traditional activities of the community. And the candidate should possess some understanding of the tribal organization and functions.

If the candidate is an employee of the Confederated Tribes, the person should have the approval of the supervisor to serve on the board. The approval should be submitted with the application. If you are interested in serving, letters of interest and resume should be submitted no later than January 18, 2022. You can drop off at the tribal administration building, addressed to Glendon Smith, Secretary-Treasurer. Or send by mail to Glendon Smith, 8-F, P.O. Box 455, Warm Springs OR 97761. Or submit by email: gsmith@wstribes.org

Please sign a criminal background check:

Forms are available at the Management area at administration; or can be mailed to you. Information will be submitted confidentially to the Secretary-Treasurer.

SHUTDOWN

“In alliance with Warm Springs and the Task Force recommendation, there will be no school for students attending the K-8 Academy through Friday, January 14.”

The decision to close the school down was not made lightly, Mr. Mathisen said, adding:

“Current numbers of COVID-related absences for students and staff are not driving this decision. We are making this decision as good partners with the tribes while they take precautionary measures to slow the spread of the highly contagious Omicron variant.”

Last school year, 2020-21, saw the extended closures of the schools of the district, requiring distance learning. Shorter closures—a week, for instance—would not require this approach.

The teachers can make assignments for the closure days, keeping in touch with students as the week progresses. Without question, Mathisen said, the goal of the district is to have in-person learning in the classroom throughout the school year.

WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH, THE TOUGH GET VACCINATED.

COVID fatigue is the biggest threat to keeping Oregon schools open and kids safe this winter. But, getting vaccinated is just one of 11 health and safety measures we can take to protect what’s most important. Find out more at Oregon.gov/ready schools.
Currently, voting districts of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs are planning to hold Tribal Council nominations on Thursday, February 3. Simnasho District nominations will be at the Simnasho Longhouse; and Seekeepeka at the Feast Hall. For Agency, the Woosah Chief is considering nominations by written form as a precaution during the pandemic. More details will be shared ahead of nomination time. Covid protocol applies. The Tribal Council election is planned for the start of April.

**Summary of Tribal Council —**

**January 5, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Raymond Trumpey Sr. Roll call: Chief Delvis Heath, Glendon Smith, Chief Joseph Moses, Anita Jackson, Vice Chair Brandon McGuire, Lucille Ja Sappah, Wilson Wewa Jr., Raymond Captains Moody, Minnie Yale, Recorder.

- **10 a.m.:** Update with Said Amah.
- **11 a.m.:** Agenda amendment from Tribal Council.
- **Motion by Big Red approving Water Treatment Plant update at 1:30 p.m.**
  - **Big Red/yes, Anita/yes, Chief/yes, Joe/no, Delvis/yes, Anthony/yes, Brigette/yes, Wilson/yes/yes, Joe/yes, Chief/yes, Joe/no, Delvis/yes, Anthony/yes, Brigette/yes, Wilson/yes/yes, Joe/yes, Chief/yes, Joe/no, Delvis/yes, Anthony/yes, Brigette/yes, Wilson/yes/yes.**

**Motion carried.**

- **1:30 p.m.**
  - **Provisional update with Libby Class.
  - **11 a.m.:** Update with Louie Pitt.
  - **1:30 p.m.:** Finance update with Isaac Buchanan.

**11 a.m.:** QLife discussion.

*For more information on getting masks, contact the Tribal Veterinarian Office.*

**Frankie Williams, W.S.**

**Veterinary Representative**

**FRANKIE WILLIAMS, W.S. VETERINARIAN REPRESENTATIVE**

**From the desk of the Veterans Service Officer**

**Ranking masks: Good, better and best**

Health officials and experts are increasingly saying it’s time to upgrade your face masks, especially in light of the omicron surge. With the increasing airborne spread of the coronavirus, it’s important to improve the fit of masks and their filtration-making enhancements that go beyond cloth, loose, cloth face coverings that have become popular since the pandemic began in 2020.

Since omicron is perhaps twice as infectious, an encounter that you could have tolerated for delta may well infect you with omicron. Knowing this, it’s worth upgrading the protection you get from your mask.

Here’s the latest advice from leading health officials, ranking the protectiveness of certain kinds of masks.

**Best masks**

- The best masks are N95, KN95 and KF94 masks. Don’t wear an additional face covering on top of these masks.

**Better masks**

- Less effective, but still better than cloth masks alone, are surgical masks—commonly called blue masks because there’s usually a blue tinted color on the outside of the mask.

They can be made more effective by placing a cloth mask over the surgical mask, which make the fit of the face covering better. Officials don’t recommend wearing two surgical masks.

There’s no magic formula if it is wet or dirty or after a day of use, whichever comes first.

Gaps around the sides of a surgical mask make them less protective than a tighter-fitting mask.

With gaps, air that has virus particles can easily leak in or out around the sides of the mask.

Good health workers say look for the following properties:

- Two layers of tightly woven cotton with a third layer of non-woven fabric. The third layer could be a mask filter made of a synthetic fabric such as polypropylene.
- None white to reduce gaps from the nose.
- Adjustable ear loops or strips that go around the head to reduce gaps from the face.
- Face coverage that ensures these properties should not be used in high-risk situations if other options are available.

Examples of less-effective face coverings are multi-layer cloth masks, bandanas and gaiters.

Still, any cloth mask is better than no mask at all.

**Why masks are important**

People who are vaccinated and have received their booster are less likely to suffer a severe reaction. Examples of less-effective face coverings are multi-layer cloth masks, bandanas and gaiters.

Still, any cloth mask is better than nothing at all.

People do get infected, they are more likely to show either no symptoms or only mild symptoms.

Nonetheless, vaccinated, boosted people remain the least likely to suffer a severe reaction. Unvaccinated people have the highest chance of getting infected and being hospitalized with Covid-19.

**For more information on getting masks, contact the Tribal Veterinarian Office.**

**Frankie Williams, W.S.**

**Veterinary Representative**
Great for youth

Dear Warm Springs Families and Community,

You may recall that we have opened 16 to 24 years who needs extra support in school, a vocational school, or trade school. Applications can be completed and turned in at the Tribal Office. The Warm Springs Indian Federal Tribal Health Program is looking for young people who have a heart for giving back to their community.

With YouthBuild, the student can earn a paycheck, receive valuable work experience, and develop their career post-school.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Action Team tax help

The Heart of Oregon Corps’ Young Adult Corps Tax Program is an opportunity for young people who have a heart for giving back to their community.

The program offers tax preparation services to help individuals and families navigate the complexities of filing taxes.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Tribe law

Josiah George Thompson, 35 years old, who grew up in Warm Springs, was killed in a vehicle accident during the weekend of January 20, 2021 in Warm Springs.

Josiah was survived by:

His two young children
His sister
His brother
His parents
His maternal grandparents
His paternal grandparents
His aunts and uncles
His cousins
His friends

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions be made to the Josiah Thompson Scholarship Fund.

Flu is still circulating, and you still have time to get protected against it. Now is the time. This is because low flu activity means less protection against the flu. With flu season being later than usual this year, we don’t have the precautions we had last year—kids are in schools and businesses are open.

Based on this year’s flu season, we urge you to get vaccinated against the flu, and if you can, get a COVID-19 vaccination at the same time. This will help prevent flu and reduce the risk of hospitalization and death.

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They made a difference for the tribes

Boulder on Jackson Trail Road blocking traffic last week.

**Nooksack disenrollment controversy**

**EVERSUND, Wash. — The Nooksack Indian Tribe are removing 300 people from tribal enrollment rolls. They claim to have been working with many people facing home eviction. To make matters more difficult, this happens in winter, and during the pandemic.**

The tribal council were called on to enforce the evictions. Educational, health and social services and financial stipends are also denied to those who are disenrolled, along with those who are associated with them, in a loss of sense of community.

The disenrolled Nooksack members are now petitioning the federal government to intervene. “On the face of it, for sure we want sovereignty,” said Melissa Roberts, an expedited Nooksack member who is also from the state's sovereign nation. “I couldn’t say it any better. It’s a tool to help people and take advantage of the system, to kick them out of their tribe or to take any kind of service or anything away from them, that’s what it means to be an Indian tonight.”

The tribe includes about 2,000 members. The tribe's labor union and a small reservation, bringing in revenue from a casino, convenience store and agricul-
ture. The right to fish salmon along the Nooksack River is a matter serious to the Nooksack Nation.

The Nooksack situation is not unique to Indian Country. A number of tribes have moved in recent years to cut their membership rolls. The process involves screening family trees, and naturalization, or having to show evidence of Indian heritage. This can be a difficult, challenging task for those deemed to have insufficient tribal heritage. This can lead to the loss of job opportunities and tribal benefits. The Nooksack situation is not unique to Indian Country. A number of tribes have moved in recent years to cut their membership rolls.

For the health and safety of the membership, Tribal Council approved a temporary shelter at the gymnasium for the Nooksack elementary school.

**Park for day use only**

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**Record large sturgeon at Idaho**

In three decades of capturing and tagging white sturgeon, researchers with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game have counted more than 4,000 fish. Of those, fewer than ten have made their way back into the fishery. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game has set up a temporary shelter in Hells Canyon. The research team has focused on tagging white sturgeon. The sampling work had caught one that big in more than five years.

Then live name was changed in the name of the sturgeon fish. The sturgeon fish was caught in a fish pond in the state of Washington. The sturgeon fish was released back into the river. The sturgeon fish was then tagged with a unique number. The number was 105. The number was 105. The number was 105. The number was 105.

**Oregon's southernmost glacier may be gone**

Until recently, Oregon's southernmost glacier was on Mount Thielsen, an extinct volcano known in the Cascade Range, east of Mount Shasta. Oregon's southernmost glacier was on Mount Thielsen, an extinct volcano known in the Cascade Range, east of Mount Shasta. Oregon's southernmost glacier was on Mount Thielsen, an extinct volcano known in the Cascade Range, east of Mount Shasta. Oregon's southernmost glacier was on Mount Thielsen, an extinct volcano known in the Cascade Range, east of Mount Shasta. Oregon's southernmost glacier was on Mount Thielsen, an extinct volcano known in the Cascade Range, east of Mount Shasta. Oregon's southernmost glacier was on Mount Thielsen, an extinct volcano known in the Cascade Range, east of Mount Shasta. Oregon's southernmost glacier was on Mount Thielsen, an extinct volcano known in the Cascade Range, east of Mount Shasta. Oregon's southernmost glacier was on Mount Thielsen, an extinct volcano known in the Cascade Range, east of Mount Shasta. 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From VOS in recognition of Awareness Month

This month marks National Stalking Awareness Month—the annual call to action is recognizing and responding to the serious crime of Stalking. The awareness month—now in its 25th year—carries greater significance to Native American communities, where approximately half of American Indian women have experienced stalking in their lifetimes according to the National Institute of Justice.

If you have questions or concerns regarding this subject, please call VOS Rape Crisis Center at 341-553-2283. Or email Michele Gonzales at mgonzalez@vostreas.org

The general definition of stalking is behavior that causes a reasonable person to fear harm. First, the definition can differ among states because individual states define the crime themselves. Among tribes because individual tribes define the crime themselves.

The percentage for female victims being stalked by a current romantic partner was 49% and 43% for black women. Of all stalking cases, 51% of women and 39% of men were stalked by someone they knew or with whom they had a relationship, according to the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, completed by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention—CDC.

To find out more about stalking, or to find resources in your area, visit the National Domestic Violence Hotline website: 1-800-799-SAFE or www.thelifeline.org.

The hotline is available at 1-844-743-5678. The hotline is open 24 hours every day.

Signs of stalking
Signs of stalking can be subtle sending unwanted gifts or messages; following you to work or school; showing up unexpectedly; and persistent phone calls, repeatedly calling or texting; sometimes calling and hanging up or qouting the phone while you are on the line.
The Warm Springs Community Action Team just received funding to continue the Youth Murals Project, an opportunity for young people to design, paint and maintain murals around the tribal community. The unique and colorful mural on the Campus basketball court is a great example. The $25,000 grants come from the Oregon Community Foundation.

Tananáwit grant, and others

The artist co-op arm of the Action team—Tananáwit—also received $5,000 from the Community Foundation Arts and Culture Recovery Fund. The grant will support artists who have been hit hard by the Covid-19 pandemic. The Warm Springs Community Action Team began Tananáwit in 2013. The co-op has since opened a shop and an e-commerce site to help market its artists’ work. Some other notable recipients of the recent Community Foundation grants:

- The Columbia River Institute for Indigenous Development received funding to help establish a program to document, preserve and teach the Native language Ichishkeen. Columbia River Institute for Indigenous Development originally created the program as an in-person teaching class, led by Elders to spread the language and culture to youth. There are perhaps only 10 Ichishkeen speakers remaining in Warm Springs. The Covid-19 pandemic has made the situation worse, as the speakers are elders. The recent grant will support Elders working from home, helping establish technical skills to teach language classes in an online format.

- The Jefferson County Cultural Commission received funding through the Oregon Community Foundation, along with the other 35 county cultural coalitions in Oregon. In the past, they’ve given grants to local school districts, the Jefferson County Historical Society, the Jefferson County Library District, Madras High School Key Club, and the Madras Saturday Market. They’re still in process of distributing grants for 2022. OCF grants have funded hundreds of organizations across the state. This year the grants range from all 36 county cultural commissions, and all nine federally recognized tribes, and to over 100 art and culture non-profits. OCF grants have funded hundreds of organizations across the state. This year the grants range from all 36 county cultural commissions, and all nine federally recognized tribes, and to over 100 art and culture non-profits.

The Warm Springs Love Income Home Energy Assistance program offers financial assistance with home energy costs for those eligible. There is currently funding to assist with furnace, wood stove and heat pump repairs. Contact Warm Springs Social Services at 541-553-2930 to learn more.

Tribal veterans are invited to take advantage of a free weekly transport service. Please call 541-408-4147 for information.

Covid-19 community case demographics, as of January 5, 2022

As of January 5 date, there had been a total of 1,397 confirmed covid cases in the community since the pandemic began. There have been 28 total confirmed covid deaths in the community since the start of the pandemic in early 2020. Ninety-five people have been hospitalized with the virus since that time. As of the January 5, 2022 update: There was one hospitalization, in-patient, with Covid 19. A more recent report shows there are two hospitalizations.

Place of Exposure: Boosted Breakthrough Cases 1.3.2022

You can get free help for additional services by calling Tribal/IHS clinics and non-tribal providers, hospitals, pharmacies and more. If you’re a member of a federally recognized tribe, you can sign up anytime, year-round. If you qualify, your insurance may even be free.
See Sea lion removal at Bonneville

Seventy-six salmon-eating California sea lions have been lethally removed at Bonneville dam over the past five years.

The federal government adopted the lethal removal policy after realizing several years ago that the non-lethal stunning method was ineffective.

Tribes and states have implemented the lethal removal policy.

The sea lions are not native to the area and have been considered a threat to the salmon fishery each spring, according to fisheries studies.

The federal government adopted the lethal removal policy after realizing several years ago that the non-lethal stunning method was ineffective.

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma Department of Fish and Wildlife has ended with a lawsuit by 20 Indian nations and the State of Montana.

The federal government adopted the lethal removal policy after realizing several years ago that the non-lethal stunning method was ineffective.