

Tragedies makes one think about life

By Selena Boise
Management Successor

Recent tragedies have made us think about our people and how the number of deaths seems to get bigger and bigger. Illnesses, violence, drugs and alcohol are what they make me think of.

You just never know when things like this hit your family, and one can never be prepared for it.

What works for most is the family comes together and stays together with a simple phone call to say, "How are you today?"

Talk about your family, your kids, and work. It helps a lot just to get that one phone call, even more when it becomes routine.

Once again at the funeral I attended for my uncle, the people who came together to sing washut songs amazed me. They bring their drums, and prepare to sing and they will sing for hours.

And it is my understanding that these songs are what heal our hearts.

If losses bring sadness, these services that are held are helpful. At least they are for me.

I remember this lady, Ellen, when she showed up for my mom's funeral, I could feel her songs, and she had a beautiful voice. She was our graveside speaker and I admired her knowledge of the traditional ways, including the songs.

I used to hear her sing at the Baptist Church a long time ago, when I used to attend that church. So, I have to say I will miss her singing the most.

When will all this slow down, or even better, come to an end? I assume this may slow down or end when the alcohol and drugs are under a little bit of control around here.

It is the alcohol and drugs that bring tragedies lately. Others are elderly with an illness that eventually takes them.

But, I realize that people are addicted to alcohol and drugs, and it will continue to be an addiction until they realize they are no longer in control of their lives. That's a hard one to learn. Look at me; I used alcohol and drugs for 13 years before I realized it. It wasn't easy for me to learn, because the easy thing to do is continue to use.

I heard someone say once, "If I can do it, anybody can." I heard that and thought to myself, that's true of me too. But it is a real challenge to quit, so why not challenge yourself and quit.

Letters to the Editor

About time

Since my family and I have left the rez from our recent visit during Pi-Ume-Sha, I have been meaning to get these overdue Thank-you's in writing so it could be known that I am very grateful to have such loving and caring people in my family, as well as in the community.

My husband, daughter, and mother-in-law enjoyed their stay and loved the powwow.

They were welcomed with much respect. As my mother-in-law is a horse trainer, he was absolutely amazed when she got to see the endurance race with my father.

She also enjoyed watching the parade as we, myself, Morgan, Kayla (our daughter), Trent and Jovon (my nephews) were in it. My mother and sister were driving the truck we were in. My dad and mother-in-law sat in front of the post office to gender.

With that said, I'd like to thank the community for their respect toward my family.

I would also like to thank Neda, Charlotte and Eliza and their family for honoring my family and myself on the last day of the powwow for serving our country, by having the inter-tribal for us. It was so monumental to be respected and honored. Thank you for the beaded handbag, blanket and kayla's little coat.

Thank you for accepting me as I am into the family. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

I apologize if there were times I acted backward to any of you... I didn't mean to, it's just that I don't know you that well and this is all new. But with time and communication, I'm sure we can all get along.

Secondly, I'd like to thank and honor the veterans and the community. During the honoring of my family and myself, a round-about total of 150 dollars was collected from donations: It came in very handy for the trip back home.

I am very grateful and proud to have such a caring community. Thank you for sending me the Spilyay. Anyone who's ever seen me reading it was always so astonished, they always asked - and it never failed - if those people were real Indians, as they looked through it... ha ha ha.

Lastly, thanks Dad and Mom, Brother and Sister. Dad, you've always stuck by my side no matter what. I love you. Mom, I can always count on you.

Brother and sister, there's always something to bring laughter and a smile from you two. I

love you all.

Meow, as they say on Super Troopers. I'd like to say that I have been released from active duty since July the 16th. Instead of pursuing a naval career I decided to move home with my husband and daughter in Kentucky. My husband and I will be starting school this spring.

I will most likely be working toward a liberal arts degree as my husband will be working toward some sort of science degree. I look forward to doing something in school administration or just something that has to do with school. I don't know yet, my research continues... He on the other hand will be looking forward to becoming a fire fighter. Right now the only thing the two of us have accomplished is getting our goals set and starting school.

We will eventually get a plan in place and map our way to reach and achieve our endeavors.

With all this said, "It's about time" I end this article. If anyone is interested, here is my mailing address: Hester Taylor, 3604 Athensboonesboro Rd. Lexington, KY 40509.

William Arthur: Flatter me, and I may not believe you. Criticize me, and I may not like you. Ignore me, and I may not forgive you. Encourage me, and I may not forget you. Johann Wolfgang von Goethe: Treat people as if they were what they ought to be and you help them to become what they are capable of being. Sincerely, **Hester (Hess/Hessie) Lynn Scott-Taylor.**

Recent loss

To the family and loved ones of Michael "Big Mike" Kalama, I was saddened by the news of Big Mike's passing. He was a strong brother with a good heart. He had that Native sense of humor and personality. Sorry I could not be there to pay my respects in person and help send him off in a good way. Once again, sorry for your loss and I'll keep you in my thoughts and prayers. Humbly and respectfully, **Stuart A. Smith Sr.,** 17645 NW St. Helens Hwy., Portland, OR 97231.

Loyal

First off, I would like to give those who stuck by my side my love and respect, and if it wasn't for you I would have nobody. I

want to say much love to the homeboys outside of my circle who showed me love and recognized the realness in me. Also, I can't forget those who're locked up and have seen the world I have seen and know how it feels to be away from the real world. Keep your chin up, chest out and represent what you represent. And last but not least, to my boys, I've been sent here for a reason and you know where I stand in our circle. So continue to be loyal and always stand strong no matter what. I would do anything for you guys. We're family and I'll forever be loyal to you all. Who I am is what I'll forever be, and I'll change for nobody. So with that said, my fourth four is almost over and I'll be home and seeing you soon. So from the inside, my honor is to you all. Indian Pride. **Nate "V" Berry, Folsom State Prison.**

Loving hands

I find it very healing to write poems about people in my family who have gone home to be with the Lord. I was finally able to write a poem about the most important person in my life. I have written a poem for the Presidents of the United States but my mom, who is a direct descendant of Chief Wawewa of the Paiute tribe and was raised on the Warm Springs Reservation by his son and wife before she went away to boarding school, deserves recognition also along with countless other devoted mothers. Although she was extremely private in her personal life I think she would like this poem.

Loving Hands

Your loving hands made homemade bread, laughing, running children ran through the wild plum bushes, your loving hands made jam to go with the homemade rolls.

Your loving hands ironed freshly laundered clothes with devotion, cheerleader, musicians, cook, pastor, business leaders and Native dancers, your loving hands guided us through life.

We were secure knowing you were there. Your loving hands crocheted bedspreads for our large beds, wiped our noses, and tears. Deep calm enters knowing my angel mama is smiling from heaven.

Your loving hands will live forever through your children and grandchildren. Your loving hands will live forever in my heart angel mama. Your legacy is your deep love

and unselfish devotion to all your children. Dedicated to my beautiful angel mama—**Julia Ione Barney.**

Flyers

OK, I am totally thrilled! I hope other people will have this opportunity for the same sentiment some day.

I'm flattered that you think so highly of my creative endeavors and feel the need to keep the flyers to yourself, but I feel honor bound to share them with many people.

That's why I have been posting my flyers on the bulletin boards in the Post Office, Store and all offices with public bulletin boards.

I'm sure other people are in-

terested in finding out what is going on around the Rez.

I do try to make up very creative flyers, but I wanted to share them with anyone that goes into these public places, not just "you."

The flyers I have been making up are for community fundraisers, specifically for kids, so please share my flyers with everyone!

Thank you.

Val Squiemphen.

Thank you for writing to the Spilyay Tymoo.

The next deadline to submit letters is Friday, Oct. 19.

Letters of apology

I am sorry I broke tribal law in August by driving reckless, and being under the influence of alcohol. I apologize to my family for the shame my actions have brought to our family name. Further, I apologize to my children, who were directly impacted by my actions. I also want to say that knowing my actions could have cost my life, or the lives of others, I would like to show improvement and be a better role model. And I will make every effort to follow our laws in the future. **Jesse Greene.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law in April by doing what I did wrong on that day. It won't happen again. Sometimes people make mistakes. Nobody's perfect. I apologize to my family for the shame my actions have brought to our family name. I apologize to the people who were directly impacted by my actions. I also want to say I hope you all can forgive me for my actions. And I will make every effort to follow our laws in the future. **Julia Haskins.**

I would like to take this time to apologize most of all to my loved ones for my actions back in November of '06. I would like to apologize also to those who were involved that night. **A. Scott.**

To the community of Warm Springs and West Hills, I would like to take this time to apologize for the fight that occurred in February 2006, one which I was involved in. I have neither lied nor denied my roll in this situation and have taken full responsibilities for my actions. I have gone to court and have been sentenced accordingly by Judge Howes and will continue to adhere to these recommendations. Thank you for taking your time to read this letter. **Su-Yen Smith-Walker.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law on July 19, 2007 by driving while under the influence of intoxicants and recklessly endangering. I know better. Sometimes I slip and cause pain to the ones I love. Please forgive me. I apologize to my family for the shame my actions have brought to our family name. Further I apologize to Morris Sam who was directly impacted by my actions. I want to say that I know that just saying sorry is never enough - my cuz, it will never happen again. **Earl F. Boise.**

Happy birthday and other wishes...

Happy "Sweet 16" birthday to Dena Marie Thomas. Love, your mom Lovie.

Happy birthday Dena Marie. Love you lots, your Na! Na! Rae-Rae.

Happy Birthday, sister. Love, your Ya! Ya! Walsey James.

Happy Birthday, Na Na. Love, your Litsa! Daisy Mae.

Happy "17th" Birthday Laurissa and Farrelyn Bellanger. Love, your Auntie Lovie and kids.

Happy birthday to Wolfman. Love Farrell, Littlewolf, Jaden and Jordan Suppah.

Happy 4th Birthday Walt J. Love you, and Miss you. Love, Mom, Burgs, Grandma, Tonya, Leanna, Jackson, Tony

Happy birthday to my niece Isabela on her 4th birthday on October 3. Love, your Auntie Della.



Happy birthday to my niece Evelyn on her 4th birthday on October 3rd. Love your Auntie Della.



Happy birthday on Oct. 9 to Daleena Mae. Well, another year older but no more mature (LOL). You have a good one. Love, Shelly and Yaz.

Oct. 12, 2007: Hey chump, I'm always the baby but for today you can be. Happy birthday Bryson Cole, from your Nuna and Yaz.

On Oct. 20, Happy birthday "Dumbo Boy," from Yaz and Elmo.

On Oct. 5: The time has come to celebrate so be careful. Love you Tiffany H. Love, Yaz and Shelly.

On October 5, 2007, Happy 46th birthday to my dad Craig Eric Tailfeathers (aka Joey). Years have past but still many more to come. Take care of yourself. Much love and respect, **Machell Anne.**

Happy birthday "Grandpa" Joey. I love you. From Maxine.

Happy birthday auntie Suzette and congratulations on the baby girl. Much love and respect, **Maxine.**

On October 8, 2007, Happy sixth birthday Robert the third. Have fun, TV face. Much love and respect, auntie Chell and cousin Maxine.

Happy 21st birthday to my sis Suzette Dawn Boise (aka Cryz). I can't believe that this year is already here. Seems like it came too fast, but just remember the fun we had in the past. Have a good one and take care. Much love and respect, **Machell Ann Tailfeathers (aka Smilez).**

Happy 21st birthday to my beautiful niece and congratulations on the baby girl. Take care. I love you. **Auntie Jude, Allen and kids.**

Happy Sweet 16 to Leanna Elsie, we love you and miss you lots. Love, Mom, Dad, Tonya, George, and Skin.

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Any written materials submitted to Spilyay Tymoo should be addressed to:

Spilyay Tymoo, P.O. Box 870, Warm Springs, OR 97761.

Phone: (541) 553-1644 or 553-3274.

FAX No. (541) 553-3539.

E-Mail: spilyay@wstribe.org.

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