

Are districts needed in these modern times?

By Selena Boise

So what do you think about our new Tribal Council that was recently voted in?

I was thinking about the *Spilyay Speaks* that Sid wrote last time, about the three districts of the reservation no longer being necessary.

Spilyay Speaks

It seems we don't all vote in the district we live in, and some are elected from districts where they don't live. So, why bother having districts to begin with?

Why not just nominate candidates, and then we as tribal members vote for eight people each?

That makes sense to me, and Sid made another good point. Our current means of travel is much faster than in earlier years of the reservation, because we are not traveling by horseback anymore.

Maybe in the future we may see these changes, and it would bring the people together as a whole and not be separated into districts.

I do at times hear about "those people," or "that district," as if we are not a tribe as one.

Also on the recent election: Our Election Committee should be commended for their hard work at the polls. It looks easy to hand out ballots and get signatures, but there is also the counting and it's hard work.

Then there is always a runner who goes out and gets votes from elders who cannot travel the distance to vote. We should recognize that they are committed to their duties as the Election Committee.

Well, to change the subject. A lot of pool players traveled to Washington to play in a memorial tournament for Alby Stahi this past weekend, and there was a good turn out of teams that competed.

The local pool players are anticipating the upcoming tournaments in memory of pool players who have passed on. They now challenge each other in their next life.

I look forward to hearing more about that, so watch for this event to happen, and come on out and watch the games.

Like other sports billiards is one where players use their minds to play the games, and their skills at using their cue sticks just right, at the same time hitting the ball just at the right speed. It's a game of skill. So, within the next year watch the new Council assume their term in office and then watch for the pool tournament, so you can get out and watch the games.

Toe Ness

What does a tea kettle do when it's angry?

It blows off a little steam!

Welcome

I want to take this opportunity to welcome my new granddaughter, Lawrenca Greene in Crow Agency, Mont. I want to let her parents know that I pray daily for my granddaughter and that everything will be okay with them. And even though I am not right there, that they are in my thoughts and prayers every single day and I truly love and miss them a great deal.

I had such a great time during the Christmas break. I will never forget our get-together and hopefully it will happen real soon again. Everyone here is really thankful that both Plyza and Lawrenca are doing fine and everyone says not to forget to give little Verbena lots of love, hugs and kisses.

The families in Warm Springs, California and Arizona want to congratulate them and welcome little Miss Lawrenca Greene. My granddaughter is named after her father, Ramon Lawrence Greene and her late great-grandfather Perry Lawrence Greene and her late great-grandmother Myrtle Blaine. Love,

Ramona, Veronica and Luis "Brutus" Baez, and of course Jake Frank.

Good advice

Dear people of Warm Springs,

Good day to you all and I hope I am finding you in good health. There are a few things that are weighing on my mind and I would like to address them. For those of you out there who have a longing or feeling that there is more for you there, I would like to say that

there is. Instead of sitting around, dropping out of school and basically getting into trouble, you should look into getting an education. Did you know that most jobs require a high school diploma, and more are in demand for a degree. You have an advantage being an Indian. There are so many opportunities offered to you. Take advantage of them and look into them. Don't let anyone tell you different...

Don't let our children and grandchildren hurt for our easily preventable mistakes. Get out there and get educated. Educate yourself on where your tax dollars are, who your crooked politicians are, or what tribal decisions are being made that you hold a share in...

I would like to tell my family I love you all with all my heart and you will always be with me no matter where I go. Thanks to those close friends and family, believe me you know who you are. I love you all. Ooh-Rah and Semper Fil Respectfully submitted,

Tashna Sally Hicks-Wert, United States Marine.

Big thanks

Big thank you to Roy Spino, Chico Holiday, Jason Tohet for making the baseball fields look the way they are supposed to look. Juniors coach, **Tom Strong.**

For Emil

Emil, Nobody ever said life was easy. But we were once told there is no such thing as "can't," right? We all have such fond memories which no one could ever take from us. You were al-

ways there, you and your brother. Now who am I going to turn to? But we now know you're in a much better place looking down on us left behind. I can still picture your smile, I can still hear the tone of your laugh, see the glint of your glasses. But I also know that's all it is, a mere image. We will all hold you dear in our hearts, and know you're still with us. We will watch your son grow. Your friend across the way, **Sweetz.** P.S. Sincere regards to Debbie and Batman.

All our people

Eee took twig wa. Thank you for this breath. These eyes. Thank you for my family, all the people of home, Warm Springs Rez. We all are family. Like it or not. We all come from our inch cheewana. Neight yow ee, nee ma po. Yakama, Warm Springs. Our families go back into our history, thousands upon thousands of years ago. Don't worry about us, we are all here, the ones we love, and sometimes hurt. This does not stop our love... you can't fake love.

Our elders thought hundreds of years ahead for the good of all our people. Over 500 years ago our leaders signed our treaty with peeta and pawtoo, the service of our wana on our Rez. Our safeway is our home, roots, berries, deer, elk, water, minerals, etc. Man are our leaders proven or what... Warm Springs home, that's what I'm talking about... If you don't live in our home then mind your own business... Our river people are tough, kind, beautiful, a giving people. All these highways, their cities, etc. etc. are Indian

trails, settlements. Our family, all the treaty tribes, didn't steal and lie to each other. We have our differences, fights, like all families, but we honor, respect, that's why we still have and control our Rez. If you stole from our family, it is something to be very ashamed of, but nowadays it seems some tramps have no shame.

Congratulations to big bro Buck and all the other fresh new Council people. Respect, honor, honesty, empathy, like our Warm Springs treaty representatives who loved all our people 100 years into the future. Honor your words... The talking part is done. Lead our people into a wholesome future, all our people... I personally want leaders not politicians. Lead our treaty tribes into our water economy, utilize our Columbia River, West Coast, buy barges (ships), stop Central Oregon cities from siphoning off our water from our Mt. Jefferson. It is time for all us to look beyond our differences for the wholesome good of all our Native peoples... All those millions we waste on gambling we could have a couple of ships, barges... Why don't we, all tribes of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, California, Montana, greater Northwest, team up and invest in our water economy.

Gambling is killing us... in the long run gambling is like dealing drugs. You/we are destroying our own whether we are dealing drugs or dealing cards. Filthy, ugly blood money.

We entrust you with our lives, our children's lives. Respect, honor, honest, leaders hear us... Stop these murders that

started over 500 years ago... My little man Utty Kenneth's death started 500 years ago if you know what I mean. Thank you all. All Our people, **Bobby Eagleheart.**

Life goes on

Hello my reservation readers. I felt I had to write a little something for my family and friends.

Well, it's another trip to the state penitentiary. Another holiday or birthday missed for my absence behind bars again.

I lived a crazy life in the past. I hurt a lot of people emotionally, if not physically. For that my apology goes out to you. My mother who was always down for me, regardless of the choices I've made or situations I was in. I love you ma. My grandmother who always provided a home for me and always pleaded for a change in me. Someday G-ma. My little homeboy and uncle, Oscar T. There's more I would like to give appreciation to, but the list goes on. Forgive me.

Well, I've been working on my third album and things seem to be going great. Everything is ready for production and I'm happy to finally get this music on the ball. I've also been writing songs for my new group known as "Rez Catz" and we should be out by late 2005. So be ready for us. I'll be out soon to network with you all. I'll leave my info to anyone who would like to write, so don't hesitate. Well, until next time. Life goes on.

Nathan Berry. No. T.57502. E1-209L/WSP, P.O. Box 3300, Wasco, CA 93280.

Letters of apology

Miller.

I'd like to apologize to the Lincoln Birthday Powwow Committee for being arrested there, and to Melanie A. Polk for buying you cigarettes when I shouldn't have. **Bruce Miller.**

On about 2-19-04 I was sitting shotgun in a vehicle that was stopped. I would just like to apologize to the two cops involved, Dennis White and Whittenburg. I would also like to apologize to the Warm Springs community for being charged with NDDHD and drug paraphernalia. I had to sit a week in jail and would just like to say I'm sorry. **Shadrack Martinez.**

To the community of Warm Springs, I would like to apologize for my behavior back in November 2003. I was quite drunk and emotional at the time. Not a very good combination, which led to me getting turned in for almost hitting someone.

I am very grateful that I didn't hurt anyone or myself while driving so drunk. I would also like to apologize to my boyfriend Bruce Lee Howtopat for biting him the same night. Sincerely, **Consuelo Daniels.**

To the Warm Springs Confederated tribal members, I, Jolene Johnson, would like to say I'm very sorry for getting stopped for a DUI. I will try my best to better myself. **Jolene K. Johnson.**

To the community, I would like to take this time apologize for my wrong actions in February 2004, for DUI's, which I assure you will not happen again. Thank you for your time. **JJJ.**

To the community of Warm Springs Indian Reservation, I would like to strongly apologize for driving under the influence of an intoxicant during the month of January 2004. I know my action was wrong and I put many on the roads in jeopardy. Sincerely, **Emerson Miller.**

My sincerest apologies go out to the people of the Warm Springs community. Had I not gone out on about Nov. 15, 2003, I wouldn't have gotten a little tipsy and endangered my life as well as others'. A DUI is a lesson well learned. **BT.**

I would like to send a letter of apology to the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation. For reckless driving on about Sept. 5, 2003. And I would like to send a letter of apology to the officers, Robert Buren, his work buddy, what had happened to them that day. Sorry tribes and men. Thank you. **Craig Tailfeathers.**

I would like to apologize to the Warm Springs Community for my actions on August 22, 2003; regarding my charges of allegedly driving under the influence and possession of Marijuana and paraphernalia. I am currently working through my problem and hereby Apologize formally to everyone in the community. To everyone in the community please accept. Sincerely, **Derreck Palmer.**

This is my Apology to the community of Warm Springs for my actions on September 10, 2003. I was charged with the possession of marijuana and gave a plea of guilty in the duration of my case. I hereby apologize. **Gary Katchia.**

I would like to apologize to the people of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs for driving under the influence in the early morning of 3/04/04. To the arresting officer, I am glad I caused no accidents or injuries as a result of my own thoughtlessness. I apologize to my wife, sorry for being gone all night. **A. Chiquito.**

I would like to apologize to the community of Warm Springs for my senseless actions on Jan. 3, 2003. I am very sorry for putting my family in danger, as well as the community. It will never happen again. I will be leading a cleaner and safer way of living for myself and the community. Thanks for your time and support. **N. Jack.**

I would like to take this time to say how very sorry I am to my children for drinking while they were at home and saw me all bloody from getting cut up. This could have been prevented, only if I made a better choice. I would like to say sorry to the police officers and the tribe for having to waste time for trials and things. I completed treatment and plan to stay clean and sober. Sincerely, **Carl Thompson.**

To the people of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Wasco, Paiute, I, Silas W. Poitra, would like at this time to apologize to the community for actions taken place on March 8, 2004.

I put the lives of anybody and everybody who were on the streets around 1 a.m. in danger. With deepest condolences and a heart-felt thanks to the courts I apologize. Sincerely, **Silas Poitra.**

The letter of apology I have written goes out to the community of Warm Springs for the poor choice I made against another tribal member. I know the decision I made was very wrong. There is nothing I can change, so once again I send out deepest apologies. Sincerely, **Wayne Eagle Speaker.**

To the community of Warm Springs, I would like to apologize for the irresponsible and senseless actions I committed on Nov. 11, 2003. I have never disrespected the community in the past, I don't intend to start now. I am a basketball player; I might have the opportunity to play professional ball overseas. I realize I could have jeopardized my chances with my actions.

I consider myself a role model to the kids here, and the other reservations. I would like to apologize to them mainly. So in all, I want to say sorry children and people of Warm Springs. I really hope you can accept my apology. Sincerely, **Scotty J. Riddle.**

To the people of Warm Springs, I, **Lowell Quinn,** am very sorry that I put myself and others in danger by being intoxicated while operating a motor vehicle. I hope the people of Warm Springs will find it in their hearts to forgive me.

Whoever reads this, I, W.W., am apologizing for the unlawful actions or wrong-doings that I've done. This has been enough for me. So I've decided to straighten up. Hopefully you'll see a different person within me for once. I will try my hardest to walk this straight road. Sorry, thanks. **W. White.**

Spilyay Tymoo
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