

Letters to the Editor

Look to God

To the editor,
This letter is in regards to the recent voting of tribal adoptions. The first one we have to look to be course is Christ Jesus who was crucified. In Lk 9:51-56, it says Jesus came to Samaria and they rejected him! Because he was a full blood Jew (or tribal member), at this time the Samaritans were 1/2 breed (1/2 Jew 1/2 Assyrian or 1/4 that, etc.). So Jews and Samaritans didn't get along. Myself being 1/4 Filipino, 1/2 Ute, and 1/4 Warm Springs, I understand prejudice quite well, even from others here in Warm Springs who aren't full blood or those of other nationalities or those who say they are this and that.
Prejudice, pride and hatred have blinded us so much that we can't see that we are no longer a full blood nation any more. When we who have seen prejudice face to face from our own people, we either quit or we suck it up and try our best to succeed in this world, cause it ain't for "us" but for our children.
When the small pox plague first hit the Columbia River basin, sadly out of 3,000 people only 80 Warm Springs people survived. We as a people didn't quit then. Why are we quitting on our people now? Even though Jesus was rejected, He said in verse 56 "For the Son of Man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them." In verse 55 his disciples asked if "we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did?" Proverbs 29:18 "Whence there is no vision, the people perish". From a person who has lived here for 72 years, George Sr. says that our people have always taken care of their own. When did that change?
In Lk 10:29 "a certain lawyer (expert in O.T. law) said "and who is my neighbor?" Lk 10:30 was a time much like it is today, violence, crime run rampant, racial discrimination, hatred, prejudice etc. Verse 30 "And Jesus answering said, "A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment and wounded him and departed, leaving him half dead.
And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side

(neglect, this priest or religious leader probably thought, I just preached, prayed, taught Sunday school, let the Levite do it and help him, he might have a cell phone to call for help). Verse 32 "And likewise a Levite when he was at the place came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side (unconcern, he says I just sang with the choir, helped pray for our own, just came from a board meeting, got to go to a taco sale, casino here I come! Got to get to my new car, my new home, my new woman or man).

Verse 33 "But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him (compassion means to have the bowels yearn, feel sympathy, to pity, have to be moved by compassion, inward affection, tender, mercy Ps 86:15 "but thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion). Verse 34 "And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn and took care of him (the wine was used as disinfectant, in Mt. 26:27 "And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.) (The oil was for healing and represents the Holy Spirit, read Isa 61:3, Lk 4:18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord).

Verse 35 "And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence (\$64.00) and gave them to the host, and said unto him, take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.

Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbor unto him, that fell among the thieves? And he said, "He that shewed mercy on him. Then Jesus said unto him, Go and do thou likewise." I'm glad that we are now adopted in the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, full blood by Jesus Christ.

Maranatha, Easton Aguilar

Show respect

This letter goes out to those who spray painted my grandmother's house.

She has been living at her home since god knows when. I know that I'm 21 years old and she's been living in her home all my life. That is my home too.

So this is to those who don't respect their elders. Other people may be staying in that house to but you gang kids don't have to take it our on my grandma's house. You should have more respect for elders, I know you kids have grandparents to.

How would you kids like it if I went and did that that to your grandma's home. You wouldn't like that. I have respect for my elders and that's what my grandma has taught me.

So think about what you kids did to my grandma home. Think about the person who owns the home; not the people who live there.

My grandma is hurt because of what was done to her home. WS 18St S-GGG-S on my grandmas home at 1718 Bray.

Elsie Marie Sam.

Tun-Mi house

To the editor,
This letter is a little bit late in coming but I didn't want anyone to think I had forgotten. I, Tun-Mi George, would like to thank the Warm Springs Tribal Community, Tribal organization, all the businesses and people who helped provide support, sponsorship and hard work for the "Tun-Mi Cancer House" 2001 Fund Drive Concert.

The show of impersonators brought a sense of the early years of not only our grandparents but a generation of songs that I enjoyed in my youth to present as my own children/grandchildren of the "New Millennium of the 21st Century" had the opportunity to experience. Not only the songs of the past but a look back at the experience of the open high school concerts of "Rock and Roll Legends" provided by Jamie and Darlene Goetz from Portland, OR. The fund drive was a success due to the hard work and dedication of key people such as Tina Aguilar, Jamie Goetz, and myself.

Special thanks to Don Courtney and his Warm Springs police reserve for generously providing security during the two shows. Great job

guys!! The Madras High School Buff band and choir. Their participation added a special touch as back up to the stars of Jamie's "Greatest Elvis Legends Show on Earth!!" Great show Buffs & Buffetts.

Some added thanks goes to McDonalds, Sue Matheny & the Pioneer staff, Heidi of the Bend Bulletin, Central Oregonian for the tickets, and all the businesses that helped sell the tickets, the gate/ticket staff, the Spilyay & staff and any other person we may have overlooked, it is not intentional and sorry if we didn't mention you by name but you know who you are. THANK YOU!!

Donations are still being sought to help towards purchasing this house, staff to maintain it, and financial get it off and running. This battle against the ongoing disease of cancer is never ending, as it does not care about age, gender, race, and religion or if you are rich or poor. If you would like to donate, please send your donation to: Tun-Mi's Cancer House; c/o Community First Bank; 1150 SW Highway 97;

Madras, OR 97741 (541) 475-0505.

Thank you and God Bless each and everyone who helped. Dorothy "Pebbles" George

Is it worth it?

In 1996 I drove the bus for the Tribal Elders.

I would make a round trip to Simnasho to pick up & drop off the Elders on Tuesday and Thursday. The Kah-Nee-Ta Bridge was closed, due to the flood, so we'd drive past the casino.

One of the Elder's would comment on the casino, she told me that the money earned by the casino was bad money and would bring bad things to our people. Children will be neglected and bills will not be paid. She told me the reason we had the big fire and flood was because of the casino.

I took her words and stayed away from the casino for awhile, but was drawn back with the "big money" drawings. At first I only went occasionally, then it was 3-6

times a week. I spent money that I wasn't supposed to spend, trying to hit the "jackpot" or at least "break even".

On 8/10/96 came the "big win". I got 8 out 8 numbers in live keno. You may remember my picture in the Spilyay with an oversize check for \$15,000.

What you probably don't know is that after the so called "big win" came two very "big losses".

On September 2, 1996 our Grandfather passed away, then 18 days later we lost our mother.

I remembered Nettie's words "it will bring bad things to our people".

The \$15,000 brought much pain and division in my life. I had to ask myself "was it worth it"? The answer is "no".

Please consider the consequences and ask yourself "Is it worth it?"

God bless you.

Sarah Frank
Box 758
Warm Springs, OR 97761
553-3170

Have a Happy Valentine's Day



The Spilyay staff wishes everyone a happy Valentines' Day. Valentine wishes are on page 11 of this newspaper.

Please return lost item

LOST: January 24, 2002 3:00 p.m. small blue coin purse. Put a cancellation on everything that can be used. If

you found this item, return to either Post Office or Police Station. No questions asked. Jessica Polk.

How to make a difference in the world

Well, how about a mixed bag of stuff. Well, to begin with, on February 13 the Christian season of Lent begins. This is a time of preparation for the coming of Easter. Yes, the celebrations of the empty tomb is almost here. Question? How does a community that has funeral after funeral of loved ones take care of itself?

How does one layer of grief heal with another layer put upon it in a short time? What does that do to the mind of a person and to a people?

We have had a few baptisms in our church in the last weeks. It is such a great time of wor-

Hello from Pastor Rick

ship to celebrate the cleansing water, the renewal of the heart, and the acceptance of the worshipping community.

We have the community food bank in our church. The food we have is mixed can goods. I am sorry to say that we cannot help someone who is running short of their food stamp card every month.

The food we have that must last for five months goes out the door in one month. You can switch from the card to the

Commodities Program and stock up on staples for you home. Then you can switch back to the card for fresh vegetables. If you have not checked out the Commodities Program now is the time.

Tribal budgets, casino, mold in the buildings, violence in the families, alcohol use and its effect, heavy rap music, little girls have babies, etc.

If I had any hair on my head I would want to pull it out by its roots in despair. So what are my choices as a Christian and citizen of this community? Well, the first is avoid and protect myself. The second is yell and rage in order to make

someone do something. The third is to pray and to do something about it. Because God believes in you, you must believe in your own efforts to make a difference in the world. Go to any department of the tribe and ask someone how you can help. Any department has people who want to tell someone their story and ideas, why not you?

Worship is at 11:00 a.m. The Presbyterian Church is located on the campus area.

1141 Warm Springs St. See you in church.
Rev. Rick R. Ribeiro 553-1237

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 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.

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