

Editorial E Coosh EEWA:

(The way it is)
Letters to the Editor—



"Spilyay Speaks"



All the districts have had their meetings and by their constitutional rights and by-laws proceeded with nominations for tribal councilman for the next term.

We must now face the challenge of representation from each candidate as to his capabilities to serve on the council. We know we have an important decision to make in selecting the most qualified and dependable person to serve on the tribal council. There must be some potentially bright figures that have been nominated.

To sit and write a statement of what one can and cannot do is easy, but to debate openly with other candidates

would be the proper way for the candidates to display their talents in conducting themselves at crucial times. The way one can defend himself and speak constructively before the people would demonstrate the caliber of person he is; one who stands ready to answer all questions from the public. He must convince the people of his desire to work for the people and defend what rights we have with all the problems that we face today.

I feel there is an overload of candidates in one of the districts which can spread the votes very thin. It's too bad that we couldn't narrow down the number of candidates before the general election possibly by a means of a primary election cutting the number down to six or so.

Of course I believe, with our reservation and its resources, we need our most qualified people to handle our affairs and to protect our rights as American Indians. We gave so much to the country as it is and believe me they are trying to get what little we have left, mainly our water, hunting and fishing rights and anything else they can get their hands on. Through joint effort we can make things work. The day to vote will be soon, be sure to vote...

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It's pathetic for the way some individuals operate; mainly in writing defamatory statements trying to alienate certain individuals of public office.

There has been literature scattered around the community by someone who I feel is very sick in the mind. No one with a clear mind would do anything such as this.

If the person thinks this has accomplished anything... it has... it shows how stupid and wrong one can be by making false charges and trying to damage ones reputation.

YIKES YIKES Toe Ness YIKES YIKES

A hospital room is where friends of the patient go to talk to other friends of the patient... YIKES

SS SS SS

The reason doctors wear masks during surgery is to make sure they will really never know who to blame. YIKES

SS SS SS

Doctor: I can't seem to find the cause of your liver trouble. Off hand, I'd say it was due to drinking.
Patient: Well doc., why don't you come back when your sober... YIKES

SS SS SS

Queen tryouts April 12

Tryouts for the Pi-Ume-Sha rodeo queen and court will be held April 12 immediately following the Root Feast Rodeo.

Girls interested in the tryouts should be dressed in western attire and on horseback.

For more information contact Rosie Tom at the front desk at the Administration Building.

Headstart on 4/2/86

Headstart, located at the Warm Springs Community Center, is requesting that all Headstart students be at school April 2 due to a visit planned by National Headstart Conference attendees.

Even though the Headstart program, the Headstart/Day Care trailers and the tribal preschool programs will be closed during the week of March 31, parents are urged to bring their children to school April 2 so that conferees can observe the program while in session.



To the Agency District Voters,

We, a committee, formed in the Agency District, would like to appeal to the voters for their support to cast their votes for our write-in candidate, Eugene A. Greene, Sr. for the upcoming

Tribal Council election. Justifications are:

1. Past Chairman of Tribal Council during the term of 1977 through 1980.
2. Director of Natural Resources for seventeen (17) years.
3. Active member of Fish and Wildlife Committee.
4. Past member of the terminated Law and Order Committee.
5. Employee of Confederated Tribes for the past twenty (20) years in the area of Natural Resources.
6. Active member of the Inter-Tribal Fish Committee since 1976.
7. Participated and contributed to the drafting of the Constitution and By-Laws for the Inter-Tribal Fish Committee.
8. Veteran of Korean War, recipient of Silver Star.

For these reasons we, the committee, feel Eugene Greene is a potential candidate for Tribal Council. So, don't forget, on voting day to put Eugene Greene's name in the write-in portion of your ballot!

Thank you.



Dear Agency District Members,

Because several people have

encouraged me to run for Tribal Council, I have decided to vie for an Agency District seat as a write-in candidate. I was nominated twice before but I felt I was too young. I believe I can contribute now.

I feel it is time for our people to get back together as one and start the healing process of our hurts and misunderstandings. It's time to start moving forward again successfully as we have done in the past.

If the people of Warm Springs chose to write me in, I would like to be a part of this new progress.

I am the son of Madeline McInturff and stepson of Joe McInturff, Jr. I have two brothers, Ted Brunoe and Jerry St. Germaine, and two sisters, Roxanne McInturff and Carol St. Germaine. I am married to Frances and we have three children, Bobby, Jerry Wieher and Bruce, Jr.

Sincerely,

Bruce "Mickey" Brunoe, Sr.

No one convicted of major crime may serve

To Tribal Council, Election Board, and Fellow Tribal Members:

Recently, at least one, possibly several individuals were nominated for election to the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs (CTWS) Tribal Council who have been convicted of major crimes. However, according to the CTWS Constitution, no person ever convicted of a major crime may serve as a Tribal Council member. Thus, the present Tribal Council must immediately direct the Election Board to strike those individuals names from the ballot, and the individuals themselves should voluntarily withdraw from the election.

Article II of the By-Laws of the CTWS Constitution clearly states that "No person shall represent the Confederated Tribes on the (Tribal) Council unless he is a duly enrolled member of the community who has attained the age of 21 years, and who has never been convicted of a major crime." CTWS Ordinance #44, the Tribal Election Ordinance, defines a major crime to be a felony and is generally understood to be any Federal or State Felony. Thus, persons that have felony crime convictions are barred from serving on the Tribal Council by Tribal Law. This restriction is consistent with Federal and State statutes, as well as with Tribal tradition. Historically, tribal communities have avoided conferring status or rank on persons who have failed to abide by tribal rules and customs.

The right of the members of the Confederated Tribes to choose their representatives is a fundamental principle of self-determination that is incorporated in the CTWS Treaty and Constitution. In 1937 our Tribal elders voted to adopt the CTWS Constitution and By-Laws as the framework for our present form of tribal government. This particular constitutional provision has remained unchanged for almost fifty (50) years. We cannot casually dismiss or ignore this long-established restriction.

Should a person convicted of a major crime be allowed to serve on the Tribal Council? Several arguments in favor are: That such individuals have paid their debt to society; that people learn from their past mistakes; that such individuals should be able to serve on the Tribal Council, but rather that the CTWS Constitution and Tribal Law forbids it. If the members of the Confederated Tribes desire to allow such individuals to serve as Tribal Council representatives, then the CTWS Constitution and By-Laws must first be amended.

Who is responsible for enforcing this provision of the CTWS Tribal Constitution? The Election Board, the Tribal Council, the Tribal Court, the Bureau Superintendent? Tribal Council members are sworn to uphold the Tribal Constitution, to faithfully perform their Council impartially and to the best of their ability, and to protect the best interests of the Tribe. Those duties include presiding over nominations for successive Council elections, as well as certifying the eligibility of the candidates. By certifying candidates that are not eligible for election, the Tribal Council members fall short of fulfilling their sworn duty to uphold the Tribal Constitution. Every vote that an ineligible candidate receives is a vote that could have gone to an otherwise eligible candidate. If an ineligible candidate is in fact elected, only his immediate resignation would fulfill a Tribal Councilman's duty to uphold the Tribal Constitution. Indeed, the appearance of ineligible candidates on the Tribal election ballot probably invalidates the entire Tribal election.

If an ineligible candidate is elected, the entire election will surely be challenged. CTWS Ordinance #44 provides that the Bureau Superintendent consider and render final decisions regarding all Tribal elections disputes. Should the Superintendent find significant Tribal election irregularities, he could invalidate the entire election and order a new Tribal election. If the Tribe failed to proceed in accordance with the Superintendent's decision, the Bureau would be forced to consider declaring the new Tribal Council as improperly elected and withdraw Federal recognition until a legitimate Tribal government could be installed in accordance with Tribal law. The practical effect of such action would be similar to that of a

Tribal budget defeat. The Bureau would freeze all Tribal Trust assets, cancel all contracts, grants, and agreements, and urge other Federal agencies to suspend dealings with the Tribe until the situation is satisfactorily resolved. Needless to say, the Tribe should take all appropriate steps to make such action unnecessary.

As Tribal members we all share in the burden of enforcing and upholding our Tribal Laws and traditions. We must be ever vigilant and have the courage to step forward should our elected leadership falter in the performance of their duties, for whatever reason. Although I bear no ill-will towards any of the candidates, I believe that the Tribal Council members have failed to

fulfill their duty. The Tribal Council must correct its error and immediately remove all ineligible Tribal Council candidates from the ballots. Further, those ineligible candidates should immediately withdraw from the election. Their voluntary withdrawal would at least lend some credence to the theory that such individuals may indeed learn from their past mistakes, and would demonstrate their commitment to abide by Tribal Law. If we cannot conduct our local Tribal governmental affairs in accordance with our own Tribal Laws, then we must question whether we are still worthy of the legacy of which our elders and ancestors sacrificed so much.

Charles V. Jackson

Mind your own business

To whom it may concern,

It's no one's business but the mill and mine. You have no right including yourself in other peoples' business. I'm sure you might be a member of the tribe that has an interest in it, but until you work there a few years—"mind your own

business?" If you have something to say—say it to my face not by a letter to the mill with no name? Show some guts and sign it.

I'll be back on the 9th of April, if you have more to say upon it.

Signed
Dondi J. Hoptowitz

**It's important to
vote for the candidate
of your choice
APRIL 3**

Vehicles for sale Meeting set

FOR SALE—Sealed bid being accepted for 1979 Ford LTD 4 door sedan, with radio and heated fair tires. Contact Probate department for more information or to see and test drive. Probate Department is located in the Tribal Court Building. Telephone number 553-1161 ext. 278-281.

For Sale: 1978 Suzuki, 550-4 cylinder/4 stroke; in good shape; tires excellent; clear title; seat recovered; \$700. Can be seen at 1654A Sherer Lane. For more information call 553-1161, ext. 274 or 285 week days.

Correction

In the last issue Pierson Mitchell's title was reported wrong. Spilyay apologizes. Mr. Mitchell is the Public Administrator trainee.

The Title IV, Part A, Parent Advisory Committee will meet this month only on Thursday, April 10, 1986, at 7:00 p.m. in the library at Warm Springs Elementary School. The agenda includes nominations for the 1986/87 Parent Committee.

Craftsmen invited

Indian Craftsmen: Jefferson County Saturday Market, Madras, wants to extend a special invitation to you to participate this summer. It will be held the second Saturday of the month beginning June 14th. For more information, call 475-3135 or 475-6932.

Spilyay Tymoo welcomes articles and letters to be published from its readers. All letters, preferably 300 words or less, must include the writer's signature and address. Thank you letters and poetry will be published at the editor's discretion.

All letters are the opinion of the writer and do not reflect in any way the opinion of Spilyay Tymoo. Spilyay Tymoo reserves the right to edit all copy OR refuse publication of any letter that contains libelous material.