

Tribal Council elections around the corner

By Selena Boise
Management Successor

So, are all the voters in Warm Springs ready for another election of Tribal Council members? To many, it seems that voting is something that may be a waste of time because the results are never what they want. But imagine if all this negative feelings were put aside and the votes were in great numbers that there might be change that happens.

Is it change that we want? These are questions that we should be asking ourselves and becoming informed about what the election of Tribal Council members could mean to us. Will we benefit from change?

Before I vote for representatives from my voting district I read about each person who is running for the position of Tribal Council and then I ask myself which ones seem to be interested in the welfare of our people, and our future. Also which current Tribal Council members are there for us.

Which are hard questions to answer for myself because how do we really know? Because the Tribal Council works together as a group to make decisions while they are in Council Chambers. There are issues from the past years we can look at and how our current members are handling these.

Then we should be informed about what issues are out there for our people. Currently what is in my mind as far as issues are Casino at the Gorge, and then there are healthcare issues and then there's the budget.

Remember that elections cost money and it would be a shame to spend money on an invalid election, so show up and make you vote count.

Correction

Cameron Mathison's name was inadvertently omitted from the list of students from Warm Springs who made the honor roll at Jefferson County Middle School for the first trimester: The Spilyay regrets the error.

Thank you for writing to the Spilyay Tymoo. Please, when writing, keep in mind that letters should be of no more than 350 words.

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Spilyay Speaks

Community

Hello family and community members. I, as most, am concerned about the path that many of us have chosen—including myself. Our community is presented with a very special opportunity to create an environment that we can be proud of, although personal ambitions have many times seemed to scuttle the process and delayed the enactment of necessary change. In the past the status of our tribe was the model of many other tribes throughout the nation. We have squandered that reputation through our and myself included's actions. Change is still possible.

Our current tribal leaders are trying; they need, and due to their positions deserve, our support. After all we elected them, maybe not individually but as a collective community. Some believe things are simple, they are never simple, there are always hoops to jump through; it is how we individually respond to those hoops that define who we are.

Our parents were raised to be a proud people and have passed those values to us with little resolve, they are fading, shame was a part of life, if one family member was succumbing to the negatives of life in general, the elders of that family would pass their disappointment on to the parents of the dysfunctional person and shame would do its job. Things have become so common place that the effects of scowls and gossip no longer have much of an effect to generations to follow. Things can change, our elders are tired, I myself have fallen extremely short of the parental figure my mother was to me. Change is possible, yet it does take time.

The world is what we make of it. It will not wait for us to come around and see the light, My past has many times came and smacked me up-side the head, and for that I am ashamed. I have many times disappointed those who have seen me for what I could have been, should have been. I am sure the same goes for many of us. Life is terminal, we all will die and the life we have is what it is, or was. There was this man once who said "tis not what your country can do for you but what you can do for your country!" This should mean more to us that any "white" person. We are here, it is the responsibility of each and every one of us to see the plan, through what ever the plan may be.

We as a community need to stop the enabling of the people who are not making progress in their lives, tough love some call it is the only way we/I will learn to do for ourselves which others will not. My mother's rules were simple "if you can't follow my rules in my house then you do not need to live with me." With that said I moved out, most of you are very aware of my faults. And know what it is that I have done. Change is possible but not with out encouragement. We do not have to give money to help people. Sometimes we should say no. An unpopular decision, but necessary for the good of the colony. It is the responsibility of the family to encourage and nurture the people who live with us. I understand that jobs are scarce, but the bottom line is a job is a job. The hardest work that I have ever done was down at the restaurant, it was work, sweat, pressure, and work. I held onto that job for give or take seven years. At that time it was the only employment I felt I was qualified for. Bottom line is it was a job.

The difference between success and failure is the willingness to carry out the plan. Pride is a dangerous thing. Yes, we should be proud, but when that pride becomes a brick wall and we start the blame game it is just that, a brick wall. We must be willing to change and the unwillingness to cooperate is a problem. The unwillingness to forgive is a problem; the unwillingness to change is a problem. We have changed, now we need to change for the better. Our indigenous people have been changing throughout history; change has always been one of our strengths not our weakness; we have seen more to be angry about than most cultures in the world and should not expect payment for it. We should do whatever necessary to make the world or at least our little chunk of it, what we want.

We are that we are, and now we are not doing what our fathers' fathers have done. They worked together, we should too. I understand that this is not what anyone wanted to hear, least of all from me, but things need to start at home, myself included. Time stands still for no man. We are the beginning of what tomorrow will be. If there is a light to be, then let each one of us start to shine, after all we all are Warm Springs...

Thank you all for patience and your thoughts. Remember, it is for the good of the colony. Follow the instructions of your family the elders. **Jeremiah Johnson**, role no. 4856.

Shaker Church

Hey one and all, How's you bones? Or how are you all doing this year?

(January is over - already. Can you believe it?) Where, or where does all the time go?

Busy - busy - busy - doing this and that, I guess. "I" know how that goes.

(I'm just now getting around to doing this - And I'm not really sure what it is that I am trying to do yet. "I'm just trying" - what else can I tell ya' - any who.)

First off, Peggy asked to have a business meeting on Jan. 15 to get some in-put on how to fund raise for food and other needs for the 1910 Shaker

Church... that came and went with no headway made. Find out some dates that the 1910 Shaker Church would be needed or what dates that the membership could use the kitchen/dining hall.

We were hoping to get organized enough to make up a calendar of events for 2007, by trying to prepare for upcoming celebrations like Easter/P.S. which is also our church's anniversary plus the other usual holi-

days, family gatherings for birthdays, weddings, anniversaries and memorials.

Now, there's the good part. Surprise, surprise!

Peggy would like you send me your information. Why? I guess, so I'd get myself "moving and going back to church" maybe (... I guess, sounded good to me anyways).

So? What's your thoughts on this? Contact Peggy Williams,

P.O. Box 974, Warm Springs, OR 97761 and day time contact is 553-3205 (w).

(And mine, if you dare): Tamera J. Kalama, P.O. Box 1146, Warm Springs, OR 97761, and my date time contact is 553-3411 (w).

Thank you, everyone. Tamera J. Kalama, Credit Enterprise. P.S. Happy V-Day, hugs and kisses.

Birthday wishes...

Happy birthday Mom! I love you very much. Your son, King Leo.



Happy birthday Mom. We all love you very, very much. Your babies, Dionne, Evey, Meredith and Cuthla'Rashawna. Also from Dixon Jr., Elias and Dominick.

Happy birthday Annette. From D'original Polk.

Happy birthday to our big girl Shirley Geneva Wainanwit. You've brought so much happiness into our lives since the day you were born.



We would not have asked for a greater blessing. We both love you with all of our hearts. Lots of love, hugs and kisses, Mom and Dad.

Happy birthday to my niece Shirley. I hope your day is filled with fun. You are the greatest. Love, Uncle Joe

Shirley Geneva, it's already been three years. Happy birthday on Jan. 24. You are a little character. Thank you for the love and laughter. Hugs and kisses from your aunts, Allie and Jamey.

Happy third birthday on Jan. 24 to our crazy little cousin Shirley. We love you lots. Keep being the great person you are. Lots of love, Angelina and Karina.



Artist Travis Bobb wishes everyone a Happy Valentines Day. Also, remember to bring you Valentines Day wishes to the Spilyay for the next paper.

Facts about the dangers of methamphetamine

By Wayne Miller
Prevention coordinator

Methamphetamine is a very addictive drug that activates certain systems in the brain. The street methamphetamine is referred to by many names such as speed, meth, chalk, crank and glass—just to name a few.

Like cocaine, it is a powerful upper that produces alertness and elations, along with a variety of adverse reactions. The effect of methamphetamine, however, is much longer lasting than cocaine, yet the cost is the same. For that reason methamphetamine is sometimes called the poor man's drug.

Meth is a white, odorless, bitter-tasting powder that easily dissolves in alcohol or water and can be smoked, injected or snorted.

The short term effects of taking meth comes immediately after smoking or injection—the user experiences an intense sensation, called a rush or a flash, that lasts only a few minutes and is described as extremely pleasurable. Following the rush there is typically a state of high

agitation that in some individuals can lead to violent behavior. Other possible immediate effects include increased wakefulness and insomnia, decreased appetite, irritability and aggression, anxiety, nervousness, convulsions and heart attack.

The long-term effects of taking meth include the high level of addictiveness. Users can also develop a tolerance quickly, needing larger amounts to get high. Chronic use can cause paranoia, hallucinations, repetitive behavior and delusions of parasites or insects crawling under the skin. The long-term use, high dosages, or both can bring on full-blown psychosis.

This violent, aggressive behavior is usually coupled with extreme paranoia. Meth can also cause strokes and death.

Meth can affect the community in many ways: environmental ways, putting children at risk, orphaning children, spreading HIV and AIDS, and through use of hospitals, burn units and an increase in crime.

Here are some examples: in the environment, for each

pound of meth produced, five to six pounds of hazardous waste is generated, posing immediate and long-term environmental health risks.

The children who reside in or near meth labs are at a great risk of being harmed from the explosive nature of the ingredients and by-products, as well as from the noxious fumes that can cause brain damage.

The number of foster care children has been rising rapidly in the states that have been hit hardest by meth.

Regarding AIDS, unprotected sex and dirty needles play a big role in the disease.

The materials that are used to produce the drug are toxic and often flammable, and any mistakes can result in an explosion or injury—not to just the meth cook, but to their families as well.

Last but not least, meth labs (along with the selling of the drug) can breed crime, including burglaries, thefts and even murder. Both teenagers and adults addicted to the drug and who have no income to pay for

their habit, may steal valuables from homes or even their friends' homes.

High on meth, there is no telling what a person would do if provoked.

If you're concerned about the meth problem, then here are a few things you can do to help your community: educate yourself and learn more about this insidious drug and how it affects both the user and the community.

Spread the word. Talk about the dangers of meth with your friends, neighbors, coworkers and most importantly, your children.

Be alert; look for signs of meth use, production and dealing throughout your neighborhood.

Take action—speak out in schools, places of worship or any public community forum and educate others about the dangers of meth. Encourage family and friends struggling with meth use to get help.

For more information about methamphetamines, call 553-3462.