

E Coosh EEWA: *The way it is*

Spilyay Speaks Light snowpacks and small trees

Didn't hear if the Ground Hog saw his shadow or not, because the weather certainly is very warm and mild up until now. We've had no measurable snow pack around here this winter to speak of. Just up in the high mountains there has been some snow fall but far below normal and the reports are that there isn't nearly enough snow as compared to the past years. We really do need some snow fall in the mountains or we will end up with a big drought in the summer time. We do still have a month or so to see if there will be a snow fall in the high lands to have enough moisture during the summer months. We don't want to have a drought on our hands which is bad for everything, live stock and wild life as well. This could effect the Huckleberry crop if there is not enough moisture in the grounds in the highlands.

Considering the fact that snow brings hardship during the winter months it is really necessary to build up the moisture for all plant life. These past few days it seems like spring has sprung, with the weather warm and comfortable, but we do need the snow fall to help the plant life for all the fruits and vegetables for everyone. The livestock need a good stand of green grass to live with.

With this warm spell and weather could put all the woods crews to work much sooner than usual. Depending on what the allowable cut is and in what areas. Don't know just how the market is in the lumber industry today if it is profitable to harvest or not. There are times when the market is very slow, and again there times when it is booming, no one never knows just what to expect from year to year.

At one time Japan was buying all kinds of logs, even from the cull stacks, because they find ways to utilize what ever they have.

Today the timber is getting smaller and smaller all across the country because of the logging operations. And now the trees are so small they call them Woodpecker Poles.

Several years ago when you'd drive up highway 4, on the Tenino Bench you couldn't see very far because of the dense and huge timber, where the tree butt would measure from 5 to 6 feet across. Many times Choker Setters had to Halter the butt end of the logs because they were too huge for one choker. Those ole big D-9 cats just chugging away trying to get a load of logs to the landing, with the roll up cat behind pushing the load along. Even the loaders had a hard time picking up those big logs and many times they had to buck those logs in half in order for the loader to pick them up.

In them days a crew behind one big D-9 could skid just as much board feet as it takes a crew to skid in a month today. The woods used to be full of logging companies and camps, and today all those logging camps are all gone as the timber is dwindling away from being harvested year after year. We had a large logging camp here at first it was called Old Mill and after a while it was called Camp A. Today just a skeleton remains where the camp once stood.

Today the mountains and forest lands are full of bald spots from clear-cut logging which stand out clear. Yep! Them days are all gone and the trees are getting smaller and smaller.

Toe Ness

There were these two guys who were hunting and got lost...one said to the other if we shoot in the air three times and wait someone will come along. So He shoots three times in the air and they wait. No one comes along so they decided to shoot three more times and wait, still no one comes along. Finally the guy said, Someone better come along this time because these are my last three arrows..YIKES!!!

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The Indians asked their Chief in autumn, if the winter was going to be cold or not. Not really knowing an answer, the Chief replies that the winter was going to be cold and that the members of the village were to collect wood to be prepared.

Being a good leader, he then went to the next phone booth and called the National Weather Service and asked, "Is this winter to be cold?"

The man on the phone responded, "This winter was going to be quite cold indeed."

So the Chief went back to speed up his people to collect even more wood to be prepared. A week later he called the National Weather Service again, "Is it going to be a very cold winter?"

"Yes", the man replied, "it's going to be a very cold winter."

So the Chief goes back to his people and orders them to go and find every scrap of wood they can find.

Two weeks later he calls the National Weather Service again: "Are you absolutely sure, the winter is going to be very cold?"

"Absolutely" the man replies, "the Indians are collecting wood like crazy"

Letters to the editor

To the editor,

The Warm Springs water treatment plant construction started in the fall of 1980. The water treatment plant is located on the lower Dry Creek area. The source of all raw water entering the treatment plan is the Deschutes River. With completion of the plant and operation began in May 1982. The treatment plant provides all potable water for the community of Warm Springs and Kah-Nee-Ta.

The purpose of the water treatment plant is to remove objectionable or detrimental materials and produce a high quality safe water for domestic consumption. This is accomplished by providing facilities for coagulation, sedimentation and filtration of the water and chlorination to remove any harmful bacteria, virus and giardia.

When Congress passed the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act amendments the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was given the mandate to require all public water systems to provide each customer with a water quality report (The Consumer Confidence Report) every 12 months.

This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

I am pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

All our staff are certified operators. Each of our operators must report Continuing Education Units (CEUs) to the Health Division once every two years to maintain their certification.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact the staff of the Warm Springs Water Treatment Plant at 553-1472.

Steve Courtney Sr.

**Water Treatment Plant
Chief Operator**

Dear Family and Friends,
When our beloved Joyce McKinley suddenly passed away this devastated her family and I. The last years I shared in Joyce's life were very difficult. She struggled with many hardships and afflictions in her lifetime. I recall numerous conversations with her about her life.

Joyce was very saddened by her relationship with her children. She admitted to her children and others who knew her that she was not a good mother. She asked her children for forgiveness but the damage had already been done.

She married several times seeking love and affection. But the adversity of her life was there to rob her of her happiness. She made friends and enemies in her lifetime but due to this misfortune this too stole what she had. Joyce sought treatment in many of these areas.

In the years I knew her, she was always open for new change and direction. And then she was hit with Breast Cancer. All the years of living a hard life took a toll on her body. Joyce had a mastectomy last April, 2000. During this time she fought so hard to live and endured excruciating pain. She was then put on a lifetime drug called Tamoxafin which caused her more troubles. The medication changed her hormones causing severe hot flashes and depression. Today when I think about it, I believe this is what hurt her spirit - the depression. She fought so hard to live but sometimes the depression was overwhelming for her.

Joyce wasn't always depressed. She had a grand sense of humor. I remember we were always laughing and joking around. She was happy to go shopping at Goodwill and at yard sales. She enjoyed antiques and everything to do with them. She would spend hours in the library researching various types of antiques and learning all she could about them. She had dreams of moving back to Warm Springs and opening an Antique Shop.

Joyce loved to read and loved all animals. She especially loved her dog Girlee. I'm taking care of Girlee the way Joyce would have wanted. Girlee has been very good company and somewhat healing for me.

I have been back to work and learning how to cope everyday. I have a demanding job that requires me to remain focused with very little room for errors. I have tried to manage the grief on my own but found I couldn't until I recently had a wake-up call. So now I am receiving counsel from a grief counselor. I not only hurt for the loss of my friend; but I also hurt for everyone else that has passed on who has touched my life in so many ways. Grief will make one hard if one doesn't deal with it. I'm finally learning that.

Joyce was my best friend, companion and soul mate. It was very hard to even think of how to handle the affairs of putting a loved one away. Then these kind, caring people stepped forward without any unselfish feelings and without hesitation. They traveled many miles to Klamath Falls to bring her back home to Warm Springs. It was very comforting seeing all these people come so far

and step in to bring comfort.

Words cannot express the gratitude I have for everyone that was there for us. I would like to acknowledge the following people: Margaret Boise, Leah Boise-Montiel, Wilford and Geraldine Jim, Inez and Frank Mitchell, Iva and Olson Meanus, Jamie McKinley-Bailey and Family, Patches, Hazel Wahpat (Heath), Janice Gilbert, Paula Wahsise, Charlie Strom, Margaret Dearing, Bob Dearing, Chris Dearing, Janice Miller and Nancy Merino. Thank you. If I left anyone out, I'm sorry and didn't mean to. You are, nonetheless, included in my heart.

Thank you to everyone that stepped in at the Shaker Church and helped put things together at the last minute: to all the cooks and their helpers, to Neda and Eliza for making the dress, and to all of Joyce's family. Thank you all for being good to me all these years. For Rueben Garcia, Jake Sampson and Triva Sampson - your mother loved you. Remember that, regardless of the past, she always loved you. For Rosa and Debbie, please be strong. You will always and forever be known as "Legends". To Iva, Inez and Madelene, Joyce was happy that she had made amends to each and every one of her sisters, she had peace in her heart.

Once again, thank you to all who were there for the family, you all know who you are. And for those who couldn't be there, just remember Joyce and the good times you shared with her.

Thank you for letting me express my gratitude.

With all sincerity,
**Noel Dearing and Girlee
Mason**

To the editor,

This is a letter of gratitude that is long overdue. During the past few years, my travels have exposed me to the blatant corruption of other communities. This eye opening experience has driven my family and me back to our home reservation. In the process of our move we had an unfortunate accident. Our vehicle with all our electronics was burned as we passed through an electrical storm. Our pet horses almost were casualties as the vehicle was pulling them aforementioned. We were in the middle of the high desert so all we could do was unhook the trailer and watch our belongings burn. We were fortunate enough to be assisted by some good Samaritans who were willing to pull the horse trailer to the next city, which happened to be Burns.

My wife has extended family there that made a place for us. I was unemployed at the time so

our insurance was the minimum required by law. This made the accident a total loss. Material things that are easily replaced, at least my family was safe and we were all together. But as I've learned through Faith, there's a reason for all the things we go through, good or bad, it is all in the way we handle the situation presented to us. Right now I would just like to take a little of your space to thank as many people as possible that made this crisis a little more bearable.

First I would like to thank my immediate family. My brothers Roger, who dropped his own busy schedule to come and drive the U-Haul with horse trailer from Bend. He even offered to pay for the rental or anything else we were in need of, Thanks BRO. Also, I would like to thank my mother and stepfather who made arrangements for emergency assistance for my family, and made room in their already cramped quarters to shelter us in our time of need. I am truly indebted to both for life. Thank you Mom and Dad. Also a big thanks you to Danny Martinez for cash donation through your program. Thanks to the Tribal Council for their approval of cash assistance, which made the return of a borrowed horse trailer possible. Thanks to the Workforce Development in particular, Carlos and Marcia. Carlos did the long distance hiring process of myself, which nudged me to make this sudden move of residency. Marcia is willing to give a person a chance.

The rest of the staff, thank you for allowing me the understanding support to learn at a bearable pace. Thanks to Mr. Bob Medina for the clothing and small home fixtures, which will help in our bid to regain lost ground. Also a big THANK YOU to the Housing Department, their understanding and efficient handling of my families needs, please accept my apologies for the continuous amount of pestering. Your maintenance team did an outstanding job on the renovation of the unit we were assigned. There is two very special people who were detrimental to our well-being, they are my two dear sisters Aurolyn, who is always willing to give a hand whether it be financial or just for moral support, also to Eliza "Hut Dawg" Greene who makes a cloudy day seem like a sunny day, thank you. Also to my other brothers, may we all continue to grow as we grew up closer than this. May God Bless each and everyone who was involved. THANKS AGAIN.

Signed on behalf of my family:

Davis Stwyer Sr.

Some thoughts on slanderous words

To the editor,
Hello from Pastor Rick. The definition of the word "slander" from the Webster dictionary: A fast report maliciously uttered and tending to injure the reputation of a person.

In many past issues of the paper there have been articles and letters that have had a slightly slanderous tone to out-right slanderous attacks. Now to each side. To be slanderous is to express your anger without reason. Find out the truth. Then publish. If they will not let you have information, then publish that fact. Slander is an evil weapon that can cut both ways.

Throughout time, slander has been used to change the course of history: Rome, Hitler, the trials of Jesus the Christ. If you are on the receiving end of slander then confirm the truth to yourself and share it with others. If the slander does not stop, take the truth to court. If the slanderer does not stop, you publish the truth and the truth about the slanderer. The world must know the truth about the uncontrolled lives that black words of anger flow. Finally, the God of us all does not look with favor to those who twist the truth, or to those who hid the truth. Do you really want that in your life?

Well, here we go. ... Hug someone you love. Hug someone you dislike. No alcohol or tobacco for children. One day at a time. Buckle up the kids and yourselves. Don't hit or beat on yourself. Pay your bills before gambling, then stay home. Read the Bible for its effect on your heart. Pray to God to the point of your hearing Him. Honor someone. Love yourself. Like yourself. See you in church. 553-1237

rribeiro@madras.net
Rev. Rick Ribeiro
WS Presbyterian Church
(on the campus)

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