

Sovereignty assures certain rights for Indians

Hypocrisy is nothing new in American attitudes toward the native peoples of this nation. American Indians have survived and sometimes even thrived in spite of white efforts to rob them of sovereignty and self-sufficiency while simultaneously condemning their supposed savagery, sloth and stupidity. No, hypocrisy is nothing new, but it is still distressing to see it expressed in public forums such as Steve Duin's column.

Duin's righteous indignation over the prospect of a Warm Springs Indian casino near Hood River continues a grand old double standard that began when the first Europeans claimed this continent "by right of discovery." Since that fateful day, Native Americans have struggled to preserve their tribal territory, political autonomy and cultural integrity in the face of continual non-Indian efforts to expropriate Indian lands and erase Indian identities. The fact that there are still Native Americans around to build casinos and infuriate colonists (oops, I meant columnists) attests to a remarkable history of Indian resistance and creative adaptation to capricious government policy. In recent decades, federal policy has finally shifted to allow Indian tribes greater freedom in exercising their inherent powers of self-government. Yet, whenever they attempt to do so, you can rest assured that a chorus of non-Indian voices will begin howling about the Indians' "special rights."

We have heard this refrain before, during debates over treaty fishing rights and taxation. Now the issue is Indian gaming, which Duin characterizes as a threat to the wallets of innocent non-Indians and to the natural beauty of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Leaping to the defense of Brian and Jody Bea, who are simply pursuing the new American dream of a luxury home beyond the sprawling city (but close enough to allow easy access to coffee shops and organic food stores), Duin asks, "where's the outrage over a Warm Springs tribal proposal to pollute the gorge with a 75,000-square-foot casino?" Where indeed? Damn Indians and their special rights...Right? Wrong.

Whatever Duin may believe, tribal sovereignty is more than a technicality. It is a fact recognized in the US law. Despite consistent state and federal efforts to ignore or abrogate the powers of tribal governments, they retain the right to decide how their trust lands will be used. It is irrelevant how the Warm Springs tribe acquired

"Demote or remove" is suggested

To the editor,
The Public Safety Administrator given another title and receiving the same wages is not consequences for doing wrong to our people. Our people have suffered enough from this department. My suggestion is to either demote to patrolman or remove!

Oh yeah I forgot, on the department above. If politics is hindering a person's good judgment on handing out consequences then maybe he shouldn't be in this office.

Concerning our budget, it's not right that whoever moves money

exceeding \$25,000 is doing wrong on behalf of the people. It's clear that in the Constitution any monies exceeding that amount goes to the vote of the people. When the people elected leadership it was to allow some decision making concerning State, Federal and a few other issues land water that affect our people. At home here with the Mill, Hydro, etc. the people have a say.

"We are becoming bad role models for our children"

**Shirley Sanders,
Concerned member**

the land near Hood River (They used to own it all anyway, remember?) If this particular parcel was "dished out to a single Native American during the Harding administration," that was probably because, at that time, the government wanted to replace tribal land ownership with individual allotments that would teach Indians the "value" of private property and thereby transform them into good white people. That little scheme didn't work, but the Indians still own the land. If the Warm Springs tribe wants to build a casino on it, that is its right as a sovereign power equal to (and in some cases superior to) the state government.

Tribal casinos are not a Native American attempt to "fleece" innocent tourists, although there is certainly a measure of poetic justice in the hyperbolic protests of critics. Gaming represents a legal and culturally viable economic strategy that has brought much-needed revenue to depressed reservation communities. Although many tribal casinos have yet to turn a profit, those that succeed provide seed money for development projects and social services that Indian tribes need to become self-sufficient again. If Duin is upset by the idea of a casino in the Columbia Gorge, think how the Indians along the river felt when we seized their land and virtually destroyed the salmon that sustained their economy and culture.

To condemn Native Americans for trying to improve their situation through gaming is hypocritical. Apparently, when the Beas build a home in the scenic area, we should applaud their initiative and their commitment to personal liberty in the face of Gorge Commission "persecution." If wealthy windsurfers and espresso-sipping ex-urbanites gentrify the countryside and price lower-income residents out of rural communities, we should thank them for breathing new life into a depressed region. And, of course, hooray for the Oregon Lottery and video poker. But God forbid the Indians should even consider building a casino in the place that they have fought longer and harder than anyone to protect. That would be truly outrageous.

Editor's note: The above article was authored by Portland native Andy Fisher who is a doctoral candidate in history at Arizona State University. He is writing his dissertation on the native peoples of the mid-Columbia River region. It is reprinted at the request of Louie Pitt.

Dear Gramma-ma,
We love you dearly and may the good Lord Bless you. Your prayers are in our heart.
"Have a Happy Halloween"
Love always,
Maureen "Woo-Boos" Saludo-Sanchez, Tyrone Saludo, Carol A. Lawrence

Dear Maureen, Tyrone, & Martika,
Have a "Happy Halloween" Love, Mom & Auntie Carol
**Tony Sr. & Talya, Baby Brevin Cheyton & Tony Holliday, Jr., "Have a Happy Halloween!"
From Auntie Carol**

Tutoring offered by appointment only

**Mondays from 4 to 7 p.m.
Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m.**

**Tribal Education Center
Contact Foster Kalama at JCMS or MHS
Tribal Education at 553-3311
Andy Leonard at 553-3243**

Casino needed to maintain Indian way of life

To the Editor,
A casino at Hood River or wherever, is needed to help our Indian way of life. America supports our Treaty and respects our way of life...but! As long as we stay on the reservation, beat our drums, tell our stories and ask for nothing...stay in the "box".

The "box" is how we view ourselves and others view us. It is usually safe, comfortable and relatively easy to stay in the box. The reservation boundaries could be thought of as a kind of box. I am glad our leadership choose to push outside our comfort zone. If it makes other Americans uncomfortable, so be it.

An off-reservation casino is one way to diversify our tribal economy. We need to think of other ways to

gain revenue for our tribal people and programs. I am very proud of the way the Warm Springs Confederated Tribes has adjusted to protect the reservation forest. Fewer trees cut, protection of streams, wetlands and cultural areas, road closures to protect wildlife and delicate areas. Our forest can only provide so much at any one time, belonging not only to us today but to the future tribal people to protect their Indian way of life.

This is a right we have as a sovereign nation and because of American politics, this right may disappear tomorrow. A casino on- or off-reservation represents only one way to gather monies to better ourselves.

Louie Pitt, Jr.



Happy Birthday to all our children

—September 18—Aurolyn—September 29—
Tim In loving member October 13 Arnold JR
—Billy JOe Berry October 13—Eliza "Hot Dog" October 14
—Roger Theodore Matthew Pipsher Oct. 14 (Given name at birth)—
—Davis October 22—Henry October 24—Eagle November 6
Thank you for giving us this day. May God Watch over all of you
Lovingly, Mom and Dad, Neda and Jimmy

Member sends poem

**My Frail Ole Angel
by Eliza Crutcher**
One night I had a dream,
It left a legend to tell,
in my dream I saw an angel,
poor thing he wasn't well.
His body was bruised and battered,
his wings were ripped and torn
these things he said to me, made
me wish I wasn't born
I walked up to him and asked, "Angel
how could this be?"
He turned around and paused a bit.
These words he said to me
"I am your guardian Angel. It's
quite a task you see,
You've run a little wild most of
your life
look what you've done to me...."

These bruises are from shielding you when you were very ill
The booze & drugs you've used so dangerously
I've often paid your bill
My wings are ripped and torn, as noble badge I bare.
So many times I've flown for you, from evil unaware.
Each mark & scar has it's own story of deadly wounds destroyed,
you've made me wish more times than once that I was unemployed.
If only you could make it and stand on your own.
But to tell the truth, I love you and will never leave you alone".
**PO Box 84
McDermitt, NV 89421**

Pearl Jack seeking title



Hello, my name is Pearl Jack. I'm running for Mid-Columbia River Powwow in Celilo. I'm 12-years-old and a 7th grader at Jefferson County Middle School in Madras.
I'm selling tickets for \$1 donation. Grand prize is \$500 cash. Also, there are many other prizes such as a 270 cal. rifle, Pendleton blanket, portable CD player and more cash.
If interested, you could contact my mom, Tonia Hall, at the Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center and I'll be going around here in the community.

**Happy Birthday
Regan T. Smith
October 14th**
Your (only) Friend?
Lovey C.;
Love ya much!
Farrellyn, Laurissa,
(your future daughter in law!)
I wish you all the best...
(including me!)
Your one & only
True Blue Love!!!
You know who I am!

**Memorials and stonessettings for Elvina Switzler and Gary Switzler
Saturday, November 7
at the Agency Longhouse
Stonessetting ceremonies begin at 9 a.m. at the Agency Cemetery
Memorial Ceremonies at 10 a.m.
Lunch and giveaway to follow**

People believe changes needed now in legal system

To the Editor,
On September 3, 1998 at 7 p.m. our Tribal Council held a public open meeting. We are thankful and appreciated the opportunity to voice our factual and legitimate concerns.

The open discussion brought up tribal concern, complaints, civil rights, religious rights, due process violations, inconsistency and the reylance (sic) of our legal system. By a few people in question from the top down. What it comes down to is a majority of our people, yearn for a change over in our legal system.

"The system is good and is needed." It's the transformation of the legal system, from bad to worse these past few years. By the people in question, that has opened the eyes of our community. It has brought a multitude of circumstances. "You don't play with life and death." There are skeptics who feel otherwise. If this happened to a outsider or to one of their family members, a violation or wrong doing.

"The individual would be made a example of and jailed right now." The injustice robs the people of their basic rights. Which is allowed and at times is being permitted by some supervisors and nothing is ever done, to help them accountable. It's though they have immunity to the tribal code. They enforce making their own rules.

So where do the people turn to for help?

Majority of the people feel its important and vital to address the issues on hand. Especially for the people in question, voiced by the people. For the necessary change over in our legal system. "Why?" Because there's always reasons, excuses, ways used, to cover up the violations and wrong doings by the system. "Majority of those in the wrong are hoping that in time, it'll all be forgotten as usual."

Today it's who you know, not what you know in this organization. To have your voice heard on complaints or concerns. It's time for the people to be heard and to be involved again. There can always be a first time for the people to exercise their rights, to be a recall or petition. Its the people who decide who they can put their trust into for tribal Council and management.

"It is a crime for the people in the legal system to violate anyone's civil rights" The US Attorney or the US Attorney for state in which you reside may file criminal charges in federal court, against the people in the legal system who violate your civil rights. If there's any kind of question, give me a call or come talk to me.

Other reservations in Indian Coun-

try and legal systems throughout have already or are in the process of making changes in their system. You read about it or hear it on the daily news. It's time for these people to be held accountable for their actions. Instead of promoting them to other positions, with different titles. Then forget about their violations they committed against the people.

Our Tribal Council and chief operations officer stated they'd be checking into the people's concerns voiced at the open council meeting on September 3, 1998. "The injustice by the people in the system affects all in the community." Especially to those families who suffered personally as a result of it. Which has opened the doors, for legal law suits against the Tribe, which majority of our people are unaware of." Why a change over? Because many of the mental and emotional wounds suffered as a result of the violations, negligence and inconsistency by our legal system.

Remains indelibly in the minds of majority of our people. To forgive and forget will be very hard and difficult. It has caused ill feelings towards those responsible. "Because there is nothing done to correct the wrong done." What I predicted in my other statements and to the Tribal Council, verbally and in writing,

seems to be happening. Giving promotions or making up positions for individuals at times with raises for the wrong doings. What about all the families who lost loved ones or had their rights violated? So who cares? How can they expect the people to build their hopes on a legal system, violating people's rights, the negligence, inconsistency and causing deaths to our community members.

Why promotions? It's time to give new people the opportunity to do the jobs. They can be trained for the positions, just like the majority of managers today had to be to do the job. The people are the heart and spirit of all that counts. Somewhere! The people were eliminated all together by Council and management. What are you going to do when something happens to your family next? Our enterprise is suppose to be for "giving our people employment." Tribal preference, being married into the tribe, is in writing only. Like all else. So where do the people turn on the next violation or death?

Our prayers are out to each and everyone. May be above guide and watch your footsteps daily. God bless you all.

**Respectfully speaking in behalf of all concerned tribal members
Big Rat Suppah**

Thank you for being a part of my life

To the editor,
This is for my husband Richard. Thank you for being a part of my life. I look forward to spending the rest of my life with you. You have made me so happy.

From the moment I first met you to the day you said you love me, I knew we were going to be together.

This day of our marriage ends my lonely search for happiness. You are my life, from now until forever.

You will make the perfect husband, father, brother-in-law, son-in-

law. I know because it has been true so far.

You are the only person for me and I will never need another.

So as we begin our life as a family, just us four, you, Michael, Kendall and me. I keep a prayer in my heart that we will be happy. And I look towards our future together, as a family.

Thank you for this happiest day in my life.

**Your wife,
Selena**

**Happy Birthday Oct. 6,
Merle "Pa" Williams
in Marysville, WA
Hope it was a good one!
God bless you & yours always.
Lotsa love & prayers,
Tina, Easton & Kids**

**Happy Birthday
Jacob B. Whiteplume
October 6, 1969**
Love & prayers to you,
Annie-Mom, Bun, Gott
Man, Ditta & Beeb; Millie Mom,
BJ, Liya, Cedo & Delmer
Wishing you many more,
The Bellangers

**Happy Birthday
Julia Johnson,
Kelvin Williams,
Alice Johnson &
Roselyn Johnson**
With love,
Christine Johnson
& family

Edma
The love of my life
The sugar on my cookie
The cream on my pie
Happy Birthday!
Take care & God Bless
you Always,
Love you
KDS

Meetings scheduled

Three meetings are scheduled to conduct a comprehensive land use plan for the Kalama fee patent lot Monday 5, 12, & 19 of October. Please attend if you have an interest in the use of the land. Attend the meeting and add your two cents!

Monday, October 5, from 7-9 p.m. Introduce each other and recognize the heirs to the land.

Monday, October 12: Look at the legal implications with CeCe Whitewolfe and Associate.

Monday, October 19: Begin Comprehensive Land Use Planning Initiated by Marjorie Kalama-Gabriel (Woopsie). For further information call Margie at 553-3205.

**Happy 7th Birthday
Leanna (Oct. 10)**
We love you and are thinking of you always. Keep that wonderful smile.
With love, Dad, Mom, George, Tonya and Jackson

**Happy Birthday
Ellie Picard-20 years,
September 29, 1978**
From the Gang at
2503 Looksh St.
With love, Mom,
Kennedy, Leta, Simone,
Rosetta, Alex-PacMan,
Brandon, Siggums, Mittens
& Fluffy

**Happy 8th Birthday
Farrellyn D. Bellanger
Laurissa E. Bellanger**
Hugs & kisses to you!
Love, Mom & Dad,
Grandma Millie!, Liya,
BJ, Cedo & Delmer

**Happy 8th Birthday
Bear & Reese
October 9, 1990**
Hugs & kisses
Love ya lots!
lil sister Angela,
Lee, Jake, Mona &
Tootsie, A.J., Cynthia,
Elizabeth, Thomas,
& Blue Skyla Rain,
Auntie Annie, Bun,
Gott Man, Beeb & Ditta...

**Happy Birthday
Hugs & kisses
To B-B
Love, G'ma Faye
White Dove, Miko,
Taz & pony**



**Happy Birthday & many more to
Angel, Sweetheart, B-B,
Revonnie-Honey,
I love you very much!
Love, Donna**