

Meeting held on Jan. 27 brings out many questions

By Selena Boise
Management Successor

So, what do you think of the tribes' situation? Seems there was a meeting held January 27, and there were many people with things to say. I had to drive my kids somewhere so I wasn't there, but heard about it.

Is there anger about the use of this money from the lawsuit?

Spilyay Speaks

Seems it is bringing out a lot of questions about the tribes' casino plans. Many were under the impression that money was being socked away for the casino, and I have to admit that I was also under this impression. I don't remember where I got this impression.

People are beginning to think that they are not being well informed. Which brings out all these questions.

My question is, Who will be answering all these questions for everyone? I'm thinking that it will become clear sometime in the future.

For now we continue to live our lives, go to work, and tend to our families.

Identification

I recently had an adventure trying to obtain an ID for a person traveling by airline. I went to the DMV and had documents but they weren't enough to truly prove who the person was.

I then went to the high school to get an old student body card, which would have picture identification. They couldn't provide that for us, so Foster allowed us to use the phone to get more documents faxed from Vital Statistics.

They faxed these items to us at the high school and the DMV still denied these documents as proof, because they weren't notarized or stamped by an official.

We had to travel back to Warm Springs.

Frustrated we went to the courthouse to obtain official court documents as proof. We stood around there waiting for a while. Thanks to Andrea, we found that the documents we wanted were at the warehouse. But there was no one that could be spared to go get them.

Leaving with even more frustrated, we went back to Vital Statistics to get a copy of the court document we were looking for in the student's file, had it stamped by an official, and obtained a Social Security card at the same time.

We went back to the DMV with this new proof.

Finally, we were able to prove who the student was. We received state identification and traveled to the airport in Portland with only moments to spare.

We were cutting it close but we got there in time for him go through the security search and board the plane.

But just getting the documents we needed was a trying time. Vital Statistics provided a lot of documents for us when they faxed them to the high school, but we still had to travel back to Warm Springs to get them stamped, making them official. Andrea at the courthouse was helpful, or we would have stood in the reception area for who knows how long. It was frustrating hitting all these dead ends. The DMV guy was sort of helpful and patient with us, as we kept trying.

But next time we'll book a later flight. And if you need ID start on the process early.

Powwow

Matilda Mitchell, Nettie Shawaway, Silvia Wallulatum, Ellen Squiemphen, Herb Stwyer, Chief Amos Simtustus, Lilli Heath, Grant Waheneka, Norval Tufti, Florence Meanus, Bill John, Isabell Keo, Edith Queahpama, Clara Moody, Pierson Mitchell, Geraldine Blodgett, Romajean Joe, Gordon Scott, Loiuise Hellon, and Laura Crowe, these are the names of the past Lincoln's Birthday Powwow committee members.

These past leaders/members worked really hard and sacrificed themselves in fundraising and organizing the powwow every year. Even though this year will be the 28th Annual, the powwow began well over 30 years ago.

We the present powwow committee thank those past leaders/members they really made a strong foundation for us. We the committee can only try and meet the dedication and sacrifice that they would expect from us.

The Lincoln's Birthday Powwow, held every second week-end of February in Simnasho, draws drummers, dancers, spectators and vendors from all over the United States and Canada. The powwow expects participants as far away as Minnesota, both Dakota's, Arizona, Northern Alberta, and Saskatchewan and every place in between.

This year we will start with a Round Dance on Thursday, Feb. 10 at 6 p.m., then the first Grand Entry will be Friday, Feb. 11 at 7:30 p.m., on Saturday at 1:30 p.m., and on Sunday we will start at 2 p.m. There will be contest drumming/singing and contest dancing and other dancing specials. During the powwow the longhouse gets really full, crowded, packed and hot, so when you and your relative and friend come to the powwow, make sure and get there early for a good start.

See you at the powwow. Thank you for your time and consideration.

The Lincoln's Birthday Powwow Committee.

Thank you

We, his family, say thank you to Tribal Council, Jim Quaid and staff, Jose, Teeney and Marlan, Marie and Ollie Smith, Mary Sam-Danzuka and family, Alex, Phyllis Tohet and family, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Jim, Marella Sam and family, Char Herkshan and

family for all the donations. Our thanks to Rex Robinson, Fred Wallulatum and all the drummers. To Pat Tanewasha and Norman Lucei for the Shaker services in the Poitra home.

Thank you to the cooks; Sandra Clements and her daughter Helen Poitra, Alberta Comedown and her daughter Heather, Lucy Sam Williams and all other helpers.

Many thanks to Bruce Bennett and Larry Dick for preparing our loved one for his journey.

Thank you all for your help and support. Poitra and Williams family.

Appreciated

My dear brothers, uncles and aunties, George, Debbie Williams and family, Jack and MiMi Williams, Thomas, Lucy Williams and family, Spencer, Helen Poitra and family, Mary Danzuka and family, Annie Kalama and family, Marti (sister), Seymour and Carol Hober, Marie and Ollie Smith, for all the dishes, pots, pans, towels, and other needed items to our home. To Marcella, Ursula and Teri for the groceries. To Selena Boise for making the memory cards. We appreciate all the support.

Thank you Helen Poitra, Fawn Begay, Sally Smith, Jennifer Smith and Lewis Poitra for washing down the walls with rose bush water, and yard cleaning. A special thanks to Lewis Poitra for traveling from North Dakota to be with his brother, nephews and niece.

Our heart-felt thanks, Peggy Williams, children and grandchildren.

Condolences

I would like to send my deepest heart-felt prayers to the Poitra family. I am sorry that I couldn't make the funeral to give my friend the respect he deserves. I'm proud to say that I've known Silas most of my life, from playing Uno in Carol's Room, to playing ball with the "Warriors" and "The Sequel" and has always been a good man.

He lived his life as he wanted to and that is rare. When I think of him I think of how every time I saw him he was clowning on somebody. Then I see his smile and hear that laugh and it makes me smile.

Over the years we did a lot

of stuff together, some good, some bad, but it was always a good time no matter what. I truly believe that had his path been a little different he could have been a mover of men.

As I write this and search for answers, I find myself thinking that the creator truly does work in mysterious ways, and that my elder Silas was called home for a greater duty. So I don't miss him, because I know that when it is time for me to make the journey home that Silas, all my friends, and family will be there to greet and welcome me.

Although I am far away from home my heart is with his family and friends. I'm gonna remember him the way I always have.

In closing I would like to say to all my people back home, be strong, live well and may the Creator bless each and every one of you. For all my relations.

Lamar Jackson and family.

A prayer

To all my relations, I am sorry; I'm not religious and I'm not unreligious, missed a few but I am there in my heart. My name is Hul-ish-Qwat-Knot, my Christian name is Wendell Greene. I wasn't born with it, I earned it. With that I'd like to say a prayer. Ona-coo-maan e wa te-chum. Coo-maan na e tum-a sho-ek sha. Pia-toot-num xa-xike-me na-te-tite me wow-nuk-shush. Coo-maan na e tum-a sho-ek sha. Pia-toot-num xi-xike me na-te-tite me wow-nuk-shush. Coo-maan na e tum-a sho-ek sha. Pia-toot-num xi-xike me na-te-tite me tumma-na. Ona coo-maan e wa te-chum coo-maan. Na e tum-a sho-ek sha pia-toot-num. Xa-xike me na-te-tite me wa-xeesh wit. Qua-lees-see-mi wa-xeesh I wow-nuk-shush I. Qua-lees-see-mi wa-xeesh I tumma-na yi. Qua-lees-see-mi wa-xeesh I wa-xeesh-wit I. Quee-am-I shook tush xa-xike me I te-mush-I.

Quee-am-I shook tush xa-xike me I. Na-te-tite-me-I wow-nuk-shush I. Amen. Wendell E. Greene.

3 Warriors

We would like to thank everyone that attended the Three Warriors Birthday Celebration that was held at the Simnasho Longhouse on Jan. 26. We had a great turnout and I hope everyone enjoyed themselves.

Each person attending received a Three Warriors cup, key holder and bumper sticker as a token of appreciation for joining us for the evening of fun.

We want to thank the Washut drummers (Lauren, Kodiak, Evans, Jacob, Levi, Gene, Wamblee, Leslie, Terry, Patrick and Anthony) for helping us out. A big thanks to you Charlotte Herkshan, Nonnie Garrison, Katie Smith, Faye Waheneka, Eliza Brown, Minnie Yahtin, Crystal Keo, Pam Cardenas, Wilbur Johnson and Gail Turcotte for donating all of the food. The meal was a dandy. We also wanted to thank Wa Wo Kya, Quartz Creek and West Spur for bringing their big drums and singing. We greatly appreciate all the help in the kitchen during the clean up.

As reported during the meal, during the first five years we have grown at a tremendous rate and with continued support from the community we will only get stronger. Comparing total sales (fuel and groceries) from 2000 versus 2004, sales have increased by 60 percent. This all happened with a staff of two full time employees, three part time clerks and two deli cooks manning the store 365 days a year. We hope to continue to serve you to the best of our ability. Roy Heath, Levi Keo, Jack Williams, Gail Turcotte, Maurica Cortez, Katie Smith, Alveda Charley and Captain.

Settlement

(Statement regarding the McQuinn Blowdown-HeHe fire settlement.)

Elected officials: Please be reminded that it was in our name that you filed claims for damages done to our lands on both the McQuinn Blowdown and HeHe Butte fire. We are after all the rightful stakeholders, collective owners, stewards of and caretakers of the lands, and shareholders in all assets and profits and monies on our reservation. Those of us who are direct lineage descendants of Treaty Signers are the sovereigns today who have a right and a place to ask questions and seek answers to our concerns.

It is high time that we as a people begin to convene ourselves and exercise our collective powers as a General Council. The secretarial vote is an option for us to consider and use and a right for us to exercise when we are convened in a

General Council session. Hearings such as tonight protect those basic rights and it is paramount that we exercise those sovereign rights.

I encourage my sovereign people to make your voice count. Demand accountability, as we must harness this monster that has run away spending and no cost benefit to show for it.

Tribal Council: You have a very important job to seek our input. I am scolding you, as the superintendent should never have to prod you to do your job and answer for yourself. You are not elected to protect the interests of a very few, to only promote your own self serving interests or policies, nor do you serve your people to entertain personal gain or ill gotten profit. I am talking about the great harm that can come upon us if we wake up and breath life into those monsters called: greed, lying, stealing, cheating can do us no good and can do great damage to our future days ahead.

I do expect from my Tribal Council representatives: Prudence, honesty, integrity, sobriety from alcohol and drugs, and more accountability such as tonight. Which brings me to the question: Why was the Power Enterprise profits for \$5 million left out of this last mail out? Am I to understand that all of what is promised to the Kah-Nee-Ta High Desert Resort and Casino? That brings a total of \$9 million to KNTHDR&C, am I correct?

When the Health and Wellness Center was built, Council demanded a whole and complete package be brought to the people for funding. A referendum that included the building costs, who would service, equip, manage, staff, supply and provide up-keep. I demand the team putting the package together for the Gorge casino do the same thing. Not piece meal us to death a million here a million there until hopefully we are confused and begin to forget to ask. No, it is not going to be that way. We already have our trust violated by not having input on our own monies until tonight.

To the Gorge casino negotiating team: I want every penny you have spent negotiating this project to death accounted for. I want to know how it benefited us and how much did the tribal attorneys make off of us so far.

Frank Peters Charley, Lahomsh, Washmowit.

Charter school would be a good thing for Warm Springs

At one of our first meetings with the Tribal Council, we were informed that our youth are a high priority. I feel that as long as the Council continues to offer solutions as the charter school, we can keep moving forward. When no solutions are offered, then, as a Tribe, we have stopped caring about each other.

I'd like to address the article in the Spilyay. We do understand that a charter school has to comply with the standards from the school district. Our goal is not only improved education, but the quality of education for our Tribe. Specifics have not been decided as we are in the first stages of planning. We will not be modeling the school exactly as other charter schools; we did visit charter schools to get ideas, opinions, suggestions, challenges, etc.

The charter schools we visited are very encouraging. The students were happy and proud

of their accomplishments. The teachers were the key to the students' attitude. They were very innovative, never taking "I can't" for a response but finding other ways of reaching the students. Taken away from the environment of negative factors, the student thrived. The graduation rate was very high, 98-100 percent. The information learned, the class projects, were very impressive. The motivation was very original. The students all had different circumstances in their lives. The teachers never accepted their circumstances as an excuse for failure. Instead they focused on the student's level of education and inspired the student to succeed. I'm not saying all charter schools do this; what I am saying is that the teachers were great, and it shows the possibilities for our students, and our students have much potential.

We recognize that many Warm Springs students utilize

the Madras education system and it works for them. However, because we care about each tribal member obtaining an education, a charter school is an option we have. A charter school is also an expression of our sovereignty.

A charter school would provide opportunities to students and elevate the esteem of the students and the community. The charter school is a "positive" for our community. We all hope to see our members pursue an education, making our community a place for our youth to be proud, each student able to choose to contribute to the dignity of one's self, family and community. We want our youth to prefer to come home and share in the progress of our community. Our youth's dignity can be strengthened by an adequate education suitable to the individual.

There are many ideas circulating in the community and we will be having a meeting to wel-

come everyone's concerns. Once a charter school is in motion, there are many opportunities available. As soon as we can, in conjunction with other departments involved with education, we will be having a community meeting to address your con-

cerns. I'd like to apologize to those that feel they have been omitted from the planning. You haven't been ignored. We are in the beginning stages and look forward to your positive input.

My opinion, Dorothea Barney.

Spilyay Tymoo
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Publisher Emeritus: Sid Miller

Editor: Dave McMechan
Management Successor: Selena T. Boise
Advertising Manager: Sam Howard
Staff Writer: Brian Mortensen
Media Advisor: Bill Rhoades

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Spilyay Tymoo, P.O. Box 870, Warm Springs, OR 97761.
Phone: (541) 553-1644 or 553-3274.
FAX No. (541) 553-3539.
E-Mail: spilyaytymoo@wstribe.org. Annual Subscription rates: Within U.S.: \$15.00.