

Spilyay Speaks

Reservation roadways from past to present

Today's Sunday drive to Portland was an all day trip in the past. In the early days back in the '30s and early '40s, when a person traveled to Portland, he planned to spend the night there to do business and then return.

The route to Portland, from Warm Springs, was through Madras, and north to Maupin, and west to Bear Springs and to Portland. The highways were narrow and crooked to make travel very slow.

All the roadways on the reservation were crude and just the major routs were graveled but they were rough which made it slow on travel between Warm Springs and Simnasho. All the secondary roads were narrow and crooked. At one time the road to Sidwalter Flat and beyond went up the grade just south of the housing in Dry Creek and on up the Miller Flat to Boulder Corral, and north to Hee Hee Mill. The roads were in pretty good shape during the dry spell and people were able to drive from Hee Hee Mill to Bear Springs, and on to Portland, but even at that it took a long time to get to Portland, because the roads were rough, narrow and crooked. Even during the dry season there were springs along the roads that caused mud holes that slowed the travelers.

The road to Bear Springs from Hee Hee Mill was narrow and winding and drivers had to watch out for livestock and wildlife on the roadway. But when the bad weather came the road to Bear Springs was closed for the winter as it was impossible to travel.

Yep! A winter in Warm Springs was for sure in them days unless you went through the long way around, so there wasn't much travel to Portland in the early days.

In them days there were no livestock sales rings around here in central Oregon, and the only place livestock owners could sell their steers was down in North Portland Stockyards. Every June livestock owners would get together and round up all their steers and hire a large livestock transport and send them to Portland. Everyone would follow the truck to sell their steers, spend a couple of days downtown.

It was a big thrill to be able to spend some time downtown staying in a motel. Montgomery Wards was housed in one huge building in northwest Portland. Sears and Roebuck was located along Union Avenue. (Today it's known as Martin Luther King Boulevard.) Those two stores were the big shopping areas at that time. And to just spend some time in town going to movies and to the Zoo, and other things that weren't seen in Warm Springs, and then back to the reservation again. The trip to The Dalles was another all-day trip, as people would go down to Celilo, for fishing.

Today all roadways have improved to where they are traveled all year round now. But back in them days it was a mess to go anywhere with out going through deep ruts, sliding around and even getting stuck in the mud. Every road was narrow like the road to the Metolius Bench and points to the south end of the reservation can still be seen and that's the grade just south of the Tenino Apartments.

The main road to Madras went through Mecca, where traces of the road can be seen above the lumber mill. It was said that the Mecca grade was something else, a steep hillside a narrow road and if cars met they had to edge by one another. If a car rolled down that sidehill it wouldn't stop until it reached the bottom.

In the winter no one could get to Portland through the reservation because the roads were closed from November to April or May because of bad weather.

Today it just takes minutes to travel from Warm Springs to Simnasho, with all the roadways vastly improved.

- Sid Miller

Editor's Note

Spilyay Tymoo welcomes letters.

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.

Spilyay Tymoo reserves the right to edit or decline publication of material that exceeds length guidelines or contains libelous or malicious statements.

Junior Pi-Ume-Sha queen grateful

My name is Lorien Stacona and I have recently attained the Jr. Court Pi-Ume-Sha Queen title, Warm Springs, Oregon.

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank my family, relatives, friends and communities of Warm Springs, Madras, Portland, Klamath Falls, Oregon, White Swan, Washington and all the other places people were from at the events I attended for their support of my ticket sales (\$2,060.00).

I will do my best to represent our reservation wherever I may be. It is an honor. Have a safe summer! Let's Pow-Wow.



Saludo family thanks supporters

We as family of Michael James Saludo take time to thank the wonderful cooks for preparing these meals and nourishing our bodies, the drummers for the wonderful words and songs they sang, and the bell-ringer to help lead prayers. Also the police chief, officer Springa, volunteers who were there in time of need, and friends and family who attend and help with the funeral services.

Appreciate all,
Family Saludos, Boise

Lawmakers strike offensive place names

Tribal members testify on behalf of legislation

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Staff

Within the next few years, a word that is deeply offensive to many people - called the "s-word" on the reservation - will be removed from the names of public places in Oregon.

Members of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs were influential in convincing the state Legislature this summer to adopt the law requiring that the word be removed from place names.

Passage of the new law, called Senate Bill 488, was a project of Colleen Roba, Olivia Wallulatum, and other members of the Confederated Tribes.

Roba and Wallulatum work in Warm Springs Government Affairs. This past spring and early summer, they and other tribal members testified during House and Senate committee hearings in favor of SB 488.

The bill eventually passed in both legislative houses with overwhelming support. Gov. Kitzhaber signed the bill June 27.

The new law will require the removal of the s-word from over 160 public place names in the state.

New names must be adopted within the next four years, according to the law.

In the local area, a number of places, especially in the southern area of Jefferson County, will be re-named.

The idea is for the Tribes to work with the local, state and federal governments in determining the appropriate new place names, said Roba.

Members of the Tribes Culture and Heritage Department, and speakers of the traditional languages, will be asked to participate in the process, Roba said.

In recent years, other states - Maine, Minnesota and Montana,



State legislators worked with tribal members Colleen Roba and Olivia Wallulatum (top photo), among others. A number of tribal members attended the signing ceremony in the office of Gov. John Kitzhaber (bottom photo).

for instance - have adopted laws that require the removal of the s-word from the names of public places.

The effort to pass a similar law in Oregon met with nearly unanimous support by both state senators and representatives. Sup-

porters included Sens. Kate Brown, Bev Clarno, Ted Ferrioli and Avel Gordly, and Rep. Donna Nelson.

Kids invited to enter writing competition

Hello from Pastor Rick,

Well, the month of July is almost gone. August yet to go. School just around the corner. To the parents of the reservation, how about the month of August you talk your kids into doing some light reading and light math problems. Something more advanced would be writing a short story or poem.

Hey, how's about a contest. I will give twenty dollars to the best-written one page story about a summer experience.

Some rules: Kids less than 15 years of age only. Handwritten by the kids. Good spelling, grammar,

and hand writing counts. The contest is on when I get more than 15 entries. Warm Springs kids only. I am the final judge.

Maybe the Spilyay will print the top papers?? The deadline will be Aug. 12. Mail them to me at Box 869.

Oh, by the way, the Spilyay Tymoo's rule about not printing bad letters to the people is not the idea of the new people. The rules have been on the books for a long time. Put there by tribal people.

For something very serious: Alcohol has had quite the time this summer. People who have been sober for months and years falling

off. Marriages breaking because of alcohol. Violence starting because of alcohol.

This is a slavery that must be fought. It robs the mind and spirit of hope, dreams, and imagination. Its power is to create a space between you and your God.

I ask ... no, I demand ... that people fight against such an evil presence in our community. Find a sober friend to talk about life. Go to an A.A. meeting, Margaret Buckland is leading a meeting on Wednesday nights at IHS.

Fight for yourselves; you are not alone. God is with you. Get your hope, and love back into your life.

Fight.

So, 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.

Read the Bible for its effect on your heart. Pray to God to the point of you hearing him. Honor someone each day. Love yourself. Like yourself.

See you in church. Warm Springs Presbyterian. On the Campus Worship at 10 a.m.

Pastor Rick R. Ribeiro 553-1237