

Letters to the Editor

Parade

I would like to take this opportunity to thank some of the individuals of this community for coming forward and helping the parade committee prepare for the parade and help fix up the Tucker family float. Through the Tucker family contact people we asked to put a car in the parade in their son's honor because we wanted to honor him and express to his family that they were in our thoughts and prayers. The family agreed so we tried to make it very honorable and as sacred as possible. Thank you to Richard "Animal" Tohet for the three Pendleton blankets which were given to his parents and sister and also for their veterans hats. Thanks to Sarah Frank and her helpers for the ribbons that were put up on campus and by the bridge; Jefferson Greene for the use of his car, the banners and pictures. Veronica Baez brought the flags, tape, rope and got some of the ribbons donated by Pets and Poseys flower shop in Madras (thank you too), which was set up on the campus by Jamesina and Alexandria Smith. From the bottom of my heart I thank you all for coming forward especially at this time to honor our tribal people, our fallen soldier and his family.

Also, I want to thank the following people for helping with the parade as it was a big success this year: Sarah, Celia, Daniel and Roscoe Greene, Sharon Katchia, Gorky Mitchell family, Barbara Poncho, Elizabeth Hisatake, Louie Pitt, Veronica Smith and her husband, Teeny Miller, Casino Group (both from Warm Springs and Cascade Locks), Vic Atiyeh, Mark Phillips, Delvis Heath, Ed and Betty Case, Alexandria and Jamesina Smith, Becky and family from Fire and Safety, Olney Patt family, atwai Madeline McInturff family, VFW Post and all the parade participants. All you people stepping forward to help make this a great success as this was a very special parade this year. If I have overlooked anyone please forgive me as I tried to remember everyone.

Last but not least I want to thank everyone for buying tickets from my granddaughter Verbena Greene. She went back to Montana and I was very proud of her because she is very shy but she did her royal duties while here. A great big thanks goes to her grandparents Pat and Christine Big Lake from Crow Agency, Mont., for bringing Verbena, her sister and mom to Warm Springs to the celebration. You were such a tremendous help with Verbena getting her ready for the powwow sessions and the parade. Thank you. Verbena is going to expose the Pi-Ume-Sha Treaty Days at some of the powwows in Montana. Again, Pat and Christine, thank you. I want to thank her mom and dad for allowing their young daughter to run for the title and to keep supporting her throughout the year. To her brother Jake Frank for being there to keep her company, making her happy and encouraging her to go dance with her dad.

Now I want to warn Captain Moody that he is in for a treat next year since he crowned me the Lucamean Queen this year at Pi-Ume-Sha. It was so crazy as there is history behind that title and it was always out of fun. So, Captain next year is going to be a time to get even. I want to thank the BIA staff for being so proud of my title that they made me a banner and

crown for me to have at my office.

Thank you Marge Hyde and Sugar Bear Stacona, I know you both had a lot of fun making those items and surprising me when I returned to work. **Ramona Baez**, parade coordinator, Pi-Ume-Sha Powwow Committee.

Youth programs

Warm Springs has some very good programs for our youth. One program in particular is the 4-H Social Dance group that meets every Thursday of the week after school.

It has been a very exciting school year for my daughter Victoria Godines, thanks to the 4-H Social Dance group leaders. The current leaders are Adeline Miller, **Deanie Johnson**, Valerie Switzler, Merle Kirk and Pat Miller.

Through the 4-H Social Dance Victoria (who turned 7 this year) among other children in the group learned several dances, such as the Welcome Dance, Skip Dance, Upai Dance, Butterfly Dance, and Friendship Dance to mention a few.

It has been a pleasure and an honor to participate in the performances that included the Lewis and Clark Expedition in Washington and Oregon, honoring of the Maori guests, Eagle Watch and other local events in Warm Springs.

I would like to give thanks and acknowledge all those who have been supportive.

My mother Lolita Greeley who lives with us has been very supportive of her granddaughter Victoria Godines. Mom encouraged Victoria by giving her praise, taking photos, providing fabric for dresses and shawls and coming to all the performances Victoria participated in.

My spouse Victor (Angel) Godines who helped me make Victoria's regalia.

The leaders Adeline Miller, Deanie Johnson, Valerie Switzler, Merle Kirk, Pat Miller and atwai Irene Towe who showed passion, patients, and dedication to teaching our children as young as 4 years of age to learn different aspects of our cultural traditions, such as dance, song, dress, and bead work.

Thank you all very much for your support, hard work and dedication. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely, **Maria Godines.**

Relay raffle

The 2006 Co-ed Hood to Coast team, "Reservation Runners" would like to thank all of the people for their support in our recent raffle.

A special thank you to all of our raffle donors, especially: Warm Springs Power Enterprise, The Museum at Warm Springs, Abby's Pizza Parlor, Juanita Simpson, Earl & Rita Squiemphen, Earlyne Sampson, Arrita Sampson, Jordon Leonard, Jeston Leonard and Kalyn Leonard.

Most of the raffle items were donated by the runners on the team. I appreciate their dedication to the team and continued assistance in attaining our goal. We raised enough money to rent the 2 vans for the run.

Thank you everyone. Our next goal? Reach the beach!

The Hood to Coast Relay is

scheduled for Friday and Saturday, August 25 and August 26.

All of the team members have been training hard to make sure they are able to run the legs required of them.

We are all looking forward to it. I hope many of you will be able to cheer on the runners and meet them at the end in Seaside. We encourage anyone that is interested in trying the Hood to Coast, to start training early. This is a fun event and it encourages physical fitness.

Once again, thank you everyone for your support.

Val Squiemphen

New creation

To the community of Warm Springs, I would like to start off with an apology to my family. Harold in my drunkenness I hurt you. I'm sorry. To my mother please forgive me for all the pain and suffering and grief I have put you through. To all my brothers and sisters my apologies. I hope and pray you all can find it in your heart to forgive me. Now that that's out of the way I'd like to say, I'm doing okay. I'm sober, clean and searching for "the serene." I'm searching so hard it led me (or should I say) brought me all 780 miles away into a different atmosphere.

Victory Outreach, Men's Program, a men's program designed to instill the fear of God in ones self.

Long story short I turned my will over to God to do with as he sees fit.

I can almost hear the angels singing. In the Bible it says to spread the Gospel, bear with me.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. Old things have passed away. Behold! All things have become new. Amen.

Thank you Susan G. for being a friend. You've saved my life, and to you Pastor Hunt for showing me what being a true soldier is all about. Sincerely, **Joseph Craig.**

P.S.: All the brothers miss and are praying for you Abe. Here's my address if anyone would like to write: 325 N. Main St., Salinas, CA 93901.

Recall petition

Dear Tribal Members,

We've had enough of two Jefferson County Commissioners. Fanny Regnoir, 101 years old, and Leona Waldow, 97 years old, are chief petitioners for the Recall Bellamy and Ponsford Campaign.

They are still waiting after a year and a half for the Jefferson County Commissioners to allow them to develop their properties under Measure 37.

They are fed up with being insulted by Commissioner Ponsford and stalled by Commissioner Bellamy. They are taking action now by recalling Bellamy and Ponsford.

Sixty-five percent of us in Jefferson County voted for Measure 37 because we believed in property rights, but even with Measure 37 being upheld by the Oregon Supreme Court, we are still fighting for our rights here in Jefferson County.

As fellow voters and citizens who understand how it feels to have your property rights usurped, we are asking the Confederated Tribes to join with us in this recall effort.

If we keep Bellamy and Ponsford we will be paying thousands or even millions of dollars to Measure 37 claimants out of our pockets because Mea-

sure 37 claims are not covered under County insurance and there are already 9 million dollars in lawsuits.

Our only recourse is to recall Bellamy and Ponsford immediately and put in Commissioners who will obey the law, resolve the lawsuits and treat our senior citizens with dignity and respect.

You will be receiving a recall packet in the mail. Please sign the petition sheets.

Leona Ike is our representative in Warm Springs. You can turn in your petitions sheets to her or sign the petition that she is circulating.

Please call us at 777-9482 if you have questions or visit Recall Headquarters on south Highway 97 in Madras.

Please help us restore the rights and dignity of our senior citizens.

Thank you so much,
Linda Skavlin

Great job

I would like to congratulate my son Josiah and thank the people who encouraged and supported him.

Josiah, you did your best in the golf competition and that's what counts.

Just getting to the Native American Indigenous Games is a huge accomplishment! (Gold Medal - Canada; Silver Medal - Oregon; and Bronze - North Dakota.)

Thank you: Golf Shop staff Joe and Mike for encouraging and supporting Josiah. Kah-Nee-Ta High Desert Resort and Casino for sponsorship.

Diabetes Prevention for vehicles (good job Twink), Tribal Council and Credit for the support (and loan).

Wilfred "Wiggy" Sooksoit for your financial support and to my brother Eldred Frank for the support you give all of us at home.

Team Oregon competitors and staff you all did a great job. You are all to be applauded. I would like to give a special thanks to the Coaches and Chaperones (Karen Guerin, Austin Smith, Twink, Joyce Suppah, Leland Thompson, Jr, Sandra Sampson, Marty & wife (Klamath Falls). May you be blessed for the work you put into Team Oregon.

Susan you were in a tough place, it takes a person with strength to keep moving forward especially when the road is uphill.

All good things come with a battle and you were frontline all the way. Thank you and may God Bless You abundantly for your heart, endurance and spirit! Above all, I give thanks to the Lord for keeping my son safe and for his continuous guidance. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. (Pr 3:6) God Bless You!
Sarah J. Frank

Heavy burden

Can you feel the weight or the pressure of the burden you have? Your burden continues to grow with you. It limits your peace and destroys your ability to enjoy time off. Your burden makes it difficult to love others because you can't love yourself. Nobody understands how big or how uncomfortable you are. The Creator said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." That sounds too easy; until you realize that in order to come you will have to admit that you have a burden.

Your pride will deny the truth and you might try to keep hiding the burden from yourself and others. You might succeed in convincing your family and friends, but you will never fool yourself and the Creator. When you are alone and your thoughts are clear, the weight of your burden will also be there. Only Jesus can remove the burden you carry. "Everything has been created through him and for him." When you come to the Creator and call upon His name Jesus, He takes your burden and gives you His rest. **Jonathan R. Smith**, Warm Springs Baptist Church.

Freedom

Freedom! Freedom! Freedom! As we celebrate freedom all across the United States of America and as my nephew Austin Smith Jr. recently returning from the war in Iraq, defending everybody's freedom here in our Native indigenous country. I'm very very proud of my nephews, all of them, Louis, Johnny, Jasper, Leander, etc.

How about freedom for our Warm Springs Indian Rez?! Freedom for our Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. Freedom to create our own town, city, business community that would enable us to keep our resources, money, here in our own community to benefit our children, elders, us. Enable our W.S.C.T. children to better their life by after school jobs, etc., to learn capitalism first hand on the job.

Sick, very sick Uncle Sammi is not going to give us "red savage devils" freedom from our glorified prison camp, rez; we have to take our freedom back! Fight for our freedom to create our own business community, town where all our W.S.C.T. people can create businesses where we can trade with each other and stop some of the millions of cars that come out of Portland may be leaving a few pennies here in Warm Springs to better our lives. Please, please, please somebody on Tribal Council start thinking and acting to benefit our people instead of listening to tribal lawyers, tribal consultants, etc., these are the same dorks that put us on the poverty bottom after it took our elders hundreds of years to get us into a position to realize a wholesome lifestyle. Selfish, greedy sick sell-outs! As long as your family is taken care of forget the rest of our people.

Pow Wow, in my mind stands for Prisoner of War, War on Warriors! Don't give up. Never even give up. Freedom for our Native indigenous people all across this so called "land of the free" except for Native indigenous people.

If we don't fight for our rightful freedoms to create our own businesses, community, town, then we will forever be on the poverty bottom funneling our resources, money in to Madras, Cascade Locks, etc., etc. While our W.S.C.T. people continue to live in abject poverty, living with the conditions that extreme poverty creates... hopelessness, murder, rape, suicide, child molesters, malnourished children, drugism, alcoholism and now gamblingism. Think and plan beyond your own life for the good of our children, for generations to come. You're too too kind of sick, very sick. It's like when you give our indigenous Native people blankets to keep them warm through the winter months without telling us that these blankets were infested with

small pox. This gambling is going to destroy us if we are not very very careful! Why do you think very sick, very sick, Uncle Sammi is placing gambling on all the Rez's all across this Nation.

Now our Native indigenous people are fighting each other over gambling, casinos, just like sick Uncle Sammi planned! Think, somebody, anybody. Economically lynching our Warm Springs tribal people by systematically not allowing us economic freedom to create our own business community that would enable our people to enjoy a better life.

Your far too kind Uncle Sam; very, very kind or very, very stupid! To bring gambling into a rez that cannot even keep account of our fiscal status! We can't even account for what we have or what all these outsiders are stealing. 70 percent unemployment! Seven out of 10 jobs are outsider thieves who have no vested interest in our home, rez nations. No interest in hiring our own people. If you really want to fight meth then create jobs for our Warm Springs people. Millions down the drain. A few are prospering by selling out our people, counting their money with their bloody hands, the blood of our children and elders.

We could have built a middle school for Dawn Smith to continue her excellent work with our children. It's simple, do we care more about gambling or do we care more about our children? When will our so called leaders realize the major benefits in our future by investing in our children, investing in our own Warm Springs community. Build something for our children. We will never regret it.

Our Warm Springs indigenous Native people's ability to survive through impossible conditions has been proven through hundreds of proven genocides. Pride, fierce pride... to die for. Utopia of human endurance is our indigenous Native Warm Springs Nations. We, Warm Springs Nations, have survived white society's genocide outrages, injustices for hundreds of years and will continue to do so. Courageous hope is our Native peoples. Hope for an honorable Tribal Council. Hope for leaders that place our people first instead of their sick selfish greed. Hope that we can take back our rightful freedoms instead of having to be prisoners of war forever.

When will our Tribal Council, committees, our people realize the long term major major benefits of investing in our children. **Bobby Eagleheart.**

Appreciated

We would like to express our thanks and gratefulness to all who helped at the Shitike Creek on July 3. We would like to thank the dispatcher, the female officer, John Miller his two EMT personnel, our hero Alex Comedown (who ran all the way to the Community Center), an anonymous woman with the cell phone (who dialed for help at the center), all the doctors and HIS personnel who provided the emergency services and all the friends who stood by us at the creek.

It was scary and we are all thankful. All our relations, bless you all with thoughts and prayers. **Dennis, Denise, Roosevelt Jr. and Emmitt Sidwalter Smith.**

P.S. John Miller jumped in the water with me—no hesitation. He truly cares. Thanks again.