

## The origin of Veteran's Day

By Selena Boise  
Management successor

Veterans Day is Friday and we will at that time honor those who have served our country.

A parade through Warm Springs will be held as the annual recognition of our veterans.

Spilyay Speaks

I found a piece of history on the Web regarding Veterans Day. I want to share how it originated.

World War I, known at the time as "The Great War," officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of "the war to end all wars."

In November 1919, President Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day with the following words: "To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations."

The original concept for the celebration was for a day observed with parades and public meetings and a brief suspension of business beginning at 11 a.m. Much like we do here in Warm Springs when we watch the veterans hold their annual ceremony outside the courthouse. It starts with reverent, and goes into honoring the veterans, and the 21-gun salute before the parade. It is quite an honor to see this happen for our veterans.

Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week on which it falls. The restoration of the observance of Veterans Day to November 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

On a side note, my son George will graduate from basic and infantry training on November 23 and return on a pass. After this pass he will be stationed somewhere, we don't know where yet. But he will be here for three weeks.

## Storytellers

Dear tribal members,

A group of Oregon and Washington storytellers and cultural advisors are forming the Northwest Indian Storytellers Association (NISA).

Its purpose is to encourage, preserve, and strengthen traditional storytelling among tribes in Oregon and Washington. We are especially reaching out to younger generations who want to apprentice in storytelling.

Can you suggest tribal storytellers, oral historians, musicians and other oral cultural artists you think might be interested in attending our upcoming storytellers conference and apprenticeship workshop?

NISA is sponsoring the First Annual Northwest Indian Storytellers Conference and Apprenticeship Workshop on Jan. 5-7, 2006, in Portland. Events will include a one-day apprenticeship workshop, one-day storytellers conference, and two public storytelling events hosted by Portland-area tribal and educational organizations.

Events will be held at the Native American Student and Community Center at Portland State University and other venues. A special \$59 rate for lodging is being provided by the Mark Spencer Hotel for the weekend of January 5-8.

This project is sponsored by Wisdom of the Elders, Inc., the Native American Student and Community Center at Portland State University, the Mark Spencer Hotel with funding from National Endowment for the Arts, Multnomah County Cultural Coalition, and Urapqua Bank.

You are welcome to e-mail me at the following address: liaison@wisdomoftheelders.org or phone me at (503) 777-7140 for further information. Thank you, **Elaine Lanegan** (Siletz) tribal liaison.

## War medals

*(Editor's note: the following letter is from Secretary-Treasurer Jody Calica to Sen. Ron Wyden, regarding Korean War medals that were awarded, after many years of waiting, to tribal member Chesley Yahtin.)*

Dear Senator Wyden,

I am extremely honored to express a heartfelt sense of gratitude to you and your staff for the successful endeavor to restore the dignity and honor to Korean War Veteran Chesley Yahtin Sr. On behalf of our community, our veterans and Chesley's family, we salute your valiant pursuit of justice to restore proper recognition for his service and sacrifice for the glory and greater good of our country.

"To help a fallen warrior is one of life's greatest honors." This simple phrase is a source of inspiration among those of us who pledged our lives and well-being to bear arms in defense of our country's freedom and virtues. Our traditional values and beliefs hold the highest

sense of prestige and esteem for the warrior spirit of our people. It is the kind of esteem that is never boastful. Rather, it is humble as the prayers we often quietly spoke on the field of battle, mindful of what the next moment might bring, or take.

Our community is very grateful and inspired by the nobility reflected in your leadership and compassion to bring a sense of pride and worth back to Mr. Yahtin and his family. We know other veterans with similar circumstances that were not able to receive proper recognition and justice before passing from this life. Your persistence and success in this matter may also bring some comfort to our memory of those fallen warriors.

On behalf of the People and Tribal Council of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, your thoughtful gesture is greatly appreciated. From our hearts, minds and spirit we thank you. Sincerely, **Charles R. Calica**, Secretary-Treasurer.

## In support

We are writing this letter in support of the Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center, in particular the dedicated and knowledgeable staff of public health nurses.

We work with the Early Childhood Education (ECE) programs in Warm Springs and have had the great fortune to work closely with Judy Budd, RN. We meet regularly as a team with families, responding to the special needs of children in the community.

Judy has been a committed and devoted advocate for families and children. Our transdisciplinary team counts on Judy's insightful input and medical background.

Her participation in our process is crucial. She has a long history with our program and with the families in the community. As the Public Health Nurse she has many times offered multi-generational care for families.

She is trusted and respected. It is our hope that we get to continue to work with Judy, and other caring staff from the center for several more years to come.

It is rare that you meet a true professional who is both caring and brilliant.

We have both of these qualities in Judy Budd. Sincerely, **Tori Farr, Margie Ellsbury, Helen Frances, Nancy Sorlie, Renee Wilson, Gwen Leonard.**

## Fire safety

Winter is here. Take about 15 minutes of your time to walk about your home and think like a fire. Walk around and say to yourself, "If I were fire, where would I start in this room?" Try it. It is a good way to look with different eyes at the world you

live in.

Check your chimney, your stove vent, your electric cords, your electric heaters. Also, if you use candles, when you go out, blow them out. Please do not leave candles lit without someone to watch them. Be safe.

From **Warm Springs Fire and Safety.**

## Long time

It's been a long time since I've seen tears on my face. Still my love gives out to you without a trace.

All that I ask you is please forgive me for ending myself in this federal penitentiary. It started from drinking to using drugs.

I watch you through this glass as you cry broken down twisted in the mind.

The love you spread my way is so hard to find even though I'm so wild, an outlaw and can't see all that I ask you is please forgive me for an outlaw who really had no care in the world. Baby, you'll always be my precious pearl, no flaws, so perfect I'll always love you 'til the day this outlaw dies.

Still no tears come out as I try to cry, I try so hard to be what you want me to be. So all I ask is please forgive me. Thanks, baby, for always staying true. I'll always remember the special things you do.

The memories are so precious as I'm locked down in this federal penitentiary place. Still it's been so long since I've seen tears on my face, so as I sit here in this cell and do my time in prison

I hope you'll see these words and really listen even though tears fall from my face in this federal penitentiary.

All I ask is please forgive me. **Rayfield Mitchell** No. 60839-065, US Penitentiary Hazelton, PO Box 2000, Bruceton Mills, WV 26525.

## Thank you

To the Warm Springs community, I want to express my heartfelt thanks for the support Warm Springs has given my ministry with youth and families. Recently I took a group to Reno to watch the Snaffle Bit Futurity. We saw many ways to make a good living in the horse industry. Youth found many goals to shoot for in an area that they love.

These kids saw that when you work in a field that you love and are good at it you are not working. I believe that this lesson is the beginning of answering the call that the Creator God has for us all.

The people of Warm Springs have given time, service prayers, funds, tack, and horses.

I believe that it is important to say thank you to those who have given and support young people and families as they build something beautiful in the community. **Chris Buller.**

## Things I felt

The things that I felt about life and everything that goes along with it was like this: My world was a place I made in my head, making me the only person I needed. I protected myself with my expectations and rules that no one could change. Guarded with hate and structured with pain. The only thing in my heart was to take revenge on the ones who hurt me, my heart cold and only wanting to be alone. Blaming God for my troubles and forgetting who I was, turning him into my enemy and turning against him for my own selfish reasons. Asking myself who could know how I feel and know how lost I feel. No one could.

The things I love are my family and my friends all put to an end and taken from me. My world was messed up and a place like hell. That's how I looked at life once.

I thought that I knew it all. I thought I didn't need anybody's help and when I needed someone, I pushed them all away. I had no clue that how much I thought I knew I really didn't. I thought life would fly but it didn't work like that. I had to do things to build a life. I would cry and ask myself why things were like this. I was being selfish and stubborn in a faze, thinking my life would be easy. I was on my own and felt alone and wishing I would have known.

I am a different person today. I look at life with care. I feel a lot misery and regret for the things I did to hurt myself. I see how hard life can be and see all the things it brings and that it's not easy. I know that life is too good to waste and I am the one to make things better for me and no one can do it for me. I remind myself that I am living and not dreaming about life and how it could be and I'm doing it. I thought that I knew it all and had it all figured out but I've been through a lot that has made me realize and open my eyes to see all my lies I was believing.

I am happy about the way I am now and I don't need to hurt

or hate the world any more. I am thankful for the outcome of all my world. New beginning and a fresh start is what I needed to stop the pain. There is a lot I can't change in the past but I can do things now to make it better. I know now I have a reason in life, to live for my children and friends and family.

I am one child that was troubled and lost and didn't care about life. I was killing myself slowly with pain and if I didn't die from sadness I would have died from drugs or alcohol. I was saved by people who cared about me and stopped my corruption of wanting to die. I wrote this letter to tell the rez about the lost girl I used to be and to say good-bye to the past and welcome the future and what's yet to come. To the people who feel like I used to, know that there is more than locking all your pain inside and being angry at the world.

I would like to thank the people who help me walk through life and helped me see:

Leona Tenorio, Kim Allen, Martin Medina, Rachell Smith, Pat Tanewasha, Kathalee Wallulatum, Laloni Wolf, Sasha Caldera, Celestine Charley, Angela Anderson, Sonya Little Deer Evens, Harold Charley, Thomas Charley, Louis LeClaire, Ronald Heath, Francine Charley, Ina Charley, Taylor Arthur, Gonzalo Arthur and family, Gerald A. Tias. You can't have too many people to support you - you need all you can get.

The person who was there for me through it all was my father Leon Tenorio. The one I love and appreciate the most with all my heart made it happen all for me and never gave up on me. Thanks Dad. Without you it wouldn't have been easy.

Thanks for reading this letter. I am not asking people to praise me, or for any sympathy. All I ask is you read it and keep it for yourself. That's how I thought life should be at one time.

Things changed for me and a lot of hope and faith helped me. **Cari Tenorio.**

## Apologies

To the people of Warm Springs, I would like to apologize to everyone for my wrongful action on the day of October 16. It was wrong for me to drink and drive and endanger my life as well as others. **Billy Brown.**

I was in the area of the community center on May 13, 2005, and was tried and convicted of breaking and entering on a vehicle. I am sorry for the loss of possessions and time. And I'm sorry to my mom, sister, friends and family, and the Warm Springs community for being out and about after curfew. Thank you. **William Gurrola-Smith.**

I am sorry for the trouble I have gotten myself into. I apologize to the tribes of Warm Springs, the police department, and Tribal Court. I am really sorry to Michelle. Love you much. **Mark Johnson Sr.**

To Warm Springs, I am sorry for 9-6-05, for being picked up for meth, and I'm sorry for a DUI I got on 9-9-05. So I'm sorry. **Henry Kalama III.**

## Happy birthday wishes...

Happy birthday Lillian, Nov. 23. From your whole family, Miab, Sister, Joe, Matt, Marcus, Donte, AJ, Mary, Sonny, Ang, Av and Dad Melvin... We love ya very much.

Happy birthday Agnes, Nov. 21. Love Donte, Joe, Matt and Ang. Have a goot and safe one!



Happy 15<sup>th</sup> birthday K-Lei Monai. You have made us very proud. We love you lots. Always, Mom, Dad, Brad, Karisa, Mason.



Happy 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday Anthony Raye, Nov. 6. You mean the world to us! With all our love, Mom and Dad.

Happy birthday "Big Guy" from Your Sis, Nov 16.

Happy birthday "Slick" from your sisters, L-J-J. We Love you! Nov. 6.

Happy birthday to "Cougar" Nov. 26. Luv, your sis.

Happy Birthday "chalupa" from the Ike-Lopez family November 14.

Happy birthday "Sonny" from the Ike-lopez family Nov. 30.

I would like to wish a Happy 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday to my friend Estomina Made on November 14. From a friend Deece R. Sappah.



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