



SPILYAY SPEAKS

"Gee Whiz!" It's the season to be jolly, the Christmas season is upon us again. We all want to remember our dear ones and friends at this time of the year. Yes it's the season of "JOY!" people rushing around shopping for that special person for Christmas day. Just think the last Christmas in the twentieth century.

Wuz thinking of my childhood days when I heard that song, "I'm Dreaming of A White Christmas," it used to be sung by Bing Crosby in the olden days. The day's of the old Boarding school, when the dorms were buzzing with students. Just before Christmas each kid would make a Christmas list of what he wanted for Christmas. Each one would make a list of three choices. If they couldn't give the first choice than they would go to the second and so on. Kids would make choices like, I want a flashlight, or a pocket knife, a bag of marbles and stuff like that. Never really got what you wanted but it was fun making a list and wishing.

All the gifts would be wrapped and placed under the Christmas tree in the Gym just before the Christmas program. All during the month of December before Christmas each class would be rehearsing for their part in the Christmas Program. Most classes sang Christmas carols related to the scenes of the play.

Usually the younger classes would sing the song, "Oh Little Town Of Bethlehem," as the setting for the Christmas play, which was the story of when the Christ Child was born and as he lay in the manger, and as the scene changed the song of Hark the Herald Angels Sing, where the Shepherds watched their flocks by night, and "It Came Upon A Midnight Clear," as the Angels gave the good news the Shepherds in the Hills. And Away In The Manger, represented the place where he was born.

The cast was Mary and Joseph, a group of Angels, some Shepherds and three wisemen. The upper classmen usually got the parts of Mary and Joseph, the slick chicks picked for the Angels some Kool Dudes picked for the Shepherds and Wisemen. I never got to play Joseph, always a Shepherd or one of the Wisemen.

As the story goes the Angels brought good tidings to the Shepherds who watched their flocks by night with the song, "It Came Upon A Midnight Clear," and the song, Away in the Manger where the Christ Child was born. As the story goes that there were no room to be found any where so they stayed in the animal shelter. The Three Wisemen who followed the Star that showed them where the New born king lay.

I could never sing very well but I would go marching up with the rest of the class as though I was a tenor or something.

In those days everyone took it very seriously, practicing their parts for the Christmas program. It kept the kids occupied during the weeks before the Christmas play and the vacation.

When the Christmas play was ended there were some kids that had verses to say before the audience. I can still imagine those kids standing up in front of everyone squirming and wiggling trying to say what they had. Some with their hands in their pockets all slouched over and grinning.

Finally after the program ended everyone would join in singing some Christmas Carols Jingle Bells and Silent Night. Then the moment most of the kids were waiting for and that was the passing out of the presents, each eager to see what he or she got, as presents were torn into you could hear all kinds of expressions as the whole room would be a big buzzing sound. When all that happened everyone would file out and a bag of candy and peanuts would be handed out to everyone there. This was a whole community affair where everyone attended and enjoyed themselves.

Yep! This is the season where you hear all the Christmas music in all the stores while shopping, and even in the cafes, or even while you are walking down the street, in a distance you can hear, "Woof, Woof, Woof, or that other one, "Meow, Meow--Meow; or Grandma got ran over by a Raindeer, all those traditional songs, Some of the real Christmas music, I like to hear Andy Williams sing, "The Christmas sone, and Bing Crosbys record of, "I'm dreaming of a White Christmas. There are several Christmas songs that really moves me during this season

This was just a flashback of my own impression of the days during the Christmas season, and how each kid looked forward to the Christmas vacation. I'm sure everyone has his own version of what it used to be like when he or she was growing up.

As they say Christmas comes just once a year, so we all should enjoy ourselves during this fine season. There will be many people traveling to other parts of the country to visit relatives and friends, there will be kids returning from college and those who are in the service may have a chance to be home for the Holidays.

At this time I would like to Wish Everyone "The Merriest Christmas and the most Prosperous New Year."

AAH-NAH-CHI-TOON!!!

Toe Ness

SS SS SS

The Clergy is concerned about the lack of religion in Christmas. According to an unofficial survey, the only time most people mention God is when they check the price tags. YIKES

Editor's Note

Spilyay Tymoo welcomes articles and letters from its readers. All letters, preferably 300 words or less, must be signed by the author. Letters will not be printed unless signed. 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 or malicious statements.

Thankful for Indian Veterans

To the editor,

Dear Publisher Sid Miller and the rest of the good staff back home on the Indian Reservation of Warm Springs, Oregon. First of all, I would like to say Happy Holidays to you and your staff, and I hope you all had a nice Thanksgiving meal.

At this time I would like to say a big Thank you to you and the Spilyay Tymoo "Coyote News" newspaper. Its a good warm heartfelt feeling to get a hometown Indian newspaper and I would also like to say a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and yours and the rest of the staff. And may all your best wishes come true for the New Year for all of you. And have a safe and Happy New Years in the year 2000.

It was an honor to see the Veterans parade for the ones that served in the wars for our country The United States.

To me as a Tribal member, my

Inmate relocating once again

To the editor,

I'd really appreciate it if you could print this letter in the next issue of the Spilyay Tymoo. This is to my family & friends. To let them know that I'm okay! I'm over here in Florence, CO. I'm just kicking back over doing my time! That's all I got besides my name! I only got 6 years left. I have got 4 years in ahead! I get out August 25, 2005.

I'd also like to teller at my homeboy! Casey over in CA. What's up? bro! Tell Donny I got into a fight & now I'm in the hole for investigation. Also tell Mike to write, I lost his

Tribal member denied educational grant for three semesters

To the editor,

I have sent this letter to the education department about a month in a half ago maybe two months ago. I haven't received a response at all; but then again I wasn't expecting one.

I'm writing this letter to say how I feel about some of the decisions that were made through the education department. When I decided to go to school I saw how many classes the College of the Redwoods had to offer here in Hoopa and walked into see what I had to do to get into school and how much it would cost. They told me to fill out an application and it wasn't going to cost me anything because I am Indian going to school on the reservation. They also told me that I needed to fill out an application for grants and scholarships through my tribe. I did and the education department said that I need to fill out the application and send it back as soon as possible but that I was too late for grants and scholarships for this semester. I received a letter stating why I was denied and it did not say that I was denied because I didn't meet the deadline.

I received a letter from the education department saying that I was denied because I didn't meet the requirements for the summer bridge class or equivalent and I didn't meet the requirement of being a full time student. I accepted that decision at the time. The day after I received this letter I was called into the office at the College of the Redwoods to talk about this new program that they are starting called the stipend program. This program is to pay me a minimum wage of 12 hours a week to sit in class. At first, I thought this was funny because I had never heard of anyone getting paid to go to school. They picked 15 of over 200 students to try this program and I was selected. The woman from the college had asked if my tribe was paying for any of my schooling. I said no and she asked why. I showed her my letter, she told me to come back the next day because we are filing for a grievance against the

Queen size blanket missing

Queen size, brown & tan with eagle design (furry) blanket was taken from my house. It belonged to my mom and I would very much like it to be returned. No questions asked. Also a polaroid camera. Contact Dorothy Yahtin

Lost:

Cellular telephone, black and gray Nokia 252 with leather carry case. Lost while delivering food baskets throughout the community for the Health & Welfare committee. If found, please call Hiram Yaw at Home 553-8803 or work 553-2413.

edlers fought to keep our Indian lands under our feet as proud Indian people to walk on which is called Warm Springs Indian Reservation, made in the 1855 Treaty for us three Tribes Wasco, Warm Springs & Paiute.

I'm glad our Indian people fought to keep our Warm Springs Indian land for the Tribes in Oregon and I for one, Vernon Smith Sr. am proud to call it my home, Warm Springs Indian Reservation.

To make a long story short, our people fought two wars. One to keep our land treaty rights for ourselves as Indian people and the other was overseas and my hat goes off to the ones in the past and the ones today. Most of all lets stay together and stay strong and stay strong as one as Indian people. For our own blood, because as long as I'm Indian, the Indian ways will always be alive.

Sincerely always,
Vernon Eugene Smith, Sr.

dad's address, Tell Donny to write through Mike ok! If it's cool with him, but anyways back to my family & friends in Washington and Warm Springs, OR If you'd like to write me heres my address below. I'll answer all letters back! Also, send me some photos enclosed with letters. Also, this is to Carla Tewee, I'd like to hear from you cuz! Write soon & send photos!

Thanks again,
Rayfield Jeff Mitchell #60839-065
Federal Correction Inst.
PO Box 6000
Florence, CO 91226-6000

education department in Warm Springs. I asked her why and she said because we don't have this class here. I said I would be back, but I never returned until I got more information about the letter I received. I asked what is summer bridge class and what is equivalent? The woman from the education explained the summer bridge class to me. She also said equivalent is going to school on semester without their help. Down here in Hoopa, CA being a full time student is six units in the summer time. The woman I talked to from Warm Springs said the full time up there is 12 units even in the summer time. I said I don't understand how you can do 12 units in the summer time because the six units that I had taken, I was in class for six hours a day two days out of the week. If I were to take 12 units, I would be in school 24 hours a week because you are squeezing on a semester which is about three and a half to four months into one month. This would probably be about three times as much homework as there would be for a regular semester. As for the summer bridge class, she said that the class that I took for this summer met the requirement for the summer bridge English class. Therefore, she told me to go ahead and file a grievance letter to her supervisor and to call it reconsideration. She also asked me to send my grades from this past summer. I did that.

I received another letter from the same person at the education department in Warm Springs. She denied me again because she stated that I told her in a letter that the classes here are limited, I didn't say that. I also asked her if she tried to call for any of this information, her response was that she couldn't remember. I just thought how could you make this decision without having all the information. So now, she says that I can file for an appeal through her supervisor boss so I did. I talked to this woman a couple of times before their meeting. I gave her my number and the number to the College of the Redwoods in case

Hello from Pastor Rick

To the editor,

I had my ear to the rail the other day. The sounds that I heard were of chaos and confusion at varying levels of Tribal government. It was a lot of she said, he said, she did, he did. Tribal dollars going here and there etc. You know, the usual chaos and confusion sounds. Wait, maybe it was chaos, and confusion at the state government level or maybe the federal are at it again. You know what the Bible says about government and the leaders in government. We are to pray for them. Good ones, bad ones, they all get prayer. We are to pray that with good leaders we will get blessings. And we are to pray that with bad leaders we will get blessings. You see the real leader is our Creator who created the Tribal Council and General Managers and Tribal workers. All of us must first accept the fact that the root of being leader comes from God. One of the reasons to rejoice about Christmas is the God came to lead in flesh and blood. He continues to lead in his presence as Holy Spirit. So let us pray for our leaders. For the good ones to continue to stick their neck out for the

Why is bonus only \$500 this year?

To the editor,

To the people of the Warm Springs Indian Reservation of Oregon tribal members, Niix Pucwi, in menew mi moo ma.

I am a tribal member of the Warm Springs Wasco tribes. My heart is very sad this holiday season. I feel we the people of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs "Deserve" a bigger bonus.

What is this \$500 bonus? A lot of our people are "yan wy" and look forward to our Christmas blessings. We do not drive fancy cars or have

puffy wallets.

A lot of us work for minimum wages and try to support our families. We don't get paid \$100 a day to be at work or not. If we are absent from work we do not get paid.

I feel the tribal members should vote for our money. It should be up to the people of the Warm Springs Reservation. Not the puffy wallet big shot, Tribal Council.

Sincerely,
Txs-naw-tm-tiokt, Eliza Crutcher
P.O. Box 84
McDermitt, NV 89421

Suggestions given for gift giving of elder

To the editor,

Being it's the holidays, some people have been wondering and asking what Nettie Shawaway might enjoy for Christmas or New Year's. As her temporary caregiver, maybe I can offer some suggestions.

More than anything else, she misses her people. A gift of your time in a visit would be the best. She knows everyone's busy and has hectic schedules. But as the worldly person she is and has always been, she misses hearing about everyone's lives and activities. Catcher her up on your life. Call and stop in for a visit. She'd love to see you and hear what's going on.

For anyone who's serving, she's enjoy any new dress coming her way. She also has some really nice materials that would be made up.

She also was looking for some

traditional music tapes around her place but we couldn't any. So, if anyone has a tape of good traditional songs, she'd love to listen to them.

Nettie's doing well. Hopefully, any cold or flu sickness will avoid her this winter. If you have sore throat or the sniffles, you might just call and say "Hi" instead of visiting.

She's really happy the new store is opening in Simnasho. She hopes more people, like is now happening, will again decide to call Simnasho home.

And she wishes everyone the very best. She wants you to all drive really safely, to stay well, to be kind to everyone and to have fine holidays.

She can be reached in Simnasho at 553-1456 or at P.O. Box 1043, Warm Springs, OR 97761.

Her prayers are with you.
Yours truly,
Gail Campbell

they had any questions. I had told her I had done some things that she wanted in the last letter that talked about a career plan. I showed this letter to the career counselor her and she said that she started this plan for me but had not finished it; so she finished it right there. I called this woman that I was filing an appeal to and told her that this was done. She said she was going to talk to other people I had talked to about this stuff.

A week and a half later I received another letter saying I was denied and stated who was at this meeting. This is letter did not state why I was denied. Therefore I called to find out. She called me back and said the same things as before. Obviously, nobody heard me when I said I got this stuff done that I supposed to. They didn't ask for anything they needed although they had every phone number and name that they needed. I asked her what I could do now but she said that this is the conclusion, DENIED. The last time that I talked to the person at education in Warm Springs she started talking reapplying. I told her that I was not going to reapply. She said okay.

I will not reapply because I feel like I had to beg the tribe to help me with school. I don't like asking anyone for help with anything. In this case, I was told to because that's why they are there for. Now because I refuse to ask the tribe for help, I feel like this cuts my goals in half. I had plans to attend Humboldt State University for a Bachelor's Degree. Now I'll just complete my Associate's Degree with the College of the Redwoods. Not only did they deny me for last semester and this semester, now they are denying me for next semester.

The people here said it seems like any tribe would do anything they could to help their tribal members go to school. I just said obviously not this tribe. They also talked about a math class. I placed higher than the summer bridge class because here they were going to put me in

an algebra class, which is now changed to business math. I guess it was just too much to pick up the phone and dial.

Just to let you know how school is going. This is my second semester in school and it's already almost over. It has been a strange semester because of the wildfire that has had everyone smoked out here for about three or four weeks. School was canceled for two weeks. On top of all that one of my teachers died and they didn't know what he did with all the school work but lucky for me I saved all my work on a disk. This class is a work at your own pace lab class and by next week I will have this class completed. This class is a required class for my major, it's pretty easy, basically about jobs. My English class mostly writing essays. My comparison and contrast essay is about how Warm Springs is different from Hoopa. My Cause and Effect essay was about drugs. This whole situation brings me to my last essay for this class which is an essay on persuasion. My essay is going to be about how I tried to persuade Warm Springs education department that I met their requirements for the Summer Bridge or equivalent.

There are a couple things I don't understand like the Warm Springs Education department was going to do my career plan. How can they do my career plan if they don't even know what kind of classes the college has to offer. The other thing is when I talk to this lady to ask her why I was denied, she brought up that she had asked on of my teachers for a College of the Redwoods catalog and they didn't send it. I asked her if this was being used against me and she said no. It they weren't then why did she bring this up? I did tell my teacher this and asked to call them and I told him not to bother because there is no satisfying them. I better go now I need to start studying for final in two weeks. I wrote this letter to be heard by someone since I was not heard through education.

Rossanna Jackson

Thank you for your assistance

To the editor,

Appreciation is extended to some of the people that assisted with the Men's Wellness Conference. Thanks to Judge Sohappay and Tribal Court for the food contribution for the dinner. Thanks to Annette Jim for helping to prepare the dinner. Thank you CHET for the lunches. Thank you to Tribal Council Secretaries for the delicious meal. Deep appreciation to the Drummers who came to the round dance and offered their songs.

The three days zipped by and overwhelming information and emotions were shared.

Thanks guys, GOOD JOB! Emerson, Zak, Chaz, Anson, Austin, Carlos, Charlie, Conrad, Devery and Aaron.

Thanks to everyone that helped.
Respectfully,
Char Herkshan

Reverend Rick Ribeiro