

World events close to home

By Selena Boise
Spilyay Tymoo

Well, today I am reading about the war in Iraq and hearing many opinions about it in the press and around the reservation.

To my understanding the war is taking place to disarm Saddam Hussein of weapons that can produce so much harm that many civilians could die. And many have already died because he killed people to prove how powerful these weapons are.

That also proved how cold-hearted this terrorist is. He killed many of his own citizens.

There are many people holding protests in the big cities. Seems they feel strongly that the war is wrong.

I was reading the opinion page of *The Oregonian*, and saw that a soldier had written his mother to say that he is fighting right now to protect the U.S. from more terrorist attacks. He stated that he loves his country and the people closest to him here, and that he is fighting for their freedom from terrorist acts.

He was particularly disappointed that there are protests taking place in his home state.

He also had concern that he would not be welcomed back home because he is fighting in this war.

I am having a hard time forming an opinion about it one way or another.

On the one hand the budget is not what it used to be and money was taken from the state to be used over there for the conflict. Thus making times even harder than they were to begin with.

But then I would not want to see another terrorist act in the U.S. like that of 9/11. There were so many families impacted by this act.

The 9/11 attacks happened on the East Coast, which seems so far away but at the same time it seems close to home. Well, it is close to home, because America is our home.

On the homefront we continue to live our lives daily.

In Warm Springs the Root Feast is held annually to give thanks for what the earth has provided to us. This food is free to us all, it just takes a little work to get the roots dug and peeled. But to sit and eat them in the end is worth the hard work.

Little League baseball is about to begin. Many of our small baseball players continue to play all the way to high school like Owen Danzuka Jr. I was reading about him.

I was happy for my son George to have been chosen as youth of year candidate for the regional competition. I was sitting among the audience listening to his speech, then realized this young man is growing up to become responsible and making good decisions for himself.

I was proud to hear his thoughts of his past few years and his accomplishments throughout.

I could never get in front of a crowd and speak the way he did at the competition when I was his age. George did a good job, and we as his parents are proud of him.

So on the homefront we continue to live our lives daily, and hope the best for all the people who are fighting overseas.

Memorial

On behalf of myself, my children, grandsons and other family members, I want to thank everyone who attended the memorial for our father Delbert Frank Sr. All the memories and special words brought forth by people who knew him and worked with him were like salve to our hearts. Special thanks to former governor Atiyeh for coming for the memorial. Your presence was appreciated.

Thank you Owen Panner for your letter to the family. I read it to the congregation and it brought many chuckles and smiles. I know you'll receive this message because you receive the Spilyay to keep up on "your tribe" on this side of the mountain.

Thank you to all the people who traveled far from Yakama, Pendleton and Lapwai. Thanks for coming Julia. All your words were treasures, all of you. We will hold them near to our hearts always.

It's been a year filled with tears, laughter, memories, regret, anger and above all growth. Our father was and continues to be the center of our universe. He left behind a huge, huge family who miss him and love him dearly. He was a great man to each of us.

I want to say a heart-felt thank-you to Priscilla "Bunny" Frank for all she's done taking charge of all the arrangements from day one. From the day Dad passed away to the memorial with all the gathering, arranging, etc. We appreciated your "take charge" attitude because we were all reeling in the shock of our loss, plus not having the coordinating skills you have. We know it took a lot out of you but we followed your lead - hopping along behind you. You said Dad's stone will be ready soon, then it'll be complete. Thank you Bunny. We couldn't have managed without you. You're special and appreciated.

Thanks to the cooks and everyone who helped make it a memorable event for our family. Let the healing begin. Respectfully,

Myrna Frank and family, Priscilla Frank, Lillian Frank, Marlana Bacerra, Annette Arce and Chino, Delbert Jr., Charles and the whole Rabbit family.

Thank God

To all family and friends, We have reason to glorify God and testify to what He can do. We had literally lost my brother-in-law Ralph Aguilar Sr. on Sunday, March 14. He was dead when CPR was given to him and started his heart beating again. Even then the doctors said it didn't look good. But thank God for praying family and friends, because even the doctors and nurses say it is due to a miracle that Ralph is walking and talking with us.

Fourteen years ago on March 26, 1989, my son Lil Chief had taken matters in his hands and did the very same thing, which cost him his life. But the difference today is our faith, prayers and discernment. It was a very hard lesson to learn but over the years we have grown stronger and can recognize the spirits that drive people to suicide. We can feel a person's pain when they are going through a rough time, we can pray harder, we are given strength and wisdom to talk with the one(s) who feel like they can't go on. As I looked around the ER waiting room and saw the Godly love, concern and strength in several people there, I knew Satan had to flee. My son didn't have that chance and there were times I questioned the God I served over the years if I had ignored the signs or if I was a good mother. But the Lord did work even as my son was laid to rest, Merle Williams and family were here with us to help strengthen us as was our family (Christian and not) and friends.

Dear friends and family, now is the time to consider where you stand. It's either with God or with Satan. There isn't any in-between. My spiritual birthday is April 12, I will be 20 years old in the Lord. I can honestly say I would not trade the trials, tribulations, and everything that goes with being a child of God for anything this world has to offer.

Love in the Jesus Christ our Lord,
Tina Aguilar

Miraculous

To all:
"Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: bring an offering and come before him: worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness." I Chronicles 16:29.
First of all I would like to

thank all the people who prayed with us for my brother Ralph Aguilar. All the glory is to the Most High God, The God of the living.

As some may or may not know, we almost lost Ralph to death. The two doctors' prognosis at Mt. View Hospital was very grim to say the least, hands and feet curled due to lack of oxygen. No brain activity, a machine to breath for him, in other words, there was no hope.

But I'm glad that Jesus Christ says differently than what doctors say. "Bring an offering and come before him." Through much prayer, weeping, making the gap in the hedge, and while there is blood pumping and a person is breathing, there is hope.

Ralph was Air-Lifed to St. Charles to I.C.U at 12:10 a.m. Monday; 4:00 a.m. he opened his eyes and tried pulling the breathing tube out of his throat, 10 a.m. he was awake, 12 noon he was sitting up and the breathing tube was removed; Tuesday he was walking, talking and eating, then moved to Room 407. Wednesday, he came home. "Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness." Praise God. This was a supernatural miraculous demonstration on behalf of our Lord Jesus Christ. My life and my ministry is never going to be the same, but we're looking for more of the outpouring of God's Holy Spirit in this last day and hour.

Blessings to Tina, Ron and Vi Governor, Merle and Rose Williams, George Jr., Ella and George Sr. and family. I Chronicles 16:22. We also thank all the doctors and nurses who helped his stay in the hospital be a positive experience. Love in God's Name and Holy Spirit,
Easton Aguilar

About arrest

I'd like to apologize to the officers who arrested me on Jan. 24. I'd like to say sorry for any trouble that I may have caused them.

Elmer Sampson

An apology

I am writing this letter of apology to the community of Warm Springs for transactions of an unlawful substance to some of the community mem-

bers and causing more addiction to the people.

There being a problem with addiction on the reservation of alcohol, crank, coke, marijuana and gambling. By adding to the problem myself doesn't help defeat the problem. If you are an addict, only you can defeat your addiction, with the help of God. Make a commitment to stop on your own and ask the Lord for the strength to stop. Do it for yourself.

I hope the Warm Springs community can accept my apology of the wrong that I have committed. To me this has been a learning lesson. Most of all I would like to apologize to the kids that I coach in basketball. These kids are great kids, which I encourage to stay straight and clean through sports and education. This being a door out of poverty and through a door of self-respect and success. Sincerely,

Melvin A. Tewee Sr.

Bad decision

Hello to the community of Warm Springs.

I made a bad decision in my life the day of Nov. 22, 2002. Sorry for my judgment. It was not right. I might have hurt someone else or myself. Sorry to the community and Warm Springs police officers. Please forgive me for who I was then. I am willing to write this letter from the heart. Thank you.

N. Switzler

A pledge

I pledge ye allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, for one nation, which it stands, under God, indivisible for liberty and justice for all.

Always remember this world is our Lord's world, not man's world. The battle belongs to the Lord.

Evette Patt

About casinos

It's very interesting to finally see our neighboring tribes try to communicate and plan ahead to unite and really get down to local and state politics. It has been an ongoing opinion for awhile for most Native Americans to even start a voice to be heard respectfully and powerfully, even the nationwide newspapers of fellow tribes have seen the active participants in Warm Springs elections, and races,

even the casino 60 miles outside of Portland and politics and contributions.

I am reading the various ways of Native American casino politics nationwide in the Time magazine article, Dec. 23, 2002, and how Pres. Bush when he was Texas governor found that closing an Indian casino can also be known as politically profitable. As influential enemy he acts still to this day as a governor with annual stipends and ambitions. With all due respect to Warm Springs I pray that the Indian anti-gaming casino crusade people don't reach at our Columbia River site casino. It's about time we woke up and smelled delicious brewed coffee. In hopes that our next step is to realize that we are to stand together as one without the county political bias, and state and federal government pushing back and forth over who does what, where and how politically and in unity. This is our final goal, active with governments on goal-reliance.

It is finally time to prosper and for blood that's thicker than water and for future generations to come in Oregon, Washington, nationally, politically and reliably evenly.

Respectfully yours,
Lorene Eleanor, tribal member

Doesn't pay

To the editor:
On March 14 I was sentenced for the crimes of theft and forgery. The victims of these crimes were Ben Holliday, the DMJ and the Texaco gas station.

On August 15, 2002, I took a check from Ben Holliday to the DMJ and Texaco to cash. I did not have Holliday's permission to cash this check. As a result of my crime, I had to serve five days in jail, do 25 hours community service, write this letter, and be on probation for six months. There is a saying, which is true, "Crime does not pay." To Ben Holliday, the DMJ, and the Texaco station, please accept my apology.

Adriana Perez

Editor's note: Dear Spilyay readers, you may have noticed that we have been printing in black and white lately, rather than in color. This was done to keep our printing costs down. We will resume with color in the next edition.

Birthday and other wishes...

I want to wish a very special happy birthday to my oldest son Frederick Duran Bobb on April 17. Happy birthday, son. You've come a long way and I'm very proud of you. You're doing the same work as your Grampa. Learning about the history and culture of our people - your people. Grampa would be proud of your choice of career. He was a dedicated historian.

When you worked on our family tree last month, it took you a month of intense research to dig up our family dating back 300 years. I know I learned an awful lot about my ancestors that I never knew before - Thank you

Happy sixty-ninth birthday Grandma Bucky. Love, Trisha Smith.

Happy fifth birthday to Katisha Holliday. Love, your big cuz Trisha Smith.

Happy birthday to Linda Thompson. Hope you have a good one. From Trisha Smith.

Freddy.
Soon you'll be getting your Indian name, thanks to the guidance and encouragement of two elders who counseled you. Thank you Emily Waheneka and Margaret Suppah for your sage advice to my son.

To my son I also want to say - just like Grampa before you - you'll run across people who have no good words, but that's when you know you're on the right track. Be strong and move on. Stay focused. You come from strong leaders. Love you,

Mom and your family.
P.S. Happy birthday to Ray Jones (April 11) and Del Tillman (April 17.)

Happy fifth birthday on April 18 to **Katisha Holliday.** From Auntie **Cheryl, Darrell, Jordan, Grandpa Cecil Sr.**



Happy birthday April 15 to Grandma Bucky Holliday. Love, Cheryl, Darrell, Jordan, Trisha, Cecil Sr., and family.

Happy thirteenth birthday on April 19 to Trisha Lynn Smith. Love from Mom, Darrell, Jordan, Grandpa Cecil, Craig, Brandon, Adrian and Cecil Jr.



Grateful to be loved, especially by you.

To my dearest "Lilo." Hello my best friend, companion and lover. I couldn't ask for no other. Only you.

Wanted you to know I and everybody else out here at the "Ranch" big house and house below all wish you a very happy birthday.

We all love and miss you very much and want to quote that, "Good things come to those who wait." Baby I have waited.

And let me tell you I cannot wait till you get here. Anxious, yet at the same time patient. I believe in - always have and always will. Lilo, I will never give up on you.

Thank you for being my friend and always making yourself available to and for me when I needed somebody to just hear me.

Happy birthday lover, March 22.
Always, **Stitch.**

Happy birthday, Jay and Katrina Walsey, Jay on April 1 and Katrina on March 31.

Happy birthday to Susie Walsey, April 3, "Twenty."

Happy birthday Reggie Walsey, April 12, "Forty-one."
And to Roberta "Tootsie" Danzuka, April 13.

Happy birthday, Rod Begay, April 24.

And to Garrett Begay, April 27, "Five."

Love you all, Rod and Garrett, Cece and Dillon Begay.

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Please bring your birthday and other wishes by the Spilyay office, or mail them to P.O. Box 870, Warm Springs.

You can also send your wishes by e-mail, address: spilyaytymoo@wstribes.org. Or send them by fax machine to 553-3539.