

## Letters to the Editor

### Regarding horses

To the editor,

The following information is for all horse owners and those considering becoming an owner.

There has been some confusion and misunderstanding concerning the laws that govern the Simnasho/Log Springs grazing group.

A Ride Boss is the only individual who can authorize and sign a ride poster. District owners as well as non-district owners, needing to gather horses, need to contact one or two of the ride bosses and set a date for the ride. Gathering will be done with one or both of the ride bosses present.

An unmarked horse that is two years old or older and not following the mare is considered an unclaimed horse, slick or outlaw (yearlings and spring colts have been lost). Other forms of markings that need to be checked for are tattoos on the upper lip, shod horses, gentle saddle horses, geldings and horses with halter on. Papers or bills of sales could be used to identify horses that are not branded.

Please take caution when dealing with livestock that you meet while enjoying the rez. Do not chase livestock for amusement purposes with four wheelers, and do not allow your children or friends to use them as practice stock. It causes undue stress and weight loss and mares and colts might become separated or get caught in barbed wire. Livestock that is thin or injured will bring a lower sale price when taken to the sale. The owner will spend more time and money to feed and care for the animal. Livestock needs to be in good shape going into the winter months.

If you would like further information, refer to the Simnasho/Log Springs grazing group five-year plan for clarifications on these issues. Thank You,

**Jay Suppah**, Simnasho/Log Springs Grazing District.

### Water issue

I strongly object to the finalization of the water agreement that our tribal attorney Jim Noteboom has negotiated that quantifies the Water Rights of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

Mr. Noteboom goes as far as saying that Warm Springs won't even consider reviewing water permits issued before 1991 in order to meet our water requirements. I thought that he was hired to protect our water rights, not give them away. I have to seriously question Mr. Noteboom's decision-making on that.

Just this year *The Oregonian* and the Bend *Bulletin* published articles that Central Oregon will definitely be faced with a water shortage. Isn't this contradictory to what our legal adviser is telling us.

If I remember correctly, these articles mentioned that the Oregon Department of Water Resources has been very negligent in issuing water permits, contributing to the anticipated water shortage, and is considering buying water rights back to diminish the anticipated water shortage. Shouldn't Oregon be held accountable for this negligence?

This agreement as it is currently being presented will not safeguard or secure the water needs of the most senior water rights' holder, the Confederated Tribes, indefinitely.

If Mr. Noteboom possessed a magic wand that could make water appear out of nowhere, I wouldn't be so concerned.

The exclusion of water permit holders prior to 1992 would deprive not only Warm Springs of legitimate water rights, but short change the entire citizenship of Oregon as well. If the media's statements are true, all water resources are the property of Public Domain, which means every citizen of Oregon has a collective ownership of this dwindling water resource.

Public meetings gathering input has supposedly been ongoing for some time now. I have followed our water rights issues fairly closely and don't recall seeing any state senators, representatives,

or the Oregon Department of Water Resources, Bill Back ever soliciting tribal member concerns.

This constitutes asking the question why the senior water rights' holders weren't adequately informed and consulted before the final stages of this agreement. How can we be expected to make an informed decision.

I seriously question the determination process that was used to establish our water quantity indefinitely.

Thank you.  
**Randy Smith.**

### Hiring practices

To the editor,

Referring to *The Oregonian* on July 25, it looks like our gaming leaders took a lot of the tribal members assets and didn't even have a business plan. Why were they allowed to grab millions to use as they please, and not have any concrete plans? Who are they listening to? All these "false prophets" going by the title "consultant."

Why all the secrecy? All I've heard was that the gaming manager hired himself two new assistants. Odds are, they are nowhere close to being Indian. If they haven't spent it on top architectural firms and other top companies, as they've already claimed, just what have they spent tribal members' assets on? To me it sounds like just other of their big "top-of-the-line" ideas. The last minute, are they going to hire one of their consultant buddies, out of work friend or brother-in-law? Our gaming professionals can't be running things, because the main expert stated in the paper that he wanted to be "surprised" by the architecture of his new building.

These tribal business leaders are the same ones who put the tribal members in this financial hole. They've used their positions of authority to take care of "their" first loves—their white brothers and sisters and their own greed.

In the meantime, they have the Indians fighting among themselves again. With threats of job cuts and fewer hours, I see members back stabbing and throat cutting to be the ones kept on. I don't hear of our Caucasian employees being put in this position.

This is the same thing they did when gaming first ran into trouble at the beginning. The same Indians that trained the white people were cutting each other's throats to keep full employment.

The non-members didn't have to worry about it. Like now, if a non-Indian

doesn't get their way, the first thing out of their mouth is "I'm going to council." Then they get immediate action.

That should show everybody the true colors, and who this council's voting majority is actually representing.

If they're cutting back why are they replacing Indians with more expensive outside "professional labor?"

**Victor Moses**

### Concern for tribes

Dear Editor:

I am writing with a lot of great concerns, and sympathy due to the fact of the crunch of our tribal budget.

There are times I can see and understand why and how these cuts are needed in certain areas, but to my knowledge why do these leaders take from needed areas?

This does not make sense. I for one know what is good for the goose is good for the gander.

We have leaders who have made promises to serve our tribal affairs and tribal people to the best of their ability. Again I wonder who are they serving—one another or are they serving us to their best? Questions in hand they may set back and share amongst one another, and say who is he or who is she to say?

The promises from our Tribal Council have not been met in my heart and eyes except to see the leaders look down their noses, and by-pass me and several other members of our tribes. It is a shame that the example is not setting very well toward our youth, who are going to be the next leaders of our tribes.

We have too many chiefs and not enough warriors.

I for one knew of one man who had done a lot for our tribes, and took care of us very well.

Mr. Ken Smith was highly recognized throughout the United States, and Washington D.C. He had helped his people during crucial times of our lives. Since he left his seat, I have not seen anyone able to take his place.

Mr. Smith had also put our tribes on the map in a good way. Back then we did not have all these GM's. There are jobs created for people, but who? Well I do not believe our people are blind. I see like others see, those jobs are basically for who our leaders choose.

There are many tribal members talking but do not want to speak up.

Warm Springs has not changed for years. Why? We need to support one

another and quit holding so much hate and anger toward one another. There is too much animosity within our tribes.

**Foster Kalama**

### A thank-you

To everyone who supported me when I lost my baby girl, I want to say thank you. Thank you to all the drummers, Fred Wallulatum, Patrick Mitchell, Gene Sampson, Guy Wallulatum, Lil Bull Suppah, Big Rat Suppah, and Evan Spino Sr.

Thank you to the cooks, Alice Sampson, Lisa Wallulatum, Roberta Gleason, Adeline Gleason and Olivia Gleason.

Thank you to Romagene Joe and Fred Wallulatum for making the clothes. Thank you to my sisters Vanessa Andy, Mellisa Knight and Lynn Hudson.

I want to say a special thank-you to my cousin Violet Heath for keeping my secret and for being there for me through it all. Thank-you to anyone else I forgot to mention.

To the father and his family, if you want to put flowers on her grave, she's buried at the Simnasho Cemetery by the back entrance. There are only three graves back there, and she's the smallest one, and the only one with flowers planted at the head.

Baby Girl, you came into my life so suddenly and left just the same.

My baby girl, it was out of a short but very bad relationship that you came.

My baby girl, I could tell by the way you moved inside that nothing would have gotten in your way.

Sweet baby girl, I looked forward to bringing you into this world every single day.

Baby girl, when you were taken away from me, my heart was broken.

Baby girl, just taken out of this world with so many words unspoken.

Baby girl, losing a child is a pain that nobody should have to know.

My baby girl, know that in spite of the pain, I love you wherever your spirit may go.

My baby girl, dedicated to Ramona Frances Knight, I love you.

**Marie Ann Knight**

### Keeping faith

I am writing this letter to all my family and friends back home. I am singing Washut songs in the sweat lodge, here at Atwater U.S.P. I am singing these songs for my cousin and uncle's

### Reminder regarding letters

It is the policy of *Spilyay Tymoo* to print Letters to the Editor from any and all tribal members. Because of space limitations, letters should not exceed 350 words.

Letters that are longer than 350 words may be cut starting with the last sentence and progressing up until the item is within the 350-word limit.

This policy is necessary in order to ensure that room exists in the newspaper for all of the Letters to the Editor.

memorial.

I am doing this because I feel bad for not being there for my people. When you learn your religion, but can't practice it because you're locked up, it hurts a guy. I never realized it before when I was out there.

So please, if anyone is practicing the Washut religion, keep up the good work, because we as a people need our religion. It's our way of living.

I would like to tell my family and friends to please be careful out there. This world is going crazy, so take care, everyone.

Also: It would sure be nice if you all would drop me a line or letter, because this Native gets lonely at times.

My address is Michael Meanus, No. 65571-065, United State Penitentiary, P.O. Box 019001, Atwater, CA 95301.

Sincerely, **Michael Meanus**, aka M-Tone.

### Hello

I would like to say hello to my grandmother, Rose Mitchell.

I love you so much and I miss you so much. And to the rest of my family on Beaver St., Tommie St., and on Sunnyside.

I can't forget about my cousins Drew-P. Mack, and my brother L.G.W. Jr., aka NativeStyles, and too Cece Bruno, Sara Veath. Hope you two finish school.

My sister in Fort Halls, and to my friend Maucia Cortez, keep your head up.

My cousin down south Nathen Berry, and up north my cousin Levetta Berry, and my Aunt Angez. To my true friend Ida Tewee, thanks for writing me and caring for my baby girl, for my sisters Sarah, Cindie, Bobbie, Gilbert and my nephews John, Andrew Gilbert, my mother and step dad. My brothers Jess, Wyne, to Chuck-Dewg, stay up, Native Stylez.

Can't forget about Sugar Hall.

My address is here if you would like to write me, and I will write back as soon as I can. I would love to hear from even if.

**Tony Justin Gilbert Jr.**, CPM's No. 652462, MCIJ, 11540 N.E. Inverness Dr., Portland, OR 97220.

## Consider the food commodities program

I want to talk about the Food Bank at the Warm Springs Presbyterian Church.

It is for the most part mixed canned goods that come to us every four to six months from the Oregon Bank System. If you need food we will do our best to help. Now, here comes the big but... More and more folks need help with food. Mostly people who have the food stamp card that never makes it to the end of the month. It has put me into the position of giving smaller bags of food to make

**Hello, from Pastor Rick**

it last longer. But now, you can improve your food needs. You are allowed by law to switch from the card to the Commodities program.

You can stock up with food from the Commodities Program. Then switch back the month card. Yes you can. The food is not old like my canned goods. John Brown from the Commodities Program says it is trucked in every month. They also have fresh vegetables and fruits.

## Same-day appointments to improve health care

**By Dr. Thomas Manning**

This article is to explain some changes you will be seeing at the Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center.

First, though, I would like to say thank you for taking the time to be interested in your own medical care and how the system works.

We would like to be a team with you in providing health care and information so you can be a healthy individual.

To improve services at the Health and Wellness Center, we are increasing the time available in the day for same day appointments.

Providers here in the clinic will schedule over 50 percent of their time for same day appointments.

This should allow you a better chance to see your own physicians when you need to see them.

Call the clinic the day you want to

be seen, and we will work to accommodate that request that day. Occasionally, this may need to be the next day.

If you have an emergency, let us know right away, so that we can assist with that immediately.

Let the nurse know what your medical needs are when you call. Sometimes a phone call is all that is necessary to take care of the problem.

*How do I get into the clinic if I can't schedule an appointment?*

There will still be opportunity to schedule appointments further into the future if that is what works best for you.

Another option available is that you will be given a reminder card asking you to call in at the time you want to be seen (one week, one month, six months, etc.). This allows you to be more flexible in scheduling your fol-

low-up.

This also reduces the chance that some conflict arises in your own schedule that doesn't allow you to keep your clinic appointment. In reviewing our experience, and seeing what seems to work the best for most people, our "Same Day Clinic" has worked well. People are able to make appointments at a time that is most convenient for them. This is the success we want to build on.

*Who or what is my designated provider?*

When you call, the nurse will ask who your designated provider is. If you don't know, or if you don't have a designated provider, please talk to us at the clinic about assisting you in getting linked with a designated provider.

Your designated provider is that provider you would most like to see when you come to the clinic. Having a design-

nated provider who knows you best, and sees you regularly helps in getting the most value for your clinic visit. This also saves you time, because your designated provider does not always have to ask questions that you have answered many times in the past to someone else. For those times that your designated provider is not available to meet your needs, we can schedule you with an alternate provider.

*What if I don't like this new system?*

There may be problems that arise which we have not foreseen. If you have difficulty with this new schedule, please let us know, so we can adjust this to work the best for everybody. The people to contact are Dr. Manning, Sharon Miller, RN, Michele Gemelas, and Russ Alger. If you really do like our new schedule, please let us know that also, and tell your friends.