

Stay positive in regards to casino progress

By Selena Boise
Management Successor

So, what do you think about the tribes' situation in regards to the casino?

I was told recently that Grand Ronde has set aside funds to campaign against the Cascade Locks casino. Also news articles have stated as such.

How nice it would be to have extra money to do that.

Imagine our tribe could use money like that to provide jobs or health care for our tribal membership.

But, we are doing what we can, and have made some progress in the last year.

My parents used to say, "I will probably be gone before that casino is ever built." They followed progress, reading news articles and forming their own opinions about all of it. Like all tribal members do.

Well, they were right, because they are gone now and were only able to see pictures of what the casino could look like. They had hoped to see our tribe turn our economic struggles into something that would benefit the tribal members. They would have liked to see the actual casino.

I was at a mall in 2007 and a person trying to sell me products said to me, "Doesn't your tribe own a casino?" It took me by surprise and I didn't know what to say. I couldn't afford his products and he kept trying to sell them to me anyway.

I finally said, "Ours doesn't profit as much to provide for us like other casinos do for their tribes."

I left feeling a little embarrassed and wasn't sure I was even required to respond. I should have just walked away.

But I would like to see tribal members receive assistance for medical bills again. Because we still receive bills for my parents that were not covered by Managed Care. We deal with it week by week and make phone calls telling them they have passed on.

So, it must be nice for their tribe to have extra money to keep other tribes from profiting and taking care of their own tribal members.

Providing medical coverage, jobs and resources for our tribal members is important.

I hope that our tribal leaders continue doing what they do for us and look toward our future.

Spilyay Speaks

Lincoln's Powwow Court



My name is Soraya Yvana Mendez (Yah-x-la). I am 9 years old and in the fourth grade at Warm Springs Elementary.

I am one of the candidates running for Lincoln's Birthday Court. It would be a great honor for me to represent the community of Warm Springs at powwow that my family and I attend around the state.

If I were to win, it would be a great learning experience and is going to help me meet new people and learn new things out in the powwow world.

I am of the Arthur family. My grandmother is Yvonne (Arthur) Tapedo. My mother's name is Joy (Soto) Ramirez, and my stepfather is Jose Ramirez. We all live here in Warm Springs.

I have three brothers, Carlos, 17, Damian, 15, and Izraii, who is 7. I have only one sister - she is 3 years old and her name is Jaihline.

In my spare time I like to spend time with my grandmother Yvonne. She is teaching me how to do beadwork, and one day I hope to do the great work as she does.

I love playing basketball, softball, almost all sports.

I love to spend time with my family and going to different places and trying new things.

I would like to say a big Thank You to those who have already purchased tickets and to those who will be buying some in the future. Your support is very much appreciated.

Soraya Yvana Mendez (Yah-x-la).

A thank you

We would like to apologize for the length of time it took to get to this, but this is to thank everyone for their support during the loss of our wife, mother, daughter, sister and friend.

It came as a surprise to lose her at such a young age, but God had other plans for her. Our comfort is great knowing she is no longer in pain and is in God's hands now.

We appreciate all of the people that gave us those words

of comfort and talked of their experiences during her short time in our lives.

It is especially comforting knowing that we have so many people there to lend their shoulders so we may cry or talk. It's good to know that when things happen such as this, the Warm Springs Community will rally to help a family in need, Thank you!

Many thanks to the doctors and nurses at OHSU during her time there; to Reverend Allen Elston for his prayers and kind words and assistance with the services, Suzie Slockish and

Nola Queahapama for their help in the kitchen (and their many helpers), Sam Starr, MaryAnn Meanus, Trey Leonard, the Warm Springs Hotshot Crew, Warm Springs Police Department, Ginger Smith, Jr Smith, Charley and Sherry Scott and Family, Dave Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Yazzie, John Williams, Carson Badonie, Gary Sampson Jr., Philip Squiemphen, Blaine Begay, Chance Squiemphen, Monica and Jordan, Gladys, Shawna and Teola Tom, Tommie and Joann Smith, Trivia Keams, Dolly and Kayonnie Badonie, Russell and Ruthie Smith, Michael and Yvette Leecy, Ina Schuster, Glen and Lynn Fluhr, all of the youth basketball players and the many people that donated to the National Kidney Foundation and the American Cancer Society. Please forgive us our memory if we forgot anyone else.

We sincerely appreciate everyone's help and support.

With much Love and many thanks,

Edison, Teri Jo and Amanda Yazzie, Earl and Rita Squiemphen, Val Squiemphen and family, Terry and Gladys Squiemphen and Family, Herb and Earlyne Graybael and Family, Tom and Sammi O'Reilly and Family, Anson and CR Begay and Family.

Whole picture

I remember the words of a previous Miss Warm Springs, "Vocational Rehabilitation is just another program to enable people." I felt burned by this comment, being that I was a Vocational Rehabilitation counselor trainee.

Later I was told by an Education Coordinator, who was obviously upset because I was able to get my grades up and get off of probationary status, "You didn't even pay for the term yourself."

Okay, let's look at the whole picture. I was a single mother at the time and I was eligible for another service that assisted me financially and I met the criteria to get reinstated for a tribal scholarship. I excelled in college and rather than being supported I was being criticized. It is exactly this type attitude that causes people to "quit trying."

I worked for several years in Victims of Crime and have seen many people being criticized for their "sickness." Let's look at it this way: a person who has a cold goes to the clinic to see a doctor, but because they can't

quit coughing while they are in the waiting room they are asked to leave the clinic. If they would have received some cough syrup (treatment) they may be able to quit coughing, right? Remember, addiction is a disease. Quit setting people up for failure by simply putting them in jail without giving them the treatment they desperately need.

I believe that the people that abuse their authority and are hard-hearted will have to be humbled and walk the path (either personally or through someone in their immediate family) in order to understand. Greed and corruption have already caused so many of our people to die, please seek integrity and do what is right. Most importantly you must remember, one day you will have to answer to our Creator for your actions.

God bless you.
Sarah Thompson.

Pool tourney

All pool players are invited to a scotch doubles Valentines pool tourney set for Saturday, Feb. 9 at the Rialto in Madras. The tournament is scotch doubles man and woman, double elimination race to 5 blind draw. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m., tourney begins at 12:30 p.m.

First place through fifth place cash payout. Entry \$7.50 per person. Raffle, silent auction and door prize held during tournament. All funds raised added to prize payout. Questions: Lynn Davis (460-2028); Pat Allen (553-2503).

Thank you for writing to the Spilyay. The next deadline to submit an item for publication is Friday, Jan. 25. Thank you.

Letters of apology

I am sorry I broke tribal law on August 15, 2007 by yet again illegally possessing drug paraphernalia on my person. I apologize to my family for the shame my actions brought to our family name. Further I apologize to individuals, known as my beloved family, who were directly impacted by my actions. I also want to say I love you momma, and presently as far as these circumstances in my life go, there is much remorse for it. Therefore perhaps within due time I will seek change. **Anthony Owen Mitchell Jr.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law in March by offending Dana H. I apologize to my family for the shame my actions brought to our family name. I especially apologize to Dana H. I also want to say that it will not happen again and has not happened again. **Brenda Smith.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law on 4-20-07 by trespassing at my brother's home. I apologize to my family for the shame my actions brought to our family name. Further I apologize to Jabbar D., who was directly impacted by my actions. I also want to say it will not happen again. **Jerome Davis.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law on June 11 by passing out in a friend's car early in the morning on East Spur Street. I apologize to my family for the shame my actions brought to our family name. I also want to say I hope

to see myself change in the future. **D. Brisbois.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law on Thanksgiving by consuming alcoholic beverages and fighting. I apologize to my family for the shame my actions have brought to our family name. Further I apologize to the community and anyone else who was directly impacted by my actions. I also want to say that I am sincerely to the one who was mostly affected by my actions, you know who you are. **Matilda Wallulatum.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law on August 28, 2007. I deeply regret having exposed my family to such destructive behavior. I apologize to my family for the shame my actions brought to our family name. Further I apologize to my girlfriend and children, then to officer, who were directly impacted by my actions. I also want to say I am working on correcting my wrongdoings and hope that all will accept my apologies. **Sergio Rodriguez.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law on July 1 by being intoxicated and causing trouble in public. I will do my best not to let this kind of thing happen again. I am sorry for this behavior. I apologize to my family for the shame my actions brought to our family name. I also want to say that I am taking full responsibility for my charges. **McKie Suppah.**

Happy Birthday and other wishes...



Happy birthday, Grandma. I love you so much. Love, Soraya.

Happy 51st birthday on Jan. 19 to my dad George Picard Jr. I love you. I know I never tell you but I thank you for everything you have done for me. Love for always, Delores Picard aka Baby girl.

Leminnie and Claressa Picard, Happy 22nd birthday baby sisters. I'm sending my love and wishes from the jail. Love for always, you Big sis, Delores (Baby girl) Picard.

Happy birthday to my niece Trinite "Beep" Tail. From you aunty Charisse Rose.

Guess who's turning 51 - Happy birthday George Picard, from Charisse Haskins.

Happy birthday Annie Dee, the big 26. Have a good one, from C. Rose.

Happy birthday Harold

Blackwolf Jr., forever thinking of you... Love ya, Turina W.

Happy belated birthday to my lil sister Sissaley D. Graybael. Love and miss you... Love always, Turina Addie.

Happy birthday to Annie Dee Fuiava. Luv ya and keep your head up, Jan. 17. Turina.

Best birthday wishes to my brother Johnny Ray Smith. I love and miss you lots. Wish I could be there. Your sis, Jeanette Dawn Thompson.

Happy birthday to my uncle Johnny R. Smith. Love, your nephew Jadden

Cenerazzo.

Happy belated Christmas and New Year to you and yours. Much respect, Floyd Edgar Teeve.

Ladies, Cowgirl Up, it's that time of the year again. Have a happy birthday and happy New Year, Winona, Cinda, Sheila and Mariel. Hope you gals have a very special day. God loves you, gals, and so do we. From the Jacob Frank Stables.

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