

Remember to vote

By Tina Aguilar and Selena Boise

Hey Selena, are you going to be voting for the Referendum on gaming set for Tuesday, May 21? It sounds like a lot of the people were pretty well informed at all the home-based meetings Rudy Clements and Uren Leonard were holding. Do you realize how much it costs for the tribe to set up a vote? I get so upset when the Vital Statistics and other departments go through so much trouble (and money) to get this going then not enough voters turn out.

It's only our opinion

Selena: Yes Tina, I will be there at the polls to vote yes or no. I know that it takes a lot to prepare the ballot and print all the ballots for the voters to read and then cast their vote. It's not as simple as copying it in the copy machine. Since the print shop is not operating the printing expenses are paid to another print shop, so the cost could vary up or down.

Tina: I was just talking to Madeline of Vital Statistics and she said there are 2,230 voters eligible to vote. This referendum will need 743 voters to become valid. She also said that there were 615 absentee ballots sent out. When you look at the figures and add the cost of the "small" things, it all adds up. Each time a referendum is set for a vote, it takes money. I've heard talk about more bonus and/or per capita, but when we don't get out to make a referendum valid, that money comes out of some fund to cover all the costs. If that fund doesn't have the money then it has to be found from another fund. The adoption could have been validated if enough people voted. That would have eliminated the extra cost of another referendum. Madeline also told me it takes roughly \$3,000 for each referendum. Now I'm not a mathematician but even I know that takes from the fund(s) that could be applied to a "bigger bonus". We aren't hurting anyone but ourselves when we don't vote.

Selena: Yes, that is a lot of money to spend on something that doesn't get enough response. It seems the only reasons not to vote is that voters don't have time, or they forgot, or why bother. When the bonuses come out in the mail, you see a lot of people making the time to pick up their checks from the post office, and they don't forget the date set for bonus day. Seems as though these people could make the time to make their mark and be counted as a yes or no vote. There could be opinions about the casino heard all around and yet not enough people to make that opinion known with a yes or no vote. It would save money that would have to be spent on another election, if it turns out invalid due to lack of voters.

Tina: I wonder what would draw them in. Remember last year they handed out those cool Pi-Ume-Sha cups. Maybe if they found some funds they could do something like that again. Hopefully, people would make it a point to vote one way or another because it is so important.

Toe Ness

A young brunette goes into the doctor's office and reports that her body hurts wherever she touches it.

"Impossible," says the doctor. "Show me what you mean."

So she takes her finger and pushes her elbow and screams in agony. Then she pushes her knee and screams, pushes her ankle and screams and so it goes on, everywhere she touches makes her scream.

The doctor says, "You're not really a brunette, are you?"

"No, I'm actually a blonde," she replies.

"I thought so," says the doctor. "Your finger is broken." Yikes!

Yes on casino

Dear tribal friends and members,

I hate the thought of having to advocate for the building of a casino, because as a Christian I am enlightened to the evil that accompanies gambling.

I am amazed at the gambler calling the drunks and drug fiends down, when they ask themselves the same question "how am I going to pay the light bill?" When I worked at the casino when it first opened in 1995, I watched people cash their pay checks on pay day and go home broke, asking that particular question. Some of them had kids. I used to wonder "what are your kids going to eat?" Also, I know of three fatal auto accidents coming from the casino.

The reason I am addressing the gaming issue is that I know we need the revenue the casino can bring us. I have been watching the tribes go into the red. It has been inevitable, because our tribal enrollment keeps growing; management keeps adding on new programs that we don't need; the timber industry is hurting; and our rez trees keep getting smaller and smaller.

When the tribes go into the red, the first to suffer is the lower staff. The brainstorm that management comes up with is to downsize our personnel staff. Lay off, in other words. As a result, nepotism and favoritism rear their ugly heads, and you get a job by who you know, rather than your skill level. What the tribes really need and continually ask for is jobs, jobs, jobs. If the casino is the revenue resource needed to make us a profit, then so be it. Profit can help keep our existing jobs, and be used to create more jobs and be available to finance more revenue building ventures.

Build the casino away from the reservation. We can capitalize on the Robin Hood method, and steal from the rich (non-members) and give to the poor (our unemployed).

I still think we should put a casino at Bear Springs on the rez (an hour from Portland), but the Gorge has been in progress already, and the sooner built, the better. We need the Revenue, so when it comes time to vote...Please vote it in.

R.T. Thompson

Send word

Friends and family of Rodney LeClaire

I am trying to find out if my little brother is still alive and well and if they could at least send me word of his whereabouts and address. I would like to write to him. Please, I love my brother and truly miss him.

Yours truly,

Tamara Henry

Brother Rodney LeClaire

It has been many years since I

heard or saw you. I am hoping and praying you alright, and that you will send me word that your ok and in good health. If you would just send me an address to reach you. I love and miss you, wish I could give you a great big hug and tell you in person how much your missed. I love you so much.

Love your sister,
Tamera Henry

An apology

I was charged with C.A. for putting two children in a closet and denied doing this but sentenced by T.C. on April 19.

So I offer my apology to the families of A.C. and P.H. for all the stress that they have gone through.

April 29, C.E.W.

J's Prayer

Temptations are knocking
They're outside my door
Lend me the strength
To keep my feet on the floor.
Don't let me surrender
My life for a thrill
Show me that friendship
Doesn't come in a pill
Chase away the people who will
Hand me a line
Help me remember that
My body is mine.
I don't want to inject
And surrender my soul
Don't what the prison
That smoked in a bowl
Don't let me jump 'cause
They say I can fly.
My lifes barely begun
I'm not ready to die.
Jessie Polk

In memory

Those we love Remain within us,
for love itself lives on.

Cherished memories never fade,
because one loved is gone.

Those we love can never be more
than a thought apart.

For as long as there is memory,
they live on in our hearts! Amen.

I now have faith, I love the above
poem I will forever and always
remember my father Ab in my mind,
heart. Nothing or no one will take
thoughts of my father out of my
heart, and mind.

I'm grateful I now have a head injury.
I don't drink alcohol no more!
I am still alive for some special,
unknown reason.

Evette Patt, 689 W. 13th Avenue
Apt. 11, Eugene, Oregon 97402

P.S. Having memory with faith is
just so awesome!

A thank-you

To the editor,

We want to thank the teachers and staff of 509-J and the community of Warm Springs for attending the "Teacher Appreciation" at the Agency Longhouse on May 3, 2002.



Susan Castillo

I had a very productive meeting with the leaders of the Warm Springs Tribe, one that gave me a chance to hear first-hand the struggles Warm

The goal of the powwow was to share with district teachers and staff the Indian culture and traditions of the Warm Springs Reservation. We were very happy to see the large turn out of district teachers and staff for this event. Which we believe will foster better understanding and strengthen relationships between the District staff and Warm Springs community members. We also want to thank Dinah Merrifield, Rhonda Smith and Muriel Suppah for the meal they prepared for this special event.

Urbana Ross and Martha Winishut, Warm Springs Education Committee members

Housing concerns

Tribal Members:

Overcrowding is becoming a big issue on the Warm Springs Indian Reservation. Remember that all people use a certain amount of air to breathe in and to exhale. Mold is starting to appear in a lot of homes and rental units in Warm Springs. As a concerned tribal member I urge the people to keep their homes clean to combat this problem. If we just take the time to clean our houses thoroughly and keep our yards clean this would not become a big issue. If you have a suspicious looking substance in your home or rental unit, report it to Fire and Safety. Do not let it fester in your home or it might prove hazardous to your health. I drafted this letter as a concerned citizen of Warm Springs.

Jack Quinn, Warm Springs Housing Commissioner, phone, 553-2542

Regarding gaming

To the editor,

Remember people saying "this is the worst Tribal Council there ever was?" I remember people saying that in the 70's. If everybody will think back, that council called themselves the "chosen ones". Now they're all in these top management positions. The same are head of all "our" Separate Money Making Enterprises. The same that has kept hiring more and more white people with degrees. Because they refuse to train or recognize Tribal Members who have degrees. The same that condones the firing of Indians, by their white cronies. It is

Letters reminder

The Spilyay again would like to remind readers, please limit Letters to the Editor to 350 words or fewer.

Letters that are longer than 350 words are cut starting with the last sentence. Also, individuals should, absent unusual circumstances, submit one letter per every couple of months.

just to keep everything for themselves, by keeping all but a few in the dark? It's nepotism when they appoint someone to a top position, without a GED.

If we are that bad off financially, how can the Gaming Enterprise take \$20 million of our reserve fund. There hasn't even been a vote. Are they that confident or are they just going to do it anyway? Makes me pretty leery of how the votes are to be counted. If they wanted to enhance Ka-Nee-Ta why did the Gaming Board turn down a half million from a company that wanted to invest in entertainment a few months ago? People should be wondering, if the board and their cronies want anyone except the chosen ones to really know their accounting methods. Since they won't account to the Tribal Members, just who and where are they from? They only seem to appear when they need a vote.

We have relied on "these chosen ones" to make decisions for us. Remember these "leaders" did not grow up like the trusted Indian who got The Reservation started decades ago, people who consulted and "listened" to those who elected them. Now, they only hear the greedy Apples, white lawyers & consultants, and adopted breeds.

Their old slogan was, the casino will be Indian owned, Indian run for the Indian people which turned out to be BS. But, what did anyone expect from wannabe politicians who want to support and train more white people, when its proven they can't even run Kah-Nee-Ta as promised. Was it just to get a vote?

I've heard of people getting away and leave the reservation to the gangs. Weren't these the same youngsters promised to prosper from Indian Head?

Victor Moses, Tribal Member

Happy Pentacost on May 19

To fight the rise of beef, chicken, and fish being bought in America, the pork industry came up with the "other white meat" ads.

Well, in the Christian Church we have our other white meat. Christmas (the birth of Christ) has been nearly taken over by Santa. Easter (the death and resurrection of Christ) is muddled up with egg laying rabbits. But, now the celebration of Pentecost. Yes I said Pentecost (the gift of Christ) has not yet been turned into a national day of water balloon

fights. You see, for we the body of Christ we believe in one God and His three ways of involvement with Creation. God as creator and leader (father). God is living example of His plan for creation (Jesus the Christ). God as guide and mover in creation within our lives (Holy Spirit). Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. The same one God for the purpose of fellowship with His creation, us. The Trinity is another great example of how much Love our creator has for us. And how far He is willing to keep the relationship going forward. Happy Pentecost May 19.

Pastor Rick R. Ribeiro 553-1237.

Hello from Pastor Rick

Candidate says, Thank you for the endorsement

Dear Warm Springs Tribe,

I want to thank you for your wonderful support of my candidacy for Superintendent of Public Instruction, the head post for our public schools.

Since my first term in the Senate in 1997, I have been a champion for Oregon's Public Schools. I have also gained a diverse perspective on education in Oregon through my work as a journalist, reporting on our schools prior to serving in the Senate.

I recognize and value the importance of a strong education, and I will fight to see that all our children, in every community, have access to one.

Springs children face in getting a quality education.

I look forward to working together in the future to ensure that these children's needs are met as we work to strengthen the school system.

Our schools deserve a leader who will work in partnership with elected officials, parents, teachers and other community members.

If we care about our economic future and our overall quality of life, then creating a united focus to improve schools must be our highest priority. These are crucial times, a time when the children of Oregon need a strong, focused voice fighting on their behalf.

I am running for Superintendent

of Public Instruction because I have a clear vision for our schools and the experience and commitment necessary to make that vision a reality.

This election presents a clear choice of who will advocate for and lead Oregon's public

schools. We are at a crossroads and we must make the decision to stand behind our public school system and fight for the highest quality of education for all our children.

I have released position papers that you can download off our website at www.susancastillo.com, or if you would like to talk to me about the campaign, you can contact my Portland office at (503) 232-7223.

Sincerely, Susan Castillo