

Reader responds to jail concerns

Thanks for the comfort

Dear People,

I have been troubled in my mind about my father dying. And then I think back to the funeral home in Madras. I was only permitted to stay for an hour or so.

And in that hour I was feeling real good for the remaining day and night. I was sad because of the reason I was there, but the people that were there made me feel so good. I was a little ashamed at the way

I was, but I overcame that real soon.

And it is those people that I would like to thank for all the comfort that they gave to me that day. I really loved the feeling that everyone gave to me that day, and I'm sure the rest of the family feel the same.

Thank you very much,
Gibson Mitchell

Heartfelt sympathy offered

To the Editor,

I know what I have to say will touch a lot of people, friends and relatives of two very special people, both gone but not forgotten. The memories linger on.

I wish to send my heartfelt sympathy to the families of Lil' Eva and Big Eva, as they were known to one and all. Some of you may know that Big Eva was my aunt through marriage to Uncle Linton and I was fortunate enough to have known Lil' Eva as a neighbor and friend in old Hollywood. It was out of respect for them that I attended the funerals held Oct. 6th and 8th.

The families had so much to do, so I didn't get a chance to talk to all of you, some of whom I know very well and others not so well. I hope I

shook hands with all of you. I know it helps the ones that are left behind to have friends and relatives to lean on. I know, because I was there too.

And now for our elders, the backbone of all of us, who with their strength and wisdom could teach us so much, if only we would listen. It is for them and the respect for their house of religion, **The Longhouse**, that I dress up and dance. I'm very glad to have been a part of their ceremony in sending the departed on their way.

Let's not forget the drummers and singers, nor the wonderful songs they sang. They had a very long and busy week. How strong they are, especially the elders.

Thank You,
Eugenia Wolf
Pendleton, Oregon

To the Editor,

I recently received my Vol. 6 No. 13 issue of Spilyay which contained a Letter to the Editor captioned; "No Response to Jail Concerns." I lay no claim to, "the men with power," however; I'd like to respond to this individual's concerns.

A. Being a Member of the Tribe, if he is, he should devote some of his time and efforts, once he gets out, campaigning to get an adequate facility. Everyone finds fault while they're incarcerated, but do nothing after they're out to help alleviate the so-called "million things wrong with this jail."

Referendums for changes have been presented to the voting population only to be defeated for the lack of knowledge or being apathetic. Don't lay fault with the Police Department or its staff per se as they, like other Departments, are operating on what they have in terms of fiscal constraints. Let's hope that this "new head" on his shoulders he makes reference to will be used in more acceptable and constructive ways.

Our Criminal Justice System is far from perfect but with concerned citizens, such as Mr. Stwyer, some imperfections can be adjusted to an acceptable level. These changes will further promote the leadership role the Confederated Tribes is so readily identified with. Changes are

generally always in order and Mr. Stwyer is in the spotlight. Will he accept the responsibility of carrying the ball or step aside and cheer someone else on?

B. Prisoner Privileges, run like a prison? Let's not forget this jail is a detention center and not the downtown Hilton. Room and Maid service should not be expected nor should one envision checking in or out at will. Person/s in jail have acted in a manner which does not conform with standards established by and for Members of the Confederated Tribes.

Some people cannot live with the law but, put the shoe on the other foot and it's something they cannot live without. For those in jail, what inhumane act did they commit against another unconsenting victim or person? What inconvenience have they caused to someone who did not choose to be his victim? Possibly worst of all, who did they inflict harm or bodily injury upon? These victims will carry an emotional scar for a lifetime.

Let's put things in proper perspective. People in jail are not there for being nice guys, they're in there because they cannot live in conformity with social standards. And yes, Counseling...why do inmates want counseling only until they're released. Once out, all are too good to continue

counseling and return to their usual and accustomed ways...I say let them seek counseling after they've paid their debt to society.

That's a positive indication that person has a desire to change and is not using counseling as a scapegoat. It's quite easy to seek sympathy but why not extend some of that sympathy to the victims, publically and by name. Once your obligation to the offended has been satisfied you won't need the sympathy of others.

No one is trying to break one's pride by incarceration. We're reminding you that your misconduct was considered unacceptable, and let the jail be how it may serve as a visible reminder to all that when we do not live in conformity with social standards, there's a price to pay...And those who admit guilt or who are found guilty of misconduct...will and must pay their debt.

Ironically, Mr. Stwyer, you are the man with the power. Although I'm not there to help you carry the ball, I'll assure you that you have my vote if you pursue this matter to a conclusion.

Respectfully,

Gene Smith
Police Captain
Nett Lake, Minnesota 55771

Intentions explained—

TO: Warm Springs People/
Tribal Council
FROM: Concerned Community People
RE: Statement of Intent

Dear People:

We would like to take this opportunity to openly express the intent of our efforts. We would like to dispel any misconceptions and anxieties about the two public meetings held to-date. We are preparing a draft statement for your review and consideration. We are requesting your cooperation and assistance by facilitating a general council meeting or district meetings to respond to a number of issues, brought up by community people, that we feel are vital to our reservation and our future.

Our intention is to open a line of communication from our tribal council and management to the enrolled membership of the tribes. To enable the people to keep better informed and understand how and why major decisions are reached.

The two public meetings demonstrated that the tribal member is very present, many sincere concerns are being expressed. We are interested in having more open communication with our leadership, to share more fully in issues and decisions affecting our lives and our reservation.

We do not want to be perceived as a threat or as promoting any self interests or jeopardizing the existence of our people and reservation. To the contrary, our interest lies in enhancing, strengthening our Warm Springs Confederated Tribes. Our intent is to bring all the people of Warm Springs

together, from all levels of our community, from all walks of life, from the unemployed to top management to tribal council. All of us must come together in a joint effort to find the best solutions we can to the problems that concern us all, to assure a fulfilling future for generations to come.

In closing, we feel that tribal members should have more of an active part in our tribal self-government, to be a part of the planning and decision-making. To be allowed to take an active part in major decisions that will affect all of our lives. Our lives touch, we all live together, we are all part of each others life. We must all come together, to strengthen each other for the good of all the people of Warm Springs.

Sincerely,

Bobby Eagleheart, signing for the concerned people of Warm Springs

P.S. We would like to thank all of the people, tribal and non-tribal, for attending and expressing their concerns at our community meetings. Thanks for your thoughtfulness, help, sincerity, donations, time, contributions. Thanks for your sincere concern toward the improvement of our tribes....It's sincere people like you that gives strength to everybody.

(Editor's Note: The four-page summary of comments brought out at the first meeting is available for review at the Spilyay Tymoo office.)

Bless you

To the Editor,

Words cannot express the deep appreciation for the consolation and concern shown to us at the time of our loss of our beloved husband and father, Bill Wahnetah.

A special thanks to The Tribal Council who helped with funeral expenses; our dear brother-uncle and sister-in-law-aunt, Campy and Geneva, and the girls in Credit, Joanne, Serena and Ursula who helped make it possible for us to go to North Carolina for the funeral.

To the many friends and relatives who's prayers and phone calls have helped ease the pain, heart break and sorrow of our lost one. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

May God Bless each and every one of you!

Chris, Denise (Smith) and Kami Wahnetah

Please return missing items

To Whom it Concerns:

I was asked to write a letter to the Warm Springs newspaper about a cut glass beaded purse stolen out of my mother's car which was parked at the Burger Inn in Warm Springs Oct. 10, 1981.

She says all she wants is my birth certificate, enrollment card and important items like the Beaded Eagle Feather Fan and Medicine Bag or any information where these items are hocked at! No questions

asked.

My parents are in Canada for the next three months attending Indian Religion Seminar and can't come to Warm Springs.

I wouldn't of minded entering your contest in drawing for tribal flag, but since I'm not a tribal member...

Signed,

Cory Shoshone
P.O.W. #42111
2605 State Street
Salem, Oregon 97310

Revenue report ready for review

All interested persons are hereby notified that the General Revenue Sharing Actual Use Report for calendar year 1980, of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon is available for public inspection.

The report and the supporting documentation from which the report was prepared are on file at the Administration Building from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Monday through Friday.

SUBSCRIPTION TO SPILYAY TYMOO

SEND SUBSCRIPTION TO
SPILYAY TYMOO P.O. Box 735 WARM SPRINGS, OR 97761

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: ONE YEAR \$6.00

All Warm Springs tribal members will receive the Spilyay Tymoo at no cost. Spilyay Tymoo is published bi-weekly by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.