

Editorial E Coosh EEWA:

(The way it is)
Letters to the Editor



"Spilyay Speaks"



They say, "Tis the season to be jolly!" Well, with Thanksgiving in the past where everyone stopped to pause and give thanks to the Creator for all the wonderful things they have received during the past year. People set aside a day and envisioned brighter days ahead. We can never look back because we cannot do anything to correct any mistakes. They are there and we might as well live with them the best way we can. We only have the future to look to and plan better things to come. It's hard to forget the past. There are some great times for some people and some bad times for others.



Now that Christmas is upon us and the numbered days are slipping away we tend to look back to the happy working relationships with the outer world. We are reminded of the underprivileged ones, the homeless and those who have been forced out of employment because of the season. And now we face another hardship in the Middle East as unrest and negative feelings fill the air between nations. We face another war if things aren't worked out. This old world is just full of problems. We get out of one and step into another.

It has been a great year working with everyone. Like I said, there were some great times and some bad times but working with such a great group of people helps the days pass and one feels at ease. I hope the future will hold more fruitful days as we are about to start another year.

There were so many things that we have done this past year, really makes one think and wonder how it was done. But with all the hard work and faithful employees, things are not impossible. We have had many changes in our organization over the past year. We made some good commitments that we must accomplish which is not impossible if we just dig in and do our work.

So with this in mind, and on behalf of the entire Spilyay Tymoo staff, I wish you all the best in the coming year and many, many more to come... "Ahhh-Nah-Chi-Un-Wy!!"

Toe Ness

Today, more and more hippies are looking to religion for the answer to their problems. Last Sunday, a hippy went to church and he was so overwhelmed by the sermon he grabbed the preacher's hand when he left the church and said, "Dad, I read you. That sermon was the most. It was gone. You were right on." The preacher said, "I'm afraid I don't understand." The hippy said, "Yes you do, Dad. In fact, I liked it so gone, I put twenty samolas in the collection plate." The preacher said, "Oh crazy man, crazy!" YIKES

SS SS SS

There was this guy who said he once wanted to become an atheist, but gave up the idea...they have no holidays. And, also, they have to sing, HmMMMM Bless America. YIKES

SS SS SS

There was this rock 'n' roll singer who wore a hearing aid for three years...then found out he only needed a haircut. YIKES

SS SS SS

There were these two "not-so-bright" guys who were mowing a crop of hay, when one fell off the tractor and had his ear clipped off. The two stopped and started to look for the year. They looked for quite some time when one of them yells, "Hey, is this your ear?" The other guy looks at it for a while and says, "Nah. My ear had a pencil on the back of it." YIKES

SS SS SS

Little Mary Sue complained to her mother, saying, "I've got a stomach ache." "That's because your stomach is empty," the mother said. "You would feel better if you had something in it." That afternoon the minister called and in conversation remarked he had been suffering all day with a severe headache. Mary Sue perked up. "That's because it's empty," she said. "You'd feel better if you had something in it." YIKES

SS SS SS

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.

Work begins on local "Project Graduation"

To the Editor,

Oregon's Project Graduation began in 1982 and focused on making parents aware of the need for an alternative way for seniors to celebrate graduation—one that didn't include drinking and driving.

For many years we've known that more young men and women die in alcohol-related traffic accidents during graduation time than any other youth celebration of the year. Our young people are drinking and driving and killing themselves and their friends.

Parents were fearful of what their graduating seniors would do to celebrate. They knew there would be "keggers" and "BYOB" parties at unsupervised homes, "up in the hills" or at the beach, but there didn't seem to be an alternative they could offer the seniors that would be attractive to them.

We've found an alternative way for the grads to celebrate—and one that they now choose in Oregon's high schools.

This is why, we the parents of the Class of 1991, choose to give our graduates an Alcohol/Drug Free All-Night Grad Party.

The seniors like celebrating all night long with their friends. They like the entertainment, the food and soft drinks, the great decorations, and the prizes. And the price is right! The seniors' words of praise to the parents the night of the party, their encouragement as 80 to 90 percent of the senior class attends the party, their thank yous, and tears of joy and sadness as they say goodbye to their classmates in the early morning hours all let us know that Project Graduation has

become THE way to celebrate graduation.

How Students Benefit:

1. Every senior has a party to attend graduation night.
2. All the seniors are together to celebrate, perhaps for the last time.
3. No one has to make a decision about alcohol and other drugs, or mixing alcohol or other drugs and driving.
4. The cost is minimal (and in

many cases the ticket is a gift from the parents) for so much entertainment, food and prizes.

5. During their lifetime, the seniors will look back on the party as a very special "night to remember."

How Parents Benefit:

1. Their senior sons or daughters don't drive drunk or drugged or ride as passengers with a driver who has been drinking or using

2. Parents know where their kids are.
3. The seniors are supervised.
4. Parents make friends with other parents who work on the party.

Sincerely,
Eileen Hackman, 475-7105
Virginia Runge, 475-3524

Actions affect children, community

To the Editor,

I recently had an opportunity to review a letter titled, "Illegal Activity", which was sent to all rental tenants of the tribal housing department.

I wanted to personally thank those of you who accepted this letter in a gracious, thankful manner. Your acceptance shows that you do care and that you are personally

committed to help the people of our reservation. Most of all, I really feel thankful that you are supportive of the difficult stand the tribal housing department has taken, for this means you are also helping our children to identify with healthy lifestyle choices.

Although this letter angered many tenants, I know that this stand has been long-awaited by others, as well as tribal members who desperately need housing, and

are willing to abide by this requirement.

Many of us who have lived our lives in Warm Springs have also lived with the reality of substance abuse within our families. Now, the problem becomes greater threat to our very own children.

As a parent, I continue to be fearful of all the problems we face as we make choices that are not healthy for ourselves, nor for our children. As a parent, I want illegal activity within the boundaries of the reservation to stop. It affects me, it affects you, and sometimes it occurs to the point of painful loss.

So, again, thanks to all of you rental tenants who chose to make some changes in your social lifestyles. That important decision will eventually help the child that sits upon your lap and hugs your neck. I hope you had a great Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,
Carol Wewa, Tribal Member

Put a stop to unnecessary, untimely deaths now

To the Editor,

It's time to start putting our foot down concerning alcohol and drugs. We can no longer turn our heads and turn the other way like nothing wrong is being done!

We could probably have the treatment programs set up here. Why send our people out of town to other facilities? Only ones getting any benefit out of it are the outside programs financially. If the individual messes up, they're usually dropped from the programs and stuck with a large overdue bill.

We are so few, population-wise. Yet we're dying out so fast in accident or suicides, a majority of which are due to alcohol and drugs. It cannot just be left up to the police department, probation and court systems. Help is badly needed throughout the community. These past months we've buried our people, saying that this is so needed, as a priority.

Only time we seem to be getting together is when we're at the longhouses or Shaker Church burying someone. Times have really changed. There was a time when someone got into a bind or trouble, people of the local community would do their best to get those families back on their feet.

In most cases, you don't see that helping hand no more. We've lost identity, as people, to what's important in life. Since obtaining our resources, to uplift the reservation, as far as progress or economy wise. Having a good time, drugs, alcohol, among other things, seem to take priority. Besides life, our children are our most precious resource.

There's no respect for parents. In most cases, they've lost control. Things are easier said than done, having to do something about our alcohol and drug problems as far as prevention programs. Besides outside churches, there are other traditional services to attend, that's the 7-Drum (Washut), Shaker Church, Feather Religion, Peyote and Medicine Singing.

It's a start. At one time they were all going strong with full membership. Like other things, it died out and some religious services are starting back up. Whatever the preference, all you have to do is ask someone involved when the next service is to be held, beside funerals.

As a community, we've got to slow down sometime and start over, for it's never too late to do so. We can't just think about it after burying a loved one or family member.

Nothing comes easy in life. We are of habit and it's hard to change once you get into a certain lifestyle. Before anything can be done in the community, it has to start at the household first. It's up to the individual to want that change, no one can force them. For I know, I used to be one of the individuals, party-

ing all the time, thinking I was having a good time. For I do not consider myself better than anyone else. I'm just saying, in time, if not tomorrow, next week, next month, next year, people can change.

We've always got people saying what's good for us, but they're never out in the community to see what's really happening. Only time we see them is when the next year's budget is due, asking for more money or telling how they're going to spend it. We could have had our own school, at the rate our kids drop out or get suspended from Madras. The kids leave, yet they keep the funding.

Thanks for letting me take up some of your time. God Bless you all and may He above watch over you and yours always. Special prayers to those who were left behind during these past deaths.

Respectfully,
A concerned Tribal Member,
Tony "Big Rat" Suppah

Apology extended to community

To the Editor,

After being found guilty of charges of NDDH and D-305.466 of Law and Order Code, I would like to publicly apologize to the people of this community for my wrongful acts.

I pledge: "My head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger service,

Christmas sale scheduled

A Christmas Sale will be held at the Warm Springs Presbyterian Church Tuesday, December 11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Baked goods, chili, fried rice, handmade items, gifts and much more will be featured.

Please write to Tamera

To the Editor,

SPC Tamera (Calhoun) Coffee, assigned to 411 (military police) MP Company 720 MP Battalion out of Ft. Hood, Texas, was deployed to Saudi Arabia to take part in "Desert Shield". She is an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes and is the daughter of Mary Smith.

We would like everyone at home to show support for the soldiers who are participating in Desert Shield. Please say a prayer for all of those who are involved.

Tamera would like letters from people at home. If interested please

and my health to better living; for my people, my community, and to the Warm Springs Indian Reservation."

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Loretta Tewee

Happy Belated Birthday wishes to our son,

T.J. Foltz,
who turned 12 on
November 13
and to our daughter,
Tia Bean,
who turned 8
on November 16!!
from Mom and Dad

write to the following address:

SPC Coffee, Tamera
411 MP CO. 720 MP BN
89 MP BDE
APO, NY 09616

Tamera has written home, saying she went on a mission and took an ammo convoy up north. She and her unit have seen members of the British Army, Australian Airforce, French Army and Saudi Army since their arrival.

Love,
Mary Smith for Tamera

Need papers to start your fire?

Spilyay has old papers for your use.
Come to the office to pick them up before they go to the recycling bins.

Car for sale

1980 Merc Bobcat, 2-door hatchback, 4 cyl., in good condition, \$1,800 firm. Call owner at 553-1855.