

Spilyay Speaks

Council members face big responsibility

Wuz sitting here thinking, "Gee I lost out on the Tribal Council elections this past few days ago, and the only thing I could think of was, when I made my acceptance talk, I must have smiled and the people didn't believe me."

They say that when you can tell a lie and look people eye to eye without smiling, then you are ready for Council.

Oh, Well! just kidding, anyway, I wasn't too enthused of getting on the council, because I know what a complicated and difficult task it is because they are responsible for the tribe's welfare. They are responsible for all the tribal assets and debts, and to make decisions on how we can improve our income for the tribes. There are so many things they have to deal with that it becomes very confusing on how to deal with all the issues we face today.

Every tribal member has a right to know what goes on in the Tribal Council meetings. There should be no closed-door sessions because that makes people suspicious of what's taking place. Could it be some shady dealing going on? In the past many years ago when I was just a Cute Little Tyke, they used to say any tribal member has the right to sit in on any council meetings.

We can all sit and reflect back on, Where have we been the past three years? Where are we today? And Where are we going the next three years?

There hasn't been much to talk about from the past three years, and at the present time we seem to be at a standstill.

One thing we have been pondering around is our gaming situation. The Indian Head Gaming establishment at Kah-Nee-Ta, and the location at Hood River. There are both Pro and Con feelings on the matter of us relocating to the Hood River site.

We talk of the cost of constructing facilities such as this and no matter where we build it's going to cost a pretty dollar.

The space at the Hood River site looks very limited along that big rock cliff. Just because the site is along the freeway, does that mean it would really work? Many residents at Hood River are against us having our gaming facilities there. But if we do build there, they can't stop us because it is land in federal trust, and anyone, not even the state can say anything to prevent us from building there. A lot of local people are saying it's too far away for local employment. Many people would have to relocate and move to Hood River to live in order to work there.

Maybe we should look at it from a different approach, like if we do approve the Gaming to be built in Hood River, we can take the income and establish employment programs here on the reservation for the local people. This is what our Tribal Council should be looking into of what's best for the tribal members and to do the best for all.

However we can do just as well, if we located our casino along Highway 26, because there is more traffic than one realizes that passes through here. Many people in Portland have said that if the Casino were located along Highway 26, they would be more than happy to stop and relax for awhile at the Casino. But with the Casino being located at Kah-Nee-Ta, they say it's too far out of the way for them to stop, as they do a lot of business in the Central Oregon area, and are passing through the area a lot.

There are a lot of good locations along the highway, one good one in my view would be just adjacent to the rock crusher on the flat halfway up the grade. That would be an ideal location, another would be just north of He He, on that flat at the Simnasho junction where tourists turn to go to Kah-Nee-Ta. At one time someone said that there was no power out there, but there is power that goes right to the longhouse at He He.

People may have other ideas of a good location and should speak up and voice your opinion at the next district meeting our tribal councilmen schedules. Don't sit back and later on say, we should have done this, or we should have done that. Feel free to express your opinion at the meetings.

Editor's Note

Spilyay Tymoo welcomes letters from its readers. All letters, preferably 350 words or less, must be signed by the author and need to include a phone number for verification or questions. Letters will not be printed unless signed.

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 decline publication of material that exceeds length guidelines or contains libelous or malicious statements.

Letters to the editor

Election congratulations

To the editor:
We would like to take the time to congratulate the new Tribal Council on the election. We all hope you all strive to work together for the people. We also would like to send special congratulations to Raymond Calica-Tsumptri Sr. We are all very proud of you and your leadership for the people. We also want to send a special message to Raymond Tsumptri Jr. who is attending Oregon State University. You are only a year away from your masters' degree. Hang in there and keep up on your studies. Before you know it, you will be there and your sacrifices will pay off. We also want to send another message to Juanita Calica. Hang in there on your Central Oregon Community College studies for your basic EMT and firefighter school. The family is behind all three of you and wish you the best.

Floyd Calica and Family
Rusty Calica, Wanda Calica and Family

Sheilyn Calica-Adams and Family (Klamath Falls)

Mary Calica-Bailey, James Bailey and Family (Bend)

Lillian Galindo and Family (Chesley, Brett, Luke Yahtin, Stephanie Sanders and Rachel)

Representing youth

To the editor:
They announced him as the first boy ever to represent the Northwest Indian Youth Conference and he is a proud member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Paiute Band. He let it be known that he is an enrolled member of the Paiutes and some other great news is that Gina Henry's daughter, Loloita, also was selected to represent the youth

at Miss Northwest Indian Youth. So now you have the Henry children representing all youth here in the Northwest and our children are drug and alcohol free, and practice their culture and heritage. Well I must be going, but thought I would forward the information on to you, so let the girls know and tell grandma Emily and Carol Craig, and Vince and Roma Jean Joe for us. They will be having a pow-wow throughout the weekend at the Cheney High School for the ending of this year's conference. So dad Austin and I talked about it and we will start gathering to start preparing for the conference next year because he will have this title for one year and give it to someone else next year. Just thought we would let you know because Alex is asking if I called you. Na-Na-Leah called and told us about Thailah's birthday party in Portland. Love you, take care.

Rachael Henry Howtopat

Happy 8th

To the editor:
I want to thank you for publishing my birthday wishes for all four of my children during the last two years. This will be the last year that I will need to do it from here. I am due for release in July. The first of the four celebrates his birthday on April 15. Could you please print a Happy 8th Birthday to my son. I miss you and love you very much. I will be home soon. Love Daddy. Thank you, again.

Respectfully,
Timothy Jensen

Gratitude for family, friends

To the editor:
I'm writing to the community to say thank you to all the family and

friends who helped out during the memorials over the weekend, so me and my nieces and family can help dig roots for the longhouse. Thank you to my mom and sister, and nieces, and son, and brother-in-law for their support financially and mentally. I really missed my father, but thanks to my family I was healed. Thank you to my aunts and uncles and cousins for pitching in. I know I had a year to collect things. But it seemed like the year went by too fast. Thanks to the speaker and the pow-wow drummers and the Wahshut drummer. Thanks to the cooks and helpers. Thanks to Natural Resources people, Bear Tracks, Natalie and Danielle. Thank you to the Simnasho Longhouse people who showed up and helped eat all that great food. That's all "I".

Lois Knight and Sons
Charles and Winternight Selam

Apologies

To the editor:
I would like to apologize to the people for my drunken behavior over the past several years. Time way past due for me to change towards a more constructive way of living. Being here in the heartbreak hotel has given me precious time to think and evaluate myself and my self-destructive ways. Given time I can only pray there will be a noticeable change in my life.

On a more personal level I want to apologize to Vivian Yahtin and her children and even her close friends, also to accept my apology for the trouble I put her through. From my heart I ask for forgiveness and I wish to still remain friends and hopefully no more roadside naps for me.

On a very personal level, I most heartedly apologize to my own chil-

dren and family. I will yet bring us together as a family again. For honor of all I pledge on my freedom to find a way.

Thanks,
Tyree Stormbringer

Letters sought

To the editor,
Niix Pachwai Inmima Naimuma!

My Indian name is "Twinashat" and my English name is Lawren John Slockish. My parents are Mr. & Mrs. Wilbur Jr. and Suzie Slockish. My dad is from Klickitat tribe and my mom is from the Warm Springs tribe.

I am currently in the military service at Ft. Hood, Texas and I have a year and half more to go here. I would enjoy any letters from my people. I get lonely for my Indian people and I wish to get to know new people through the letters. If you can please take the time to write to me.

I am 19 years old and I graduated from Wishram High School in Wishram, Washington in June 1999. I left for Ft. Benning, Georgia on July 28, 1999 and graduated in November 1999 from Ft. Benning and was stationed in Ft. Hood, Texas where I am currently at.

I enjoy listening to wardance and Washut music and also the modern music of today. I am always kept busy here, but I will do my best to answer any letters, but the main thing would be to hear from people from home.

Thank you!
Lawren Slockish
Alpha Co., 2-8 Infantry
4th ID

Fort Hood, Texas 76544
Editor's note - PFC Slockish's address was left out of the last issue.



Spring amid the snow

Even though it was snowing on the north end last week, the certainty of spring bloomed on the floor of the forest as moss, flowers and other plants drew warmth from the Earth.

It's easy to get sucked into taking on powerful stuff

How was your Easter? Praise God what a great time of the year. May you all enjoy your hard-boiled eggs and candy, and rejoice at the sight of an empty tomb.

From the Boston Globe:
Fishermen were ignoring Coast Guard weather warnings and headed out to sea to fish for Tuna off the coast of Cape Cod. Japanese buyers were paying \$50,000 for a nice bluefin. But the problem was not in catching, but after they're caught. The Christi Anne capsized while

battling with a tuna. The 27-foot Basic Instinct suffered the same fate. A 28-footer, was swamped after it hooked onto a 600-pound tuna. The tuna pulled it under water. These fishermen underestimated the power of the fish they were trying to catch. That is what temptation does to us. It takes us by surprise.

It looks manageable on the surface. Only after we hook into it do we discover its strength. Read from the New Testament Peter 3:8-15. Tribal Council elections are done.

Some folks have growled about the "same" faces. Well, God uses people to help lead people. So, whether you like them or not, you are required by the scriptures and the teachings of the Elders to help and pray for the leadership of this community. So, remember the saying about bitterness: It is like drinking poison and waiting for the other person to die. No to poison, yes to prayer, yes to hugging 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 each day. Love yourself. Like yourself. See you church. Warm Springs Presbyterian Church Worship at 11:00 a.m. on the campus.
Pastor Rick R. Ribiero
553-1237