

More letters to the editor

Tribal hiring

I would like to bring attention to the Warm Springs Tribal Administrative Rules, Chapter 125, procurement. Effective date: September 1, 1996. 125.109, Tribal Member Contracting Preference Program. It is not being followed according to what it was designed to do. Tribal affirmative action programs. The preferential treatment of enterprises which are owned and controlled by tribal members.

I don't see much promoting sound and productive local free enterprise. What I see is the opposite. The tribes are not providing maximum contracting and sub-contracting opportunities for tribal members and other Indian-owned economic enterprises.

Apparently, the contracting agents like to hire their non-tribal white families. The order of preference in awarding of contracts to Indian-owned businesses is not being followed. Tribal members on reservation; tribal members off reservation; married into tribes on reservation; married into tribe off reservation; other Indians on reservation, and other Indians off reservation.

The Tribal Council and their management have let this area get out of hand. The Construction/Contracting Enterprise has dominated small businesses like mine. Apparently, that department does not like to hire tribal Indians to work on roads...

We have tribal Indians, and married into the tribe workers on unemployment, while a company from Bend is working on the Wolfe Point Road.

Those unemployed workers didn't have more time to work, so their unemployment benefits are not as high as they could have been. Tribal members and married into the tribe have bills to pay too. They have to struggle to make ends meet.

My sister Mary and her husband Emhoolah, owner of Emhoolah Trucking, their truck is parked. That shouldn't be happening...

Why should I bid to get a job at housing, to roof or remodel? Those jobs should be awarded to tribal Indians and other Indians. In your Tribal Member Contracting Preference Program Document, non-tribal members are not mentioned to even get contracts to do carpentry.

I have not done a House Improvement Program contract in years. I have not done too many Senior Citizens Home Repair contracts...

The Tribal Council needs to bring back the Construction/Contracting Department. The construction contracts should go to qualified Indians. A department where a tribal member can pick up some blueprints and have a house built, have a porch, addition put on their house, etc. The department's only purpose is to make sure the contract is started and completed. Not to hire their own non-Indian friends.

At Kah-Nee-Ta, only one

tribal contractor was hired to paint the exterior of the resort on the north side. The contractor was also given a bad time while working on the building. Why aren't any more tribal contractors asked to bid on jobs at Kah-Nee-Ta? I don't like what is happening. You are letting management hire white people to hire more white people...

You the Tribal Council represent the tribal members. The management gets all of you into trouble. You do nothing to correct the problems that have been created. It's time the Tribal Council make some changes to correct the wrong things.

Tribal members have complained many times for a fair chance, to grow as enterprises, as a people. If there is not a change, I will encourage voters from your districts to nominate and vote in other tribal council members...

A self-employed enterprise needs to work as much as possible. We have to buy food, pay light, telephone, gas oil insurance, office equipment, pay rent, and other overhead expenses. Young people need to buy homes, they need jobs, they need to get training at college, or vocational training. Young people need hope for their future. For our economy to improve, we all have to work together toward better living conditions.

Thomas Oliver Kalama

Choose wisely

It's been a while since I cut the corners. So here I am in the federal inn with the walls in my palm thinking how the rez life got it going, but natives as my self chose a path of a rez thug living that trizzah to the fullest, not giving a about what the tribe has to offer to help ourselves make money the right way.

All the programs they have for us I really didn't care about all that. But who cares when you know how to make a fast tax, know what I'm saying? As long as you know how to have a good time, its all good.

Just don't be a hog about it or else be playing spades in the snake pitt or watching your girl cruise by on someone else's lap. What I'm saying is we younger natives have choices to choose, its that simple.

It's up to y'all who still have a chance to get y'all game on. Finish school and move on to a good life and do whatever if y'all wanna be mobba and live that trizzah to the fullest, theirs no telling, just keep it real get ya mob on do what ya gots to do to survive. Most of the time its about money, blocc parties, thugs and females...there's no turning back.

I know because I'm living it, I've had friends who lived a short life, daily it burns my heart because they aren't gonna be their when I play these cards. There are times their gonna wish for peace. And there's times gonna be on the run from the F.E.D. Team,

Thanks for help during crisis

Thank you for your thoughts and prayers and visits. We would like to take this time to thank the people who were supportive in the time of our crises. McKinley was injured on the job at WSFPI on Feb. 4, and was Air Lified to St. Charles right away. He was at St. Charles for one week. Thank-you to the following:

Warm Springs Forest Products Industries, Tiger and Teresa Van Pelt, Isaac Williams and family, Larry Dick, Merlin Tom, Larry Potts, John Katchia, Crispin Sandoval, Charles Frank, Jesse Reese Ivan Rains. Mona Strong, family and friends, Mary Danzuka, Taco Sam, Tracy and Natalia, Robert and Marella Sam, Julie Sandoval, Freddy and Johnny Holliday, and Robert Wittenberg. Plum and boys, Kristi

Ball, Toni Smith, Floriene and Harvy Scott, Steven Lopez, phone calls were appreciated.

Alex and Phyllis Tohet, Nellie Sam, Lucy Sam, Sadie (Sam) Picard, Elsie Sam, Reece Tewee, Onte Lumpmouth, David LeClaire Sr. and family, Lori Mitchell, Bernie Watlamett.

Gail Rogers and Program for Donation. WSFPI for their kind and generous donation.

A big thank-you to all who were there for us in our time of need. It was greatly appreciated. And if we missed anyone, sorry about that but thank-you all.

As of today, McKinley is doing just fine and is back on his feet. We are thankful for that.

McKinley Lopez, Jamie and Maria Lopez, Ramona and kids, James and Sheryl Lee, Carlos and Nancy and Natasha.

real thugs are trouble big time. Down for whatever until its too late. It's the grave or these prison cells.

I can't lace y'all about all I've done, that's why I'm cutting the corner but to y'all who knows what's cracking do that on a hush there's already enough springers up around me here in the federal inn. It's up to y'all. Life on the rez at times could get drastic, there's times when gun shots go off, young loks get jumped they slip, yeah I got flamed on once didn't feel too good, but what you do 10percent of the time will come back on you, maybe with a gun blast or a beat down or what ever, so keep that in mid air. It all catches up to ya.

I know because I'm living it. All that I've done got up to mi, its no joke when the F.E.D.'s catch ya, its all fun first but in the end, this is what you get out of thug life. Know what I'm saying. Once again its about choices, be careful about what y'all do even when life seems a struggle.

To the younger natives it's school or prison cells hope y'all do right.

Don't choose that path as I did and I'm for true, its no lie, pulling the trigger doing all the jack moves kicking the doors of them crack homes ain't right.

Beating hell a fools down its all trouble, but like I said whatever y'all wanna do be real about.

In my heart theres nothing wrong with all this thuggin and mobbin or being a school boy or school girl. Yeah I have to say if its on its own, I'd be representing Warm Springs to the fullest thinking about y'all on da rez doing ya thang. To the Picard family, keep strong the loss of our loved on, so many tears in my heart. Me and Dubbs did a lot. Most of my memories be about mobbin with him. I find it hard to believe he's gone. We lived the same kind of lifestyle put in work of the same things. He will be missed but thought of my many of us. I ask the family or the homies to send me the in memory card of Dubbs, my hearts out to the family and homies. Keep ya heads up.

To make these courts happy, I'm sorry at the times I did wrong but if it wasn't for people like me the police and

judges wouldn't have a job, I'm sorry for my actions on the early morning of 4th of July 2001.

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Put it in writing

To the Editor,

I hope everyone isn't being snowed by this Gaming Management. All their promises should be put in writing and publicized to all the members, before their so-called fair election. Not just false promises to certain families with a larger amount of voters. I hope these families remember that they were lied to like the rest of the last two times.

The only time I've heard the Indians use the word "we" was when "we" told management that "we" didn't want "them" putting "our casino" in Madras. Remember "they" made these plans behind tribal members' backs. Then they turn around and start planning for Hood River and other locations. Spending millions without telling the membership what they were doing with "our" money. The way I see it, these white lawyers are just conning "our" apples into thinking they are sharp businessmen.

Before people decide, they should find out just who is on this gaming board and remember how they got there and how successfully they were while wasting "tribal money" on themselves and their successful business backgrounds...

Remember their past promises, about gaming money from Kah-Nee-Ta. Such as more employment, better lives for everybody, more money for the tribes. Ask "their tribal attorneys" how they define the tribes. According to them, the tribes means the council and management. That's why you will never hear them use the words "tribal member."

Look around now, the only ones who have prospered are "our" apples and white management...

I hope people question how much is being spent on "their exclusive good ole boy restaurant" being built at Kah-Nee-Ta Lodge. I think it is to price out and keep the poor Indians out of sight. This one "good ole boy's eatery" and their im-

age as rich people are more important than tribal member needs.

What that one thing cost could have done a lot for the Indian people on the reservation, which was one of their past promises. If the council weren't conned into making it a separate enterprise and giving it to white people and apples, who have no intention of sharing "our revenue" with anyone, except to buy more prestige, respect and pats on the head from more white brothers.

From what I've been told they can still put a casino on the reservation. This Hood River dream is just a scam by a certain group of "our aging apple baby boomers," the "me-first" generation.

Read the Oregonian 3/12/02. Making money for management, and funding employment and a better life for their own white brothers and sisters is more important than the people they helped get laid off and those that are going to get laid off. They wouldn't even support a tribal member who was assaulted at this casino.

If they can do this to tribal members, while lying to them to get their vote, just think how the Indians will be ignored again, after they con you into voting for "them." They are even trying to start bad feelings with other tribes. Who started the bad feelings in the first place? Is that supposed to make us come to their rescue? That is white and apple thinking, keep the Indians fighting among themselves.

Before a few bad apples spoil the whole barrel, I hope some of those who were elected will show their real colors. If they don't, all those white scientists are right, that an apple can never grow a "pear."

Victor Moses

Casino issue

To our Warm Springs people,

Outrageous. Is anybody else outraged about how our so-called leaders are going about trying to shove this casino thing down our throats? Ever since our "leaders" lowered the voting age to 18 in order to pass our casino after the voters 21 years and older turned this casino down times things have gone from very bad to very, very bad... We are losing ground, losing millions upon millions of resources just so a few greedy individuals can run around selling us out to their whiteboy crooks... They're all in this together... wasting millions upon millions of our dwindling resources to satisfy their lust for money.

Keep our businesses, enterprises, interests, casino in Warm Springs. Casino, truck stop, amusement park, waterworld, hotels, restaurants, etc. There is so much we can do for our Warm Springs people in the long run, if we keep our businesses in Warm Springs.

Mr. Hood River or Mr. Cascade Locks do not care about the welfare of our people. And I'm beginning to think our "leaders" do not care about our Warm Springs people either.

They're doing it again, just like the last couple times going about our multi-million dollar business backwards.

Our "leaders" are wasting millions upon millions doing feasibility studies only to have the governor or our Warm Springs people vote them

down. Without coming to our Warm Springs Nation's people first to get our thoughts, input, which is sick. It is our Warm Springs Nation's people's resources, money, so why don't you come to us first, I said first, instead of wasting all these millions, then come to us last.

We want a voice in our lives, how we invest our money, before the fact not after the fact, after your so-called leaders blow a few more million on yourself and you whiteboy crooks.

Bend, Redmond, Madras, Sisters, Gresham, Prineville, etc., are some of the fastest growing cities in the nation. Plus "our" highway is the main artery into Central Oregon, which means in the near future there is going to be more traffic than we ever imagined.

Why do you think they are fixing and widening all the bridges? To accommodate the influx of traffic in the very near future.

Keep our casino in Warm Springs, keep our resources here to build an economic foundation for our own Warm Springs people instead of always pouring our resources into other communities.

Keep our dollars in Warm Springs only to sell out would promote business, jobs for another community. If we mess this up, our Warm Springs people will continue to suffer for generations to come.

Get the Warm Springs people's backing, approval before anybody starts spending our money on themselves and their greedy whiteboy buddies. White means sickness, greed, greed at any cost, even the lives of our own people.

Bobby Eagleheart

An apology

To Lisa, Sonny, Michael and Melody Berry. I wish to extend my words of condolences to you. I want to apologize for I couldn't be there physically, but I was in spirit. My heart, love and prayers are with you. Stay Strong.

One Love
Tewahnee Sahme

Hunting incident

I Gene Sampson am sorry for hunting off the reservation without a tag on October 21, 2001.

Power plants

To the Editor:

Allow me to push back the frontiers of ignorance.

I see these Cogentrix and Duke power plant proposals as nothing other than a private pocket-lining project.

Please really think about this for a moment, and try to come up with a true reason to build such power plants in Central Oregon.

Give me a solid groundbreaking projection that would serve the public in a positive sense, five, ten, twenty, thirty years from now, without destroying the livability of the High Desert?

Isn't the enormous negative impact this will have in the Deschutes Basin in particular, some sort of Writing on the wall?

On top of everything, the output of such plants would be siphoned away to other "needy/greedy" places, who are already getting a huge percent of their supplies from the Northwest.

Respectfully,
Paul Grayber and family

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