

Interesting announcement posted on board

By Selena Boise
Management successor

Issues surrounding the budget have been circulating recently and with that I viewed a bulletin board announcement at the post office on Saturday.

Not so much an announcement but information regarding a travel budget for Tribal Council members. It showed the totals for travel up to the month of August.

I have been listening to many complaints about travel and unnecessary spending within the organization and enterprises. But to see something like this posted on the bulletin board was something else, and I was surprised by it.

It makes a person wonder about a lot of things.

Tribal members these days are on limited budgets not only at their work place but in their home lives as well. I know many who struggle from time to time and it's hard. They make it through a rough patch and keep going.

Well, enough of the money matters, it is boring and depressing for many of us, especially throughout the holidays.

I am thankful this year mostly to see my son, who is returning to Warm Springs for a pass before being stationed at his next post. I find it interesting to exchange information with other members of the community who have relatives serving in the armed forces.

Austin Smith Jr. has been sent to Iraq recently, while Rose Sanchez has returned to the United States and is now in California. Now my son is finished with his basic and infantry training and will continue his service at a new post.

I have to say that it's comforting to know that there are many people who keep our young soldiers in prayer. It is important to know that they are in the thoughts of many.

There are probably many more soldiers who are serving, and it would be nice to share names and addresses with my son. He has become quite a letter writer. I'm sure he would like to write to others from Warm Springs serving in the armed forces.

Toe Ness

The law says a man has the right to open his wife's mail. All he needs is someone to give him the courage!

Confucius say: Man who gives in when wrong is wise, but man who gives in when right is married!

Spilyay Speaks

Stone-setting

Dear relatives and friends, This is a friendly note and notification to our Warm Springs members, especially our elders and immediate family members here and from afar.

On November 26, 2005, there will be a headstone ceremony for Mrs. Josepha Meanus Crowe. The time will be 10 a.m., starting off by everybody meeting at the Shaker Church at that time, moving on to the Tenino Cemetery where the stone-setting will take place.

After that is completed, we will then return to the Shaker Church and have lunch and end the day with a giveaway.

So everyone is invited and all are welcome, and we'll appreciate all the help from whoever is willing to help out and make this easy for everybody.

If you'd like to take part in this you can contact us at 4301 Tommie Street in Warm Springs.

Josie Williams or Richard Payne would be the ones to contact.

Thank you for all and everything you've done for us.

Meanus, Yahtin, Payne, Williams and Frank families.

Minister visit

This is exciting for Central Oregon. Richard Twiss is a Native American Minister coming to Warm Springs and Madras on December 3 and 4. You are all welcome to attend or intercede as the Lord leads. This is your invitation.

I have been asked to contact a Native worship team and intercessors to attend and pray for this gathering. The worship team is filled with the Holy Spirit and very prophetic. The leader will be Jerry Chapman from Washington who is part of Broken Walls worship team with Jonathan Maracle. His team also loves the Lord and are very blessed to be invited to worship the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in Spirit and in Truth. They have ministered with Richard Twiss for several conferences.

For more information about Richard Twiss see www.wiconi.org. It is pronounced wee-cho-nee. He travels internationally as well as in the U.S. and is received warmly everywhere they travel. Let us receive them warmly here as well.

Standing in the gap, loving God and loving people, **Kevin, CamMara and family.**

In Memory

In Memory of "Ee-mil-welott."

I would like to express my

gratitude to my family, relatives and friends who helped with the funeral services for my daughter, Stephanie Yvonne Waters.

Stephanie was my oldest child. She was a beautiful person who brought two wonderful children into this world, Isiah and Takiah Lamebull.

Stephanie lived in Nespelem, Wapato, Harrah and Toppenish, Wash., Elmo, Mont., and Salem, Ore.

She went home to be buried next to the Waters family members at the Chief Joseph Cemetery in Nespelem.

Special thanks to the drummers and cooks of the Wapato Longhouse and Nez Percé Longhouse in Nespelem.

I know her journey to meet the creator was good, with all your good words, prayers, singing and dancing. Also, thank you Father for the Rosary Service. Thanks to the Lukes family for their words and songs.

All her close friends, I know you'll miss her. Remember her smile and the good times you shared. Dance like nobody's watching. May the Great Spirit Watch Over You! Always, **Vera Hernandez**

Holiday safety

Smokey Bear is getting ready for his annual winter hibernation, but before he retires to his

warm, comfy den he wants to remind everyone to please be fire safe.

Smokey would like to remind everyone to clean their chimney before the winter snows come. If you are using a wood stove, make sure the wood you are burning is dry and when cleaning out your wood stove please put the ashes in a metal container.

Place the container away from anything that can burn including a wood deck or the garage.

A lot of folks are spending more time in the kitchen with the holiday season almost here, so please don't leave anything cooking on the stove unattended.

If you burn candles, place them in a safe place away from children and pets and use a sturdy metal, glass or ceramic candleholder. Always make sure candles are blown out before leaving the room or going to bed.

And kids, please don't play with matches or lighters - ever!

Ok, now Smokey can enjoy his winter nap without worrying about his human friends.

Have a safe and warm winter season, see you all in the spring time!

Suzi Macy, Warm Springs Fire Management technician.

Seniors Day

Niix Pachwal it is that time of year again for us to start planning the 16th Annual Honor Seniors Day.

Our special day has been hailed as one of the best in the northwest, with the highest honored guest attendance.

When: Wednesday, Dec. 7 at 12 with lunch.

Where: Senior Citizen Building.

This is an invitation to anyone who is interested in becoming a volunteer.

Any questions please call 553-3520/3313.
Lawrence Squiemphen.

Art, craft fair

Don't forget our art and craft fair on Saturday, Nov. 26 in the lobby of the Museum at Warm Springs. We still have room for vendors. If you or anyone you know might want to set up, please call Rosalind Sampson to sign up, 553-3331. Thank you. **Evaline Patt.**

Letters of apology

I would like to apologize for driving at a .17 alcohol level on 11-4-05, and having my wife Patricia as a passenger. I have been out of employment for several weeks and was having a few drinks. I'm also going to apologize to the casino for being partially intoxicated while gambling. I will be more respectful. Thank you. **Lamont Brown.**

I am sitting time for a DUII that happened on 10-28-05. Also recklessly endangering the lives by running off the road. I am really sorry for my actions. To my wife,

sorry for wrecking our vehicle. So once again to everybody on the rez, Judge, Mom, bro, wife, and to the police department, I am really sorry and I'm trying to better my life so stuff like this won't happen again. **Carl Iyakitan.**

To the community of Warm Springs, I am very sorry for driving under the influence of alcohol March 19, 2005. I know it was wrong and that I endangered everyone on this reservation. I am doing the best I know how to prevent it from happening again. **Michael Meanus.**

Birthday and other wishes...

Happy birthday Jason Tohet Sr. Love ya lots, hope you have a good day. You also mean the world to us. Love, your wife, Brat (Jason Jr.), and last but not least Da Boss (Clinton Jimmy).



Welcome home, George! From your family and friends.

Happy birthday, Leslee! From Auntie Lynn, Grandma Pat, Tianna and Chris.

Happy belated birthday, Stacyrae. From Julie and Lee Arquette; and Kaleja, Jermaine, and Dyamelle; and Alfred, Jacob, Stetson, and Amberae. Wishing we could be with you.



I give thanks to our Warm Springs relatives who took part in the naming for my Uncle Leonard Squally. This took place at the Nisqually Squally-absch Reservation,

where we joined the celebration of the Squally-absch Canoe family dinner. We had a great feast and giveaway. Again thanks to our relatives. **Lou Ann K. Squally.**

Cascade Locks is tribe's aboriginal homeland

By Howie Arnett
Tribal attorney

The land surrounding the present-day City of Cascade Locks is part of the aboriginal homeland of the Wasco people who were signatories to the Treaty with the Tribes of Middle Oregon of June 25, 1855, and whose descendants are now members of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon.

In addition to the language of the June 25, 1855 Treaty, which describes this area as part of the tribes' ancestral territory ceded to the United States, this historical fact was legally proven before the United States Indian Claims Commission in 1967.

The Indian Claims Commission's 1967 ruling means that no other modern day tribe or group of Indian people can make or prove a claim that Cascade Locks is their aboriginal or ancestral area.

In its case before the Indian Claims Commission, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs legally established its claim to aboriginal occupancy and exclusive use (also known as "aboriginal title") of the Cascade Locks land as successor in interest to the tribes and bands that were signatories to the 1855 Treaty.

The Indian Claims Commission was a quasi-judicial body established by Congress in 1946 to hear and decide claims for compensation brought by Indian

tribes against the United States for loss of their ancestral lands.

Proving a claim before the Commission was not an easy matter: the commission imposed very stringent requirements on tribes seeking to establish a right to compensation for the loss of their aboriginal lands.

With regard to the Warm Springs claim of aboriginal title to the Cascade Locks area, the tribes had to prove before the commission that the Wasco people who were signatories to the June 25, 1855 Treaty lived on the land, fished and gathered foods there, and had permanent village sites from time immemorial.

The tribes also had to prove that the Wasco treaty-signers use of the land was exclusive - that is, no other Indian peoples lived on those lands under a claim of ownership. As the commission stated in its ruling in the Warm Springs case:

"The fact that the claimed land was included within the description of the land ceded to the United States in the treaty of 1855 is not by itself sufficient proof that the [tribes] had 'Indian title' to the land. There must be a showing of actual, exclusive and continuous use and occupancy 'for a long time' prior to the loss of the land."

The commission did not allow the tribes to rely on treaty language, testimony of tribal members, or oral histories from

tribal elders as evidence to prove its claim. Instead, the tribes had to hire anthropologists and other "experts" who uncovered written evidence from early white explorers and missionaries that proved that Wasco treaty-signers had exclusive ownership of the area.

Assembling the required evidence was difficult and time consuming. The case went on for nearly 20 years at great cost to the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

Finally, based on the extensive record of evidence presented by the tribes, the commission determined in 1967 that the tribes had legally established aboriginal title to the lands surrounding Cascade Locks.

The commission found that the Wasco treaty-signing people had lived on those lands for a long period of time before the 1855 Treaty was signed, and that they owned those lands exclusively.

The record before the commission included evidence of two permanent Wasco villages within what are now the city limits of the City of Cascade Locks, called "Cathlathlala" and "Cathleyacheyachs" in the journals of early explorers.

The record also included evidence of a permanent Wasco village called "Cathlakahikit" located two miles west of Cascade Locks on the banks of Eagle Creek.

On the subject of exclusive

use, the commission determined that while other Indian peoples came to the Cascade Locks area to visit, trade, or use the Wasco fishing sites, they did so only with the permission of the Wasco. Thus, those other Indian tribes did not have a claim to aboriginal ownership. In its ruling, the Commission stated:

"The Cascade Wasco went as far as Fort Vancouver for Wapato root and across the Columbia River to the valley of White Salmon for camus root. The Dog or Hood River Wasco also went north across the Columbia on occasion. It does not appear, however, that any Indians from west of the Cascades or from north of the Columbia came within the claimed area for any purpose other than to enjoy permissive use of the fisheries and to participate in the trade, gambling, and social activities conducted within the several villages during the trading and fishing seasons."

The findings of the Indian Claims Commission confirmed what the people of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs already knew - the lands along the Columbia from west of Cascade Locks east to The Dalles were the aboriginal lands of the Wasco people.

This finding is binding legal precedent supporting the Tribes application to take land into trust in the Cascade Locks Industrial Park for a casino.

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