

Many changes over the years at Spilyay Tymoo

By Selena Boise

This week I'm sitting here thinking about past years at the Spilyay Tymoo.

I'm thinking back to when I started at the Spilyay. We were at the courthouse building and the staff was a fun working group that made the job interesting.

I learned a lot from Donna, Marsha, Priscilla and Pat. I didn't just answer the phone, I was helping with the layout, and trying to write stories.

I left for a while to work at the printshop because my major in college was in the printing field. I liked the printshop, and was still able to go to the Spilyay to use the Varityper for my layouts.

I was still doing layout, but most of it was departmental forms, which was not as interesting as cutting and pasting the Spilyay.

I eventually came back to the Spilyay, where I was the typesetter, still using the varityper. Priscilla and Pat moved on to bigger and better things. I was happy for them, even though I missed them. But Saphronia came in to write for the Spilyay and she became a good friend to me.

Later, Marsha was taken from us too soon. She was irreplaceable. Then Donna was taken from us. These were two very good writers who were always helping me with my stories. They were good friends with a good ear and advice based on personal experiences, which was helpful to me in my quest for sobriety.

We added Tina and then Bob, several other limited duration employees who came and went. But I always remember that through all these changes Sid was here. We became friends and he taught me managerial and people skills. He also supported me in my sobriety with stories of his own struggles, and other stories not printable.

Through these changing times the paper dwindled down to press releases and a story here and there. I lost the will to write without Donna and Marsha's red pens. We were getting by.

Then recently we moved into a new building, and hired writers for the paper again. That is the best part of the paper from my standpoint: The original stories, just like Marsha and Donna used to do. The first editor brought in was not a people person and I didn't like being here. He left and we have Dave. You all probably know him by now, he's a people person, kind of quiet, but very teasing. Oh yes, there is Bill who comes by to assist with proofreading, and writing. Try not to pick on them.

Sid is gone. He retired and I was happy for him yet I miss his daily jokes. He still stops by with an article, photos, or a joke or two, and I'm glad that he does.

Tina and I were still hanging in there until recently, when she resigned. She was my sounding board when things got hard, and she would read my stories for content (without the red pen). She knew people in Warm Springs and helped me in that area. I sort of know who's who now.

Without any of these employees I feel alone, although there are writers here like it used to be. They may never replace the people who have been here with me all these years, helping me with my struggles and working at the Spilyay. I feel like I was left here.

I do like where the Spilyay is now, the paper looks good and the story content is good.

We are divided into news beats, which was new to me, so look for reporters covering their beats.

I watched the Spilyay evolve into the computer age, and I'm glad I was here to help and be a part of that.

Now there is the possibility of a web page for Spilyay. I can't wait to learn that.

For now I am just moving with the changing times and going with the flow. I think the paper is getting better each issue with layout and content.

That's my opinion.

Spilyay Speaks

Powwow court

The Lincoln's Birthday Powwow Committee is looking for interested young ladies to become the next Senior Court Queen and Junior Court Queen for the 2003 Lincoln's Birthday Powwow.

Senior Court ages are 13-18, and Junior Court ages are 12 and under.

These girls will sell raffle tickets and will receive a percentage of their sales along with other gifts of appreciation. So the better sales are going the higher percentage each girl will receive. The young lady who sells the most tickets will be crowned with a put-la-puh (hat) that will be hers to keep.

Young ladies who are interested will need to submit a letter of interest, including the reason why you would like to represent the Lincoln's Birthday Powwow. The letter should also state your age, your traditional background, hobbies and interests.

Mail your letter of interest to Lincoln's Birthday Powwow Committee, P.O. Box 904, Warm Springs, OR 97761 before Oct. 7.

All sales are to begin on or before Oct. 14. If you have any questions you may call 553-9230.

Sincerely, 2003 Lincoln's Birthday Powwow Committee

Appreciated

I was recently awarded a scholarship from our Kah-Nee-Ta High Desert Resort and Casino Scholarship Committee. I want to thank Lena Ike, Jeff Ford and Rudy Clements. I also want to thank the law offices of our tribal attorneys, for allowing me to work there this summer as a college intern. I enjoyed working with Dennis Karnopp, Jim Noteboom and Howie Arnett, learning about our Treaty, gaming laws and overall tribal organization. I also want to thank my immediate supervisors Chief of Police Don Courtney, and Sgt. Lovie Ike for the support and training. I especially want to thank Chief Courtney and Tribal Higher Education in preparing me to attend the BIA Basic Police Officers course in 2003.

Sincerely, F.J. Calica

Dog control

To the editor:

I am writing this letter on behalf of my daughter and myself.

The dogs in West Hills, and on the rez for that matter, are becoming increasingly hostile. No more than a year ago Vernon Smith Sr. paid a visit to the ER due to these apparently-owned pack of dogs. Our cats had kittens about three months ago. We had a total of 11 cats and kittens. They all stayed alive as long as they stayed inside.

We now only have four kittens, and we love them very much and do not want to bury them. I understand there

is a law in our community stating that all dogs must have tags. I suppose somebody took care of all the dogs that didn't have tags, but I guess they forgot some.

It is illegal to discharge a firearm in city limits, so what am I supposed to do? Stand by while the animals I love and care about get ripped apart by the community's stray mutts?

All of my cats have names. I'm sure that's more than these mutts have. They travel from yard to yard, scouring the ground for something to eat. Suppose one of them gets daring, or hungry enough to attack a person or a pet.

I believe a pet is an animal you care for and love and not forget about. I'm not saying this to be mean, but out of concern, because many animals are too small to defend themselves.

It would be greatly appreciated if the law enforcement would do something about this matter. Rather than talking about it, "Put it in motion." Thank you.

Lula Ann Smith and Aspen Johnson

Cycle of poverty

The Warm Springs Community Action Team is looking for a few good men and women.

Our mission is to break cycles of poverty in Warm Springs while we collaborate with other Community Action Teams across the region to break those same cycles throughout Central Oregon.

Recognizing that the only real change will come from real people working together in effective ways, we invite all people interested in the well-being of the Warm Springs Community to join us for our General CAT Team Meetings, held the first and third Thursdays of every month at 4 p.m. at our office in the Plaza in Warm Springs.

For more information, please call 553-3148. Sincerely, Shawnele Shaw

For youth safety

On Monday, Sept. 9, Josiah, Ashley and Dorinda Welden (ages 9, 7 and 5 years) rode the bus from Warm Springs Elementary to their home on Tenino road.

Their home is only a stone's throw away from their bus stop, and the school bus drops them off around 4 p.m. After getting off the bus, a stranger in a full-size white pickup with canopy approached them and told them to get into his truck.

Josiah told his sisters to run. This was a very smart move on his part, since he had to do quick thinking in a very scary situation.

When they reached home they told their mother what happened. Within this short period of time, the guy was well on his way to Warm Springs.

Yes, I truly am thankful for my

grandchildren's safety, but what about the "next time"? I certainly don't want a next time. The next time could mean permanent loss for such precious young lives.

We can allow our concern and how much we care about others by being aware of our surroundings. What's going on around not only you, but others in our community? If we see anyone familiar or unfamiliar acting suspiciously, make careful mental notes. Try to concentrate on details such as type of vehicle, color, obvious identifying marks (dings, bumper stickers, fancy wheels) and possibly a license plate number.

What about the person in the vehicle? Did the person have facial hair, scars, and were there others in the vehicle. Try to remember what the person wore, the color of the clothing, shirt, jacket, hat. Was the person wearing glasses, sunglasses... anything that could be helpful for reporting to police.

We've lived on our reservation most of our lives. We know each other because we grew up together, went to school together, sometimes got into mischief together, and now we're working together and growing older together. Some way or another we are related by blood, marriage or lifelong friendship. We have a bond that can't be broken until death. So let's keep this unique bond by looking out for each other.

Sincerely, Dorina D. Surface

Youth group

To all seventh- and eighth-grade boys and girls, and high school young people as well. I am starting a Christian Youth Group. Sunday nights at 6 p.m. at the Warm Springs Presbyterian Church. It will be Bible study, games, food and to help with worship at High Look Lodge Sunday nights at 7 p.m.

The best way to discover who you are is to involve yourself in Christian service. We will talk about money, sex, power, love, anger, you know all the topics. For more information call 553-1237. Pastor Rick

An apology

I apologize to the Robinson family and the Victims of Crime staff for not responding at 11:41 p.m. on September 9, when I was paged. I was the person on call for the Victims of Crime.

I did not have my pager with me when I went to bed, and I was not aware of the fire until 1:30 a.m.

Sincerely, Sarah Frank

Reward for dog

Lost dog: Miniature dachshund. Multi-colored, answers to Toto. Lost on September 25 by the Deschutes Crossing Restaurant. \$50 reward for return, or information leading to return. Please call 923-2793 with information.

Letters reminder

Spilyay Tymoo greatly appreciates the Letters to the Editor that we receive. As a standard, letters should not exceed 350 words in length.

Birthday wishes...

Being a grandparent is something very special. They bring me a lot of support in all they do. We still miss that special person.

I want to wish some grandchildren of the month of September a Happy Birthday.

My beautiful pride and joy great granddaughter. Anona C. Francis, 1-year on Sept. 26.

Grandson Albert Dean Adams.

Across the miles to Pendleton Deno Jones.

Our girl, Tamesha Brown.

Across the miles on the Yakama res. My niece, Aurolyn.

From Charlotte Ike.



Happy belated birthday Agnes Anderson in Wapato, Wash. Love and miss you. Take care. Your aunt Nettie, cousins Mallory and Joshua Polk, your niece Neteva Lysarose Polk-Saludo.

Happy 3rd birthday Neteva Lysarose Polk-Saludo. We are blessed to have our sweet little girl. Always in my heart, from grandma Nettie, Uncle Joshua, Curtiss, Grandpa Gary Chiquito.

Happy birthday to Gary Roscoe Chiquito-Katchia, from Grandma Nettie, Laura and Bobbi, from Grandpas Gary, Bill and Albert, cousin Neteva, Aunt BJ, Mallory, uncles Davis Jr., Nicholas, Joshua, Harley, Curtiss, TJ.

Happy birthday Leanna, on Oct. 10. From your mom and dad. Happy belated birthday Curtis. From Selena.

A very happy birthday to Princess Revonne. Love, g'ma Faye and Donna.

Happy birthday Ooh. From Mom, Donna and Whitedove.

Wedding announcement

Friends and family are invited to attend the wedding of Gary Smith and Candace Watters at 3 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 12, at the Agency Longhouse.

Oregon Health Plan a benefit to tribal members

From IHS and MCP staff

Since spring of last year, the State of Oregon has supplied the Indian Health Service with Oregon Health Plan eligibility packets.

Patients can apply for Oregon Health Plan (OHP) coverage right in the Health and Wellness Center on a walk-in basis.

Once an IHS business office representative or Managed Care Program patient advocate determines a patient is most likely eligible for the OHP, then they can immediately assist the patient in filling out the eligibility application.

It is then promptly mailed to the OHP Office. The end result should be eligible community members covered by the OHP. If all community members who are eligible for the OHP become covered, the benefit to community members will be great.

This benefit will be felt both via the tribally operated Managed Care Program, and the IHS clinic located in the Health and Wellness Center.

The goal of the Managed Care Program (MCP), operated by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, is to make sure that when a Native American from the Warm Springs commu-

nity sees a medical services provider outside of the Health and Wellness Center, such as a doctor or a hospital, that the care he or she receives is of good quality and at a reasonable cost.

The MCP has a limited amount of funds, so it is important that they are used efficiently.

Health care costs are rising after a period of years of rather gradual growth. Not only are there many technological advances that drive up costs, but the reimbursement process for services are much more complex than ever.

Medicare, OHP and insurance companies are reacting in a variety of ways. MCP costs are affected by the current environment, as reflected in the much higher costs it has experienced. This is most likely the start of a trend that will continue.

The major challenge will be to position MCP to continue to see that quality service at reasonable cost is provided to eligible patients in this environment with the limited funding MCP has.

As mandated by federal law, the MCP is the "payer of last resort" for medical claims, which means it will pay

medical claims for eligible people only after alternate resources have paid their appropriate share. Thus the use of alternate resources enables the MCP to provide more and better care for Native Americans by "stretching" its budget.

The Oregon Health Plan is one of these alternate resources. According to federal regulation, a Native American is required to apply for the OHP if there is reason to believe that he or she may be eligible for it.

Once on OHP, a person is required to fill out renewal forms at intervals determined by OHP.

The MCP does not pay for services for people who should have been on OHP but fail to follow the above process, so MCP denies any claims received and the patient is responsible for the bill. In fact, a patient's failure to follow through on application to OHP is the most common reason for MCP to deny payment of a claim.

Indian Health Service

The goal of the Indian Health Service is to provide quality care to all eligible community members.

Direct services such as general medi-

cal care, dentistry, and optometry, in addition to ancillary services such as pharmacy and laboratory, are all available in the Warm Springs Community.

However, operating costs for the IHS are only partially funded through a congressional budget process that at times can become fairly political and unpredictable. Thus, at best, dollars that Congress allocates fund only a portion of the costs of operating the IHS Clinic. The remainder of the operating costs, as well as funding for capital equipment purchases, is provided through IHS billing various alternate resources, such as insurance companies and OHP, for the patient.

In other words, the more community members who are covered by OHP, the more dollars that IHS can collect from billing OHP for services it provides to community members. Operating costs and capital costs are thus provided for, which leads to higher quality of service.

The agreement between the IHS and the State of Oregon for the IHS Business Office to keep a supply of OHP eligibility packets on-site is advantageous for the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.