

Letter to the Editor

Time of need

To our family, relatives and friends,

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support, prayers, give away items, food and everything during our time of need back in September 2005, when our sister/mother passed away.

We made it through the holidays and we had a good New Years celebration at the longhouse with family, relatives and friends, so we know that we are on the way to healing our hearts.

It was a such a grand old time and brought back some great memories. This is how we begin to heal and move on but in

great respect of our loved ones.

We needed that celebration to prepare ourselves for what is ahead of us. Thank you Cassie, Bernice, Sharon, Betty and everyone that was there to bring in the New Year and on New Years Day to celebrate a lot of birthdays and welcome our grandson, great grandson, nephew, cousin, Jayce Jefferson Greene Torres born December 16, 2005. Oh, it was a wonderful day. We went home exhausted but feeling good in our hearts and minds.

Also, we asked that you continue to pray for our other relatives as they are mourning the loss of a wonderful husband, grandfather, great grandfather, brother uncle and friend. Our

grandson, Jake Frank, and his family needs prayer to comfort them. And thanks to all of you wonderful family, relatives and friends that were there from start to finish as our prayers and thoughts are with each and every one of you. God bless,

Ramona Baez and family, Sarah Gonzalez and family, Mike Greene and family, Celia, Daniel and Tim Greene, Roscoe Greene and family, Paullee Greene and family, Delsie Greene and daughter, Rhonda Smith and family, Joseph "Irkie," Gary and Jamesina Smith, Allie Smith and daughters.

Assistance for veterans

Do you have any questions about your veterans benefits?

Tom Weiss, Jefferson County veterans service officer, will be helping veterans and their survivors at the Warm Springs Senior Center, 2331 High Lookee, starting this month on the second Thursday of each month, between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Veterans have earned certain benefits as a result of their service to state and nation. Survivors and dependents of veterans may also have benefits available; however, these benefits are there for you only if you apply for them.

Because the laws covering veterans' benefits are complex, you are urged to get help in applying for them. The necessity for personnel assistance to veterans in filing and pursuing claims results from the legal principle that NO veterans' benefits are awarded automatically.

The county veterans service officer provides free benefits counseling and claims service to veterans, survivors, and dependents. Weiss can help you obtain all your veterans entitlements.

When it comes to federal benefits, the VA (U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs) cannot prosecute claims against itself. Therefore, the county veterans service officer will use veterans' service organizations or the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs to represent your claim for you before the VA.

There is no fee for this service, and it is a good way to be certain you receive all the benefits you earned.

Your first step is to visit or call Weiss. Appointments are appreciated but not necessary, 553-3313.

4-H Bears basketball club

The 4-H Bears girls basketball club plays from 6 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday nights.

The club is for seventh-grade girls (ages 12-13). The club gathers Wednesday evenings at the Warm Springs Elementary School gymnasium.

Girls interested in participating need to wear the appropriate gear: t-shirt, trunks, basketball shoes.

For more information contact the 4-H program at 553-3238; or see J'Dean Kalama at the gym.

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