

Spring brings changes

By Selena Boise
Spilyay Tymoo

So, what do you think of the tribes' situation? Maybe you're too busy enjoying the spring weather, getting yourself all twitterpated. It is actually spring now, allergy season, pollen in the air, love in the air and rain. Though rain is a pain, it is good for the environment. We don't want the land to be too dry.

With the seasons changing it is time to think of wildland fire safety around your homes. I would hate to see anyone's home in danger of a fire. That is one experience I am glad to forget about. When the hot weather sets in the grassland gets dry, so any wild fire would spread fast, especially during the summer.

I am pleased with the fireline around my housing subdivision. I actually feel like our homes will be safe in case of wildland fire.

Seeing a burned hillside is not a pretty site, like the burn at HeHe. The drive through there used to be scenic.

Spring being in the air also means that school is nearing an end and graduation is drawing closer. All students are trying to make their grades, while still wanting to be out in the bright sunshine. When there's no rain. I was just talking with Nat and he mentioned that the number of graduates from Warm Springs has gone up in the last 10 years. This year there are more than 30 that are on track to graduate. That is a good number.

It is the hope that these students will make the decision to continue their education to prepare for a job of their own liking.

Don't settle for any job. You can have the job you want in the field of your choice if you have a good education.

Some of us older people are trying to go back to school and stimulate the brain to learn again. It would have been much easier to have continued and finished right out of high school. On-the-job training is good, but a college degree is better.

It is at this time that the graduates need to look for scholarship monies to help pay for their education. It is a tedious task but well worth it. It is not a good thing to struggle financially while in school. It takes away from your studies to concentrate on financial difficulties.

I certainly envy those about to graduate. They have the ability to study and soak up all kinds of knowledge still.

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 cannot exceed 350 words.

Letters that are longer than 350 words will 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. Also regarding letters, the Spilyay is unable to print letters that include libel.

Libelous statements are those that are untrue or damaging to a person's reputation.

Letters to the Editor

Marine writes home from the front lines in Iraq

Hello everyone. I hope you are in good health. Well, as you all know we are at war. Heck, by the time you get this, the war will probably be over. We, the Marines, have captured Baghdad International Airport. We landed one of our planes, a C130, there. Saddam will not get away.

My unit has completely set up the airbase we are at. Our base is the only one that offers showers and full electricity. My shop consists of electricians, water purifiers, and refer guys. We pretty much run this camp. We've been getting a lot of pats on the back.

I've met so many people here. Tons of Indians. A lot of my people don't have close family and friends like I do. I'm very fortunate. I love my family and friends. I cherish the letters I have received so far. Thanks a lot.

I was wondering if any of you would mind writing to some of the Marines here or myself. I have quite a few Indians in my unit. If you have any extra hygiene stuff, candy, love, etc....please send it.

The Marines would absolutely love it. Like I said, a lot of them don't have families to send them care packages. My parents sent me some dried fish a while back and I shared it with everyone. They loved it.

I have an Alaskan friend who hadn't received any mail, and I shared my fish with him. It made him cry. He misses home a lot and it brought back a lot of memories for him. Thanks! We all need a little bit of motivation. I'll admit,

times get hard and I get frustrated. If it weren't for my family I probably would've lost all motivation.

I love the Marine Corps! It is the best service the world has to offer. Oh yes, that brings me to another quick note. To all the youth of Warm Springs: You need to wake up and realize what's around you. Drinking and doing drugs will get you nowhere.

Do not, I repeat, do not drop out of school. Please value your education, take pride in yourself. Make your family proud. Graduating high school and going to college is the best thing you can do for yourself, your family and the tribe.

The tribe and the government have so much to offer to Indians. Don't let any education opportunity pass you by. Believe me you'll regret it later in life. I don't regret anything.

I love the military (Ooh-rah!). It's not for everyone, so please take care of yourselves. You're only going to hurt yourself if you don't value yourself. Remember, you hold the key to your own destiny. Semper Fidelis! That means "always faithful" in Latin. It's the Marine Corps motto. Love you Mom, Dad, LeRoy, Stevie, Navora, Kenny, Jesse! Ooh-Rah!

Always me, **Tashna Hicks**, LCPL Hicks T.S., MWSS 373 Eng Co. VIC 41042, FPO AP 96614-1042. P.S. We are now in Iraq. Semper Fil

Grateful

We are so grateful to the Warm Springs Police Department for their dedication and at times frustrating and hard work in helping our family reunite with our grandson Alexander "Much-Us" Comedown.

Thank you Chief of Police Don Courtney, and also specifically to James Cole and all the support staff. Also, we are grateful for the unhesitating action by the Texas city and Hitchcock Police Departments for honoring the federal laws without question.

When we were waiting for hours and sometimes days for contact with Alex, these honorable people provided us meals and kept us optimistic. Thank you to the people of Warm Springs who have acknowledged the presence of Alex being back among his people. Thank you God for the lessons and blessings you have bestowed upon our family, and to all our relations for their support.

Alberta Comedown, Libby and Norman Libby (Grandparents)

Where

I used to have two babies in my care. When I turned around, they weren't there. I used to have two toddlers entrusted to me. When I turned around, they were lost, never more to see.

I had pre-teens, very eager to explore, so much so, there was no way to ignore. I had teenagers mad to get away. I tried my best to say - come what may.

I now have young me who treat me right. In mixed company or their peers, they hug me tight. No matter what life has done to bring them down, they can tell me anything without a frown.

I mourn the loss of messy

rooms and fingerprints, and anything my teenagers have left since. I can never bring those times back, and the tender love and experiences - that's a fact.

I cry for the baby board years. I weep that I cannot wipe their toddler tears. But, oh, the learning they've gained - I can rejoice they are free to do, to learn anything of their choice.

By Clarice Fern Crane, for her two sons Christopher and Richard.

Special mom

My daughter Rosanne Virginia McKinley, my grandson (great grandson) Maximino Rai Ruiz-McKinley, and I, Teresa McKinley, would like to thank our mother Maxine McKinley on her birthday April 30.

To have a mother like her is so special that we have to share her with everyone here in Warm Springs, because there is a lot of love and care inside of her.

So please, when you see her on this special day, give her a hug.

We love you so much, Mom, it is hard to even begin to thank you for everything you have done in our lifetime. Signed,

Teresa, Rosanne and Maximino.

Appreciated

First of all we would like to thank the community of Warm Springs for making Big Russell feel so comfortable, welcomed, excepted here in this area. He really enjoyed the country, the people, our traditional ways, most of all how he's seen the unity of our people. He really considered this his home. There aren't any words that can say how thankful we are for your generosity in giving him the send off to Montana. We send out our thank you to Richard

Tohet and Sam Starr for doing the dressing services. To Fred Wallulatum for officiating the services. To the cooks Nola Queahpama and her helpers. For the wonderful meal and hard work you put into it. To all the drummers for all the beautiful songs they sang to send him off on his way. To Ellen Thompson for all her wonderful words, and songs. To Olivia Wallulatum for her beautiful singing and songs. To Big Rat Suppah for stepping up and assisting us in putting together all the services that took place. To Ramona Shuster, Jamie Watlamet, Solo Stewart for all their doing of cooking, transporting the food from the longhouse to the home and for just being here. To all the staff of The Museum at Warm Springs for all your thoughts and prayers. There's a very special Thank You to Lorene Wainanwit and Glenn Brunoe for being here with us from the start to the end. In all you have done.

For everyone that came to give their respects. May the Creator bless each of you for listening to your hearts and guiding you in all that you do. For your rewards will come to you with Him the Creator.

As they say, you find out who your true friends and family are when you're in time of need they won't hesitate to be there for you.

If we have left anyone out here please forgive us as in times like this we tend to loose track of the people that come and go. Again, thank you to all.

With Great Respect,
Milward Tall Bull, Antoinette Tall Bull, Levi Tall Bull, Deborah J. George, Mary Hoptowit, Gerald Hoptowit Jr., Lil' Russell Tall Bull, Isaac Tall Bull

Marathon

The organizers of the Kah-Nee-Ta Mini Marathon would like to thank the following businesses for the door prizes:

Tiger Mart, Dairy Queen, Abby's Pizza, DMJ Automotive, Warm Springs Forest Products Industries, Warm Springs Power Enterprises, Warm Springs Market, Ahern's Market, McDonald's Restaurant, Subway, Wes Floor Covering, Les Schwab, Erickson's, Figaro's.

The mini marathon organizers would also like to thank the following volunteers:

Bernie Greene-Boise, Angie Spino, Sydney Greene, Jeremy McKinley, Teeny Tappo, Montee Tappo, Cina Wolfe, Richard Little, Richard Wolfe, Cheeks Boise, Charles Wolfe, Christina Wolfe, Valerie Squiemphen, Monica Leonard, Lyda Sampson, Thelma Mae Dickson, Lana and Patch Leonard, Fire and Safety, and Warm Springs Police.

Staying here

Well hello there. I am Richard W. Payne Jr., also known as "Monster." I'm letting my people know that I was forced to go to visit my family in LaPush, Wash., but whenever I've tried to leave, something would go wrong. So anyways I want my relatives both here on the reservation and at my other reservation in LaPush to know that I have decided to stay here at Warm Springs.

I have legal obligations to take care of at tribal jail, and now Madras wants to throw a detainer on me. So....I'll be held here at WSPD until my 10 days are up - then I'll be shipped to Jefferson County to take care of my detainer. I have to admit folks I may not have been the perfect tribal member, father or

even husband, but I've been at a loss, having it rough after the loss of my mother, brother, and now niece and cousin. But I'm doing the best that I can here. I've struggled, had disagreements with family, even made bad choices within my own household.

But now I am through with all the selfish nonsense I've been bringing among my family, my children, my relatives and especially my most dearly loved beautiful wife.

I know I have not been there for anybody, but I want to change this look of being a nobody.

I want to get my attitude changed, get a full-time job, and work on the best part of my life, which is making my wife happy, debt-free, and be able to be happy with me the way it used to be.

I need the encouragement, uplifting and support from friends, family and anyone else who is willing to help me get my life back on the right track.

All support, comfort and suggestions or ideas will be greatly appreciated in every way possible.

I'd like to thank Deschutes Crossing Restaurant for helping me with a job. I'm most appreciative of this.

I'll keep you posted on my situation of my incarceration. I will either write, call (may call collect), or have my wife let you know.

Sincerely, **Richard Payne Jr.**, P.O. Box 1494, Warm Springs.

P.S. My wife's name is Selena T. Payne, she'll know how to contact me.

Next Spilyay deadline for letters and birthday wishes is noon on Friday, May 9. Thank you.

Birthdays and other wishes...



How fast you have grown. Four years old April 26. Gamma Olivia and gampa Fred.

Happy 18th birthday, Holly Taylor.

Your the greatest daughter a mother could ask for. Love, Mom.

Happy fourth birthday to my princess Savvy. Me and Tama. Love you so much.



Happy 4th birthday Nana. I love you so much.

Happy belated birthday, Savannah. Lots of love, Mom.

Happy birthday, Larissa Napyer, from Aaron T. Scott.

Happy birthday Renso R. Also, congrats on the baby. From Ray, Ang, and Tye.

Happy Birthday Ray. Beatriz, Elisa Arce-Colazo.

Happy Birthday to my daddy, Raymond, May 1. Love you a whole sky full. Remember, I'm always watching you, you are my role model. Love, your son Tye-Tye Anderson.

I want to wish my Uncle Joe a very happy birthday on May 4. I love you lots. And don't forget, I'm gonna be your b-ball teammate. Love your nephew, Tye A.

Happy 22nd Birthday to my friend, my soulmate, and most of all my husband. I love you a whole bunch. I wish only the best for you. Ray, I'm always here for you. Love always, Angela Anderson.

Happy Birthday to my brother-in-law Joe. May 4 is a special day because you entered the world as a baby

boy. Now you are a young man and have many choices to make that will affect you life ahead. I care, Angela A.



Happy 22nd birthday Ray Anderson. From Alonzo, Joanna Arce-Colazo.

To Fulena and Ellison (Thomas), Congratulations on your newborn son, we are very proud grandparents and are proud of both of you. We have been really blessed with our grandchild, and will help in any way we can. Very proud grandparents, Sam and Marjorie Kentura.

Happy birthday to Alexis. You've touched my heart in so many ways with your beautiful smile, outrageous sense of humor and silly laugh. We will always be there for you no matter what happens, much love, Mom and Chip. "I love you."

Happy birthday to our sweet sister Alexis.

Thank you for being loving and thoughtful, always and forever, your sisters Lauren and Baby Jade.

Warm Springs Hotshots, you guys are gone all summer, and winter break is too short. But remember, your loved ones at home care for you and hope for a safe return.