

Editorial E Coosh EEWA:

(The way it is)

Letters to the Editor



"Spilyay Speaks"



Well, what's in store for the next year for our nation, as it was reported that the 1988 inflation held on to ending up the same as that of 1987.

As the rate of inflation was identical for the past two years the rising of prices were visibly indifferent. The summer drought soared the food prices as they went up 5.2 percent as to the 3.5 percent jump in 1987.

With the inauguration all in the past, and President Bush is now at the controls he is facing all those promises he has to live up to. It will be interesting to see the outcome for the first year he is in office. While on the other hand President Reagan bowed out claiming everything was on the up swing since he has been in office. You can just about hear him saying, "Well, those were great years."

Now it's Bush and Quayle who have the lead roles, so let's hope the new season won't have all re-runs for the next term while they are in office, so we'll just have to wait and see the outcome.

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In any organization if you have something good going for you, never disrupt it. Like a boss has the authority to tell his employees what to do. A good boss doesn't have to go around ordering people what to do. It usually isn't necessary. It's not an effective way to get things done. People don't like to be ordered around especially by someone who enjoys playing the, "Big Wig." A good boss never has to order anyone to do anything. Just ask them what you want and sometimes it doesn't hurt to use the word "please." It's not a sign of weakness—it's a matter of simple courtesy, of voluntary respect for the people who work for you. When you ask someone to do something, take the time to explain why. If there's a special reason why you want that person to do it—because it's important and you know he or she will do a good job—say so. If there are any problems within the department, they can all be hashed out during the staff meeting. A good department is like a good, happy family. "Nigh."

Look to yourself for answers

An open letter:

Hello to all who take time to read this. I am writing this letter to the Spilyay to offer hope to those of you who may be confused or who may think they may have a slight problem with drinking or drug use. Some of you may also be led to believe that nothing will work for you, nothing will stop you from using alcohol or drugs, nothing or no one will help and that all is hopeless.

There is hope, there is help! It doesn't come from the person who so negatively tells you how it doesn't work. It won't come from the person who fills you with false hope of being employed. It won't come from another bonus. It will come from yourself, inside of you! You are the only one who can and the only one who will help yourself.

To help yourself means you will do all the work. Some people will support and give guidance, but you will be the one to overcome this hopelessness. It's your choice!

Some will tell you it's not going to work. When I hear this, I think, "Did you try?"; "Maybe it didn't for you, but it may for me."; "There are other ways to try," and "It doesn't work, I work it." Most will not support you, and many won't help. You can do it. You also can stop this deadly cycle of alcoholism and drug addiction. Try it...try it more than once and keep on trying. There are support groups. Alcoholics Anonymous is one. There

are people in these groups who will give you their hope, their courage and their experience in recovery.

When some unfortunate soul tells you it's hopeless, it may be that this person himself feels no hope. It is not a hopeless situation. Recovery is possible and it won't be a piece of cake. It is all up to you. Do you want to stop? Do you want to live life as it comes? Do you want better communication with the people around you? Do you want to look forward to another day?

You can have all of this, how-

ever, the first step is up to you. My first step was admitting and accepting that I am an alcoholic and an addict and that these things made my life unmanageable. Do you have the courage to take that first step and to start living? Or do you enjoy jails, hangovers, fights, loss of jobs, marriages or homes...even loss of life? No amount of money will stop you from drinking, no job, no spouse, no jail will stop you...You will stop yourself. Today, try it for today. If that works, try it again tomorrow. It's only one day

good cry that needs to come out...did you even realize this is very unhealthy for you?

Someday, and we think real soon...you will realize **YOU DO HAVE A CHOICE IN ALL OF THIS** and you will believe that you need to do something for yourself because you do want to be happy. That decision is up to you alone. That doesn't mean breaking all ties with the person(s) affecting you—it means beginning to take care of you...yourself...and beginning to feel your self worth. It means learning to detach from the other person, in a good way.

Friends...you are a good person! You are successful! You are doing some good things in your life, and you have got to believe that! You

you have to do it...one day at a time!

Today, I won't use or drink. I will face my problems, I will accept people around me who seem so negative, for I can't change them. Today I will please myself, today I will live.

Today, January 20, 1989, is the 431st day I have done it! There is hope. There is love, there is life!

Choose your path carefully. I care. I have hope in my heart for you.

Thank you,
William Wilson

Support group provides help—take control

To fellow tribal and community members:

Do you ever think the problems will never end? We all know there has been a morning or a time of day when you wished you could just let it all out and let someone know what's going on, but to who? Where? And when? You just don't feel safe to do this. Do you ever find yourself feeling like you're going crazy even if you're not drinking or using something, and someone else living around or near you is?

Do things sometimes **APPEAR** to be going right or okay, but you still continue to hide your feelings because that's what you're used to doing? And still you continued to hold back your feelings or that

good cry that needs to come out...did you even realize this is very unhealthy for you?

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Thank you,
William Wilson

To: Initiators/Supporters of the Apportionment Petition

The plight of all Native Americans across this nation crying out the injustices done to all Indian tribes over the past 100 years and more. It speaks of the unjust treatment brought on by campaigns to eliminate the Indian people and take control of lands traditionally held/roamed/used by tribes from generation to generation.

Today, this same plight is embodied within the confines of the Warm Springs Indian Reservation. Harbored among this "Confederacy" which is proudly recognized as one of the leading and most progressive tribes in the United States, exists a campaign to unbalance equal tribal representation in Council by dissolution of the Seekseequa District/Paiute tribe.

I would like to share my concerns with you regarding the petition you initiated or signed, which involves changes in Article IV, Section 2—Apportionment and Article IV, Section 8—Vacancies and Removal from Office. Initiators of this petition would have you believe this change is for the good of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

I provide you with some food for thought, as this reservation continually fights for the traditional and sovereign rights of this confederation in the legal battlegrounds of today's world, forever falling back on the traditional values that mean so much to the Indian people.

Opinions/recommendations from non-Indians are sought out by initiators of these changes to our tribal Constitution and By-

Laws. These initiators who claim to be working for the "good" of the reservation, did not look for counsel and guidance from the three Chiefs, from the elders of this reservation, nor from the people as was the traditional legacy passed on to this confederation by the first Tribal Council. The dissolution of the Seekseequa District brings out the fact that one tribal group will not be guaranteed any representation on Tribal Council at all, this being the Paiute tribe; and this being the real intentions of the petitioners.

After careful review of each name placed upon the petition, I appeal to all of you to ask yourselves these questions:

Why didn't the petition initiators seek input from all tribal members when drafting up these very important changes? Why weren't these proposed changes discussed at length, fairly and openly among all the people? Who gave the initiators legal advice regarding the formulation of the proposed changes? Why were there only a few elders' signatures on this petition? Did you seek out the wisdom of your elders before you placed your name on this petition? Were you told the consequences these changes would have on this tribe? Were you given a true statement by the collectors as to the exact changes proposed? Are you willing to place the credibility of the Warm Springs Confederated Tribes on the line by your decision and the consequences that will surely come about?

Many tribal members who signed the petition have since stepped forth and shared what they were told by the collectors, after finding out that the collectors verbally misre-

presented the changes. If these people cannot be honest at this point, don't you wonder what will happen later?

Are the people of Warm Springs ready to face the extreme changes this proposal will bring about? The population distribution will continue to grow and change over the years, how many times will our Constitution and By-Laws also change? Initiators claim imbalance of the district, but how many of you really belong in the Agency District? How many Agency District members truly belong to the Simnasho District? How many Agency District members truly belong in Seekseequa? Why has this automatic placement occurred? What is the actual voter turnout per District? Was this factor even looked into when considering the changes? Did you know that you have the option of stating which district you wish to belong to?

If the reservation's traditional use areas cannot be maintained for the Paiute, Wasco and Warm Springs tribes, how will this eventually affect the off-reservation traditional use sites that this tribe so strongly fought to save? If this tribe cannot maintain the traditional use sites here on the reservation, how will this affect the off-reservation sites in the future? I question all of this and more, particularly when our Constitution and By-Laws are being threatened by these radical changes.

I have grown up with many of you and have tried to overcome the ill feelings directed at me as a Paiute Indian over the years. I try to see past the people who have dealt

my heritage many derogatory experiences and have tried to look to the good in tribal members. I have suffered from the stones you have cast upon me for too long, and now admit that I cannot remain silent any longer.

You, the initiators and supporters of this change, must bear the burden you place upon this reservation and all that it entails, if this vote takes place and changes become a reality.

To the many other tribal members who refused to sign the petition, you have my highest respect, for you possess the wisdom, courage and foresight of the original tribal leaders of this reservation. It is tribal members like you, who have the best interests and welfare of the Warm Springs Confederated Tribes at heart. I thank you for the spiritual strength you have given me to voice the injustices of the changes, and remind everyone that this is what we must fall back on in review of this proposal.

In closing, we must not forget the blessings our Creator passed upon us as a Confederation, as Native Americans, and strive to remain united.

"Long ago, God spoke to our ancestors through dreams and revelation, but in the last day he has spoken to us through his Son." (Hebrews 1:1)

Let us keep this in mind as we search ourselves for an answer and struggle to overcome the barriers that are placed before us each day.

Carolyn E. Wewa
Tribal member/Warm Springs
Confederated Tribes of Oregon

Thank you for help

Thank you:

It has taken me a whole year to do this. I never really got around to thanking the people for being so thoughtful and kind when I lost my niece Suzanne Sam, the mother of the children that I am raising. It has been a hard year for me and the girls.

A big thanks to Beans and her

girls for being there at the hospital the night that it happened. Thank you Lester and Pat Tanewasha for opening your home to us. I don't know what I would have done that night almost a year ago.

Thank you again from the bottom of my heart.

Mary Danzuka and children
Sally and Jennifer

Memorial and stone setting to be held Saturday, February 4



The family of Suzanne Sam: Sisters Maria, Julie, Lucy and Clydell; Brothers Leslie, Robert and Tharon and Aunts Lee, Nancy and Mary

We welcome you to join us in the memorial and stone setting for Suzanne Sam on February 4, 1989 at the Agency Longhouse. The stone setting will be before lunch as will be the rejoining services. Watch for posters announcing the time.

EDITOR'S NOTE

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

All letters are the opinion of the author 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 material that may contain libelous statements.

Thanks to a good friend

To Bill Howland,

Thank you.

We would like to give thanks to you as a good personal friend and say goodbye as a police officer in Warm Springs as you are leaving at the end of the month to become deputy sheriff in Jefferson County. You were a good friend to our family; you were always there to help and were very good with our sons and daughters.

Pennington Family
McKinley Family
Mason Family

Volunteers appreciated

To the Editor,

Volunteers give the best gift—themselves. F.R.O.S.T.Y. says
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