

Continue education to advance at your job

By Selena Boise

They say that patience is a virtue. Well, it's patience that is necessary around here because it's budget time again and there doesn't seem to be much improvement from last year.

It's time for the Tribal Council to hold their district meetings to receive input from the tribal membership about the budget.

The last meeting I attended I witnessed a lot of finger pointing and justification

Spilyay speaks

of jobs. Sort of brings the organization morale down to a low level. The membership of the tribe is growing and the jobs available are minimal.

That brings forth the subject of education. In order to apply for the jobs that are available a strong educational background is required. Many tribal member employees are working now and have the work experience on their side, but lack the education needed to advance.

Now, while you're working you attend school part-time in order to advance at your job. That is something that requires some dedication and a strong will to continue, especially because of the hours of driving that are often required.

For instance, my husband is attending COCC four days a week and is still required to work the 40 hours necessary to receive a full paycheck. So, he works on Saturday to put in the full 40-hour week, which sort of works out because he is one of those employees who isn't allowed to get overtime. When would he have time for that? Though he could sure use it to pay for all the traveling he does.

Anyone who is willing to push themselves to accomplish this is to be commended for their dedication to their work, family and the organization they work for. My husband is missed around the house when the kids want to tell him about their day, but they get the chance to do this on Friday when he's home in the evening, or on Sunday when he takes a break from his studies.

Some of my friends and former co-workers are enrolled in online courses that better fit their schedules, because it is school on your own time. I have tried this myself, and the cost was too much. The scheduling was perfect because I am there for my children and their schedules alongside my own.

To do online classes the tuition is paid out of pocket, because the organization does not fund online school. I applied for student loans and was able to pay only half the cost. The student loans are gone, and I will once again attempt to continue through COCC and find time.

When the scheduling of classes meets with my schedule, then I can continue. If it is meant to be, it will happen.

I look forward to the improvements in the budget and the education funding to improve for the tribal members who are employed. Education is necessary for employment and advancement within the department you are employed in. Dedication and the will to continue are important to employees who wish for advancement in their careers.

Toe Ness

What kind of music do rabbits listen to?

Hip-hop. Yikes!

Thank you

I am writing this to say thank you to all who came to support me and my whole family. I know that O.J. will be missed very much by all.

I want to say thank you to Annette Polk, Marci Clements, Carolyn Johnson, Becky Sampson, Brent Graybael Jr., Sonny Berry, Curtis Stacona, Uncle Phillip David, Sonya Scott, and Tracy and Gloria Graybael, who helped clean and haul stuff away.

Thank you to Carolyn, Becky and Rosa for cooking and baking, and to Phillip and Chaz Mitchell who performed services at the house and all the people who attended, including Sister Pauline, Urbana Manion, Arlene Boileau, Mr. and Mrs. Lonny McEwen, Lita Smith, Gracelia Estrada, Uncle Raymond Tsumpti, Mr. and Mrs. Donnie Winishut, Leah Henry, Charlotte Herkshan, and the countless young people who attended services, danced, and stayed with him the whole time.

Thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Garret Suppah Sr., who gave me a start on replacing needed household items and gave generously in the giveaway process. Thank you to Ellen Thompson for her generosity and services. As I stated earlier, my boy not only had the hearts of the young ladies, he also had the hearts of the mothers of some of his friends. To Rose Ann and Louise, who traveled from Washington to be here with us.

To my sister who was O.J.'s biological mother, you gave me the greatest gift of trust to raise "our" son. My mom who stands by us no matter what. To my brothers, Bear, Vernon and Sam, who are always there to pick up the pieces. Thank you and I love you all very much.

If I've forgotten anyone, please forgive me. Respectfully,
Mariam Tias

Time of grief

In the early morning hours of September 24, 2003, the fears of every parent came true for two families. Three of our teen-aged children had been in an auto accident in Warm Springs. One member of this household died at the scene, one member of this household had been air lifted to St. Charles Hospital in Bend, with critical head injuries and a 25 percent chance to live.

This family wants to thank each one of you who had helped Ramona (Mona Starr) Schuster in her time of grief as she and the family had to put the youngest daughter to rest. Especially the ones that rushed to Mona's home to volunteer help, the ones that stepped forward to volunteer help at Simnasho Longhouse, and the ones that came a long way (Spokane, Colville, Yakama, Portland, etc.) to help. A special thanks to Solo, Goob, Esther, Jamie, Geraldine

Jim, Larry Dick, Rose Mitchell and family, Evelyn Sam and family, Bernice Mitchell, Raymond Tsumpti Sr., for standing with and supporting Mona in her time of grief.

A special thanks to each one of you who continued to call, come, to stay or pray for my daughter Alison Mitchell-Schuster at St. Charles Hospital ICU waiting room as she waited for 12 days, never knowing if her son Jasper Switzler was going to live or die.

Lola and Don Sohappy, Bernice Mitchell, Kim Wheeler and Onte, and Daisy Ike for coming to the hospital to pray for the healing of Jasper and Alison to our Creator. You have helped more than you know. Many of you came and gave support with comfort or funds to Alison as she stayed with Jasper at the hospital.

At one point Alison and I had seen my grandson slipping away and we did not want him to leave without an Indian name and never make it to heaven, but to wander endlessly in time.

With Alison's approval I gave Jasper my Indian name to share with me until I die (this was going to be his name anyway). Jasper's true name is Poo-Ta.

Alison was told that jars had been put out for donations to help Alison with gas, lodging and food. Alison did not get any of these donations, I had seen one of these jars and I am sorry that your donations didn't get to Alison or her family. We had heard that grants from the Warm Springs tribe had been given and Alison was to get half, but she didn't get any.

We know that there was another car involved with this accident that had taken one life and that had wrecked the future of another, but what surprised the family is how the investigation is being carried out. There was no marking of where the car accident started, what happened in the process of the accident and where it ended. Unless this case is given to a detective who knows what he or she is doing, this case will go nowhere.

Thanks to the Yakama Nation Human Services program for helping the family stay in Bend for two weeks. To brother Louie Kishwalk for the help in hauling things from the Wapato home. To the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Indian Reservation's Austin Greene/Kim Wheeler's program, Gwen Leonard and Victims of Crime Program.

I am very proud of all my children and grandchildren for stepping forward, coming together and doing what needed to be done. But most of all, how they came together and helped Mona and Alison at this time of grief, a father could be no prouder.

Alvin Schuster and family, Wapato, Wash.

Memorial race

My family had sponsored a memorial three-quarter mile race at the 2003 Wasco County Fair at Tygh Valley.

It was very successful due to the wonderful sponsors, Mistletoe Forestry Corp., Guerin Logging, the Warm Springs Confederated Tribes, Kah-Nee-Ta Resort and Casino, Eliza and Harvey Jim, Richard Toher, Albert Redhouse and Ken and Heidi Smith.

Eliza "Hot Dog" Greene Redhouse Memorial Horse Race was the high-lighted event of the fair.

According to Hot Dog, if she was here, all the jockeys are winners because it takes a lot of guts to get on the tracks. The family of Hot Dog is very grateful to the sponsors and above all that no one was seriously hurt.

The family would like to thank all the riders and congratulate the winners. First place, Charley Spino, \$1,000, embroidered jacket, trophy, bat, saddle blanket and cooling blanket. Lucinda Heath, cash and cut-head checkbook. Paleena Spino, cash and Pendleton shawl. All the jockeys received an Eliza Greene Redhouse memorial t-shirt. The second annual memorial race will be announced later with more cash added for 2004.

Jim and Neda Wesley,

Aurolyn Stwyer Watlamat and children, Roger and Winona Stwyer and children, Henry Stwyer and Pawnee, Davis, Madene and family, Wendell Greene and Rachel, Albert Redhouse and Wesley Redhouse.

Appreciated

I would like to thank all the people who showed their love and concern. My mother Maxine McKinley means the world to myself, Teresa, plus my daughter Rosanne Virginia McKinley and my grandson Maximino Rai Ruiz-McKinley.

She has recovered to her old self once again through the prayers and the love of everyone who thought of her.

Thanks to the ambulance crew who came and helped us, and I am very sorry for my being upset.

Also, I would like to say thanks to the Warm Springs Police Department for coming to the rescue. My grandson Maximino and I were just talking about the work the police do on their job. Then we get a flat tire. They were very considerate with helping us. So thanks again.

Teresa McKinley-Avalos

Holiday season

Praise the Lord. I want to wish and hope for you all in and from Warm Springs a very happy Thanksgiving and Christmas, with your friends and those you have left in your family this year.

Christ Jesus died for all of our sins, and he arose from the dead to cleanse us of our sins. You all have a blessing Thanksgiving and Christmas this year.
Evette Patt

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 text falls 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.



Illustration by Travis Bobb

The Warm Springs Great Pumpkin Party is set for Thursday, Oct. 23 at 6 p.m.. The Halloween movie is Wednesday, Oct. 29 at 6 p.m. The Halloween Carnival is Halloween night, which this year falls on a Friday. All of the above activities are sponsored by the Recreation Department.

Hunters reminded to be cautious of wildfire

By Suzi Macy
Fire Technician

Hunting season is here and Warm Springs Fire Management would like to remind hunters and outdoor enthusiasts that the fire danger is still very high. The combination of dry weather and high temperatures this summer have created a tinderbox situation in our forests and wildlands - a situation that will not change in the near future, not until there is a significant rainfall.

If you are planning to spend some time outside hunting, fish-

ing or camping, please be aware of fire restrictions before you leave.

Fires start easily and spread very rapidly in these dry conditions. Hunters are often times in areas that are remote. A fire started in a remote area may not be detected until the fire is large and difficult to control. These types of fires are devastating and may destroy precious wildlife and our natural resources, as well as endanger the lives of firefighters and other people in the area.

Here are some tips to avoid

a wildland fire from happening:

Drive only on improved roads. Vehicles driven across dry grass may start a fire from a hot muffler or other high-heat components under the vehicle.

Use extreme caution when smoking and only smoke in an enclosed vehicle. Never throw matches, cigarettes, cigars or any other burning material from your vehicle. Please use your ashtray. Never smoke while traveling through wildland areas, whether on foot, horseback or on an ATV.

If permitted start campfires

only in designated areas. Make sure campfires are dead out before going to bed or leaving camp. Keep a shovel and a 5-gallon supply of water close to the campfire area. Charcoal briquettes should be immersed in water until they are cold to the touch.

Please check the fire precaution level before starting a campfire, even in a designated area.

Please use areas where potentially flammable materials are absent for target practice. Wildland fires have been started by target practice, sparks can fly

from a bullet striking a metal can or rock and igniting dry grass or leaves.

If you should see a fire, note its location, get to a phone and call 911. Warm Springs Fire Management is aggressive in its attack on wildland fires, and the sooner they can reach a fire and attack it the chances of the fire turning into a large wildland event are decreased.

Please enjoy your time in the woods and remember to be safe not sorry. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Fire Management at 553-1146.