

Thoughts on the casino process

By Selena Boise
Management Successor

So how many of you made your casino comments and opinions known?

I made mine online through a link that was sent to me. The web site is gorgecasinoeis.com.

Then I sent the link around, because it is important that our opinions be heard one way or another.

Heard about the Grand Ronde and their concern about the commute to and from Cascade Locks and the Warm Springs Reservation. I just can't keep up with their concerns.

Tribal members do need jobs here, but then jobs will become available after the budget is supplemented to bring back those jobs that were cut.

I was driving through Grande Ronde community during the last week and was looking around for signs of how a casino could impact the environment. After all, it is a scenic drive to the coast.

I didn't see any kind of impact from Spirit Mountain Casino or the Chinook Winds Casino on the coast. So I don't see how a casino could impact the scenic drive along the Columbia River. The businesses along that route probably will get more customers, and that can't be all that bad.

Speaking of Chinook Winds Casino, there was a good turn out for the Annual Western BCA Regional 8-ball championships. There was one local men's team that placed 7th out of 132 teams. You can read about it in another article on page 2.

This is a big tournament and I think it would be worthwhile to invite this league to play at our casino. Over a thousand pool players walking around with their pool sticks at the Chinook Winds casino for a whole week is quite a site to see.

It can be separate tournament established by this league or another league, because I think the players look forward to the tournament at the coast every year. That is a good location and it is a nice vacation for everyone who plays pool.

Just thinking out loud. I know that bowling tournaments attract a lot of people but pool tournaments do the same thing. But check out the article for sure, these guys played a good game as a team and I think that they deserve the extra attention. Took my daughter there and she was overwhelmed by it, being a pool player herself. The games were so intense that she was at the edge of her seat.

Spilyay Speaks

Kah-Nee-Ta

Kah-Nee-Ta, will it ever be a success? Of course not, and is still another last chance agreement between Kah-Nee-Ta and the tribes a good idea? Who are the people that most benefit? A project estimated to cost \$20 million must have many benefits for the local Warm Springs people, otherwise why do it? This money would supposedly be devoted to up-scaling the resort to a three- or four-star resort. Or would this money be used to give people substantial raises? Who would be the main players in this up-scaled resort? The "Indians," of course. The local "Indians" in natural "Indian" surroundings, although highly paid GM's never admitted this. Listen to the people, there might be some hope for Kah-Nee-Ta, otherwise, scratch it off as a 33-year loser, and make the area a thermo power plant. Kah-Nee-Ta never was intended to be a tribally owned tourist attraction, not without the "Indians." So in reality, neither the people of Warm Springs, no Kah-Nee-Ta can afford to wait a few years, the tribes shouldn't be asked to carry Kah-Nee-Ta any longer, not without some assurance that it'll be the tribal people who will benefit.

Amos Switzler Jr.

Field trip

My name is Joshua Todeshine and I'm a Navajo from Arizona on the Navajo Reservation. I moved here to Warm Springs. The reason why I moved is because my mother accepted a job at the IHS clinic. To be here in Oregon is wonderful. I love the natural wonders that Oregon brings.

Going to school here is great. The reason why I chose to go on the field trip was because I wanted to hear what the great people of Warm Springs had to say about the casino wanting to be built at the gorge.

There are many reasons why it should be built. But what I've learned from this experience that you always have to fight for

Correction

In the previous Spilyay, in the fire safety article on creating defensible space, there was a typo indicating that the defensible space area around a home should be "three feet." Actually, and importantly for fire safety, the space should be 30 feet. The Spilyay apologizes for the mistake.

your people and your rights. Lending a helping hand will change many lives. Also, all Native and non-Native Americans should be equal. I have learned many things from this experience and will continue to participate in activities like this one. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Joshua Todeshine.

Better things

To the Warm Springs community and surrounding areas,

Hello there, first of all, people. Well, I really don't know how to start but I guess I'll let everyone know that I have been incarcerated since January 15, 2008. I've been in the Jefferson County since that time. Right now I am doing 90 days for things I have done while I was highly intoxicated like driving under the influence. This is going to be haunting me for the rest of my life because as intoxicated I was I could've gotten into a wreck, ran off the road, or hit an oncoming vehicle and could've killed myself or the others that were in the vehicle with me. And luckily this hasn't happened. I am very thankful that it didn't because I am in jail for it sure, but thank God I'm alive. And the ones whom I dearly love are alive and well also, so I want to apologize to Melinda F. and her sister M. for putting your lives in danger while I was intoxicated, I am sorry. And I know that I owe you more than an apology, I will make it up to you when I get out and show everyone that I won't let it happen again. To make sure that it won't, I am saying to everyone that I have to admit that I am an alcoholic, and I am going to do my best to quit using so I don't jeopardize my life or the lives of others or the lives of others that I honestly care so much for. And what's next for me right now is looking for employment once I do my jail time here in Jefferson County.

So for all those who are reading this letter, I hope to touch someone somehow and I hope that all those who are still using come to realize that alcohol does kill. Not just drugs and guns. It's deadly. And now I am happy to say that I am ready to move on without this in my life, onto better things.

So for all you employers out there I'll be able to work for you at the end of this month. I'll finally have something to brag about and that's having the abil-

ity to pass a drug test. So I'll be looking for a job and I'll be willing to start anywhere as long as it keeps me busy and puts food on the table and gets the bills paid. I'll be there.

So with that I'll be going and all of you take care and be careful, be safe. And God bless each and everyone okay. Sincerely,

Richard W. Payne Jr., "Jimmy" aka Monster.

Troubles, what troubles?

March 21, 2008, 4:30 a.m.

I look back over one of my writings and decide to share this small part of my thoughts:

It is a very trying time. It is Nov. 6, 2007 and I am disgusted and hurt. Over the years I've watched the tribal culture and traditions being abused, thrown to the side, cast aside like a broken toy, only to be used once in a while.

The Earth is drying up. The snow packs are less and less. More rains shrink the heavy snows at the lower elevations. The roots are now ready before the arrival of the salmon. Salmon runs vary in numbers and timing. The deer are jeoparding, losing feeding and calving areas and subjected to wanton slaughter by the uneducated and supposedly traditional hunters, violators of nature. The modern man is a skilled mindless predator. What happened to taking only what was needed?

Where are the tribal people headed? Where have we gone wrong? What are the people thinking?

Why are the people doing what they are doing and know it's not traditional? I cannot believe what is happening!

I now know what Chief Tommy Thompson meant when Celilo Falls was flooded and he said that losing Celilo and the fishing sites basically signed a death warrant to the tribal cultures and traditions in the years to come. That was his greatest fear, and it's happening ever so slowly.

At least some real stories, pictures and a scattering of the words of the language will linger on.

Where were the teachers? Grandpa, Dad, Fathers, Where are you? Where there any real leaders? Where's the balance in life?

If we didn't have a bonus or per capita, would we have any Indians at all?

Awies, Terry Courtney Jr.

New location

Visions of the West is currently in the process of relocating to a new area.

We would like to thank our customers for making our first year of business a wonderful success.

Our new location will re-open soon with a new grand opening and much more to offer our customers.

Thanks for a great first year to all our customers.

Flint and Celena Scott, owners, *Visions of the West*.

Letters of apology

I am sorry I broke tribal law on Feb. 20 at West Hills/Foster Street because I was walking down the road. I apologize to the community, friends and family. I also want to say I will be better than I was before and not get caught doing wrong. **Charlie Wainanwit.**

I apologize to Jacklynn, who was directly impacted by my action. I also want to say that if all goes well, I will never see a jail cell again. **Kevin Smith Jr.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law on Feb. 23. I apologize to my family. And I will make every effort to follow our laws in the future. **Johnny Smith.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law on 12/12/07 by walking around Warm Springs streets intoxicated and being in possession of paraphernalia at late hours of the night. Further, I apologize to myself and my teacher Margaret. I also want to say I have learned my lesson and will do my best to make sure this never happens again. **Gerald Cardenas.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law on Nov. 8, 2007 by assault and battery. Further, I apologize to J.K. and her kids. I am truly sorry for my behavior over stupidity. I am seeking help for my alcohol problem. **Allen Charley.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law on Dec. 22, 2007 by giving false identification to an officer using my best friend's name. I further apologize to E.P. and my uncle. **Bernadette Winishut.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law on Jan. 16, 2008 by which I pled guilty to DUII and recklessly endangering times three. I am glad no one has gotten hurt in this matter. I apologize to R.W., S.R., and L.W., who were directly impacted by my actions. I also want to say I will put my time and efforts to make things work out to better myself. **Mackalin Kalama.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law on 8-26-08 by committing the offense 305.115, assault and battery, of tribal law code. I want to say to my babe, Denise S., that I am sorry for what happened that day, for we were intoxicated, which is no excuse. I also want to apologize to the Warm Springs community. I want to say I am continuing to do better. **Tommy Napyer.**

To the people of Warm Springs, I'm sorry for my shame I brought to the family name, and Kah-Nee-Ta employees, I'm sorry for my drug of choice. I regret using meth for 10 long years. I thought it was cool but now I have to go to treatment. I further apologize to the individuals who were directly impacted by my actions. Please accept my apology. Thanks. **Elfred A. Smith.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law on 2-11-08 by driving under the influence of an intoxicant. Further, I apologize to the owner of the car and to the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. This incident will not occur again. **Raymond Ginardipec.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law on 11-22-08 by physically assaulting another tribal member at Kah-Nee-Ta Resort. I sincerely hope that everyone involved can forgive me. Further I want to apologize to A.F., who was directly impacted by my actions. I also want to say that I am taking actions to better myself to be a sober person. **Lanelle Rowe.**

Happy Birthday and other wishes...



Happy 2nd birthday to my baby boy Hazen Amos Martinez on March 27. Love, Mommy.

Happy birthday to my brother Hazen. Love, YaYa Bennie.

Happy birthday cousin Hazen. Love, Kamelia, JJ, Marrika.

Happy birthday Hazen. Love, Auntie Amy and Hazel.

Happy birthday Boo Boo Boy. Love, Kuthla and Grandpa. Happy birthday nephew Hazen. Love, auntie Nana and uncle Brand.

Happy belated birthday brother Gibson Danzuka. Any more wishes. Love for always. You big sister Delores "Babygirl" Picard.

Happy birthday Donovan Wolfe. I'm sending all my wishes your way. Love, auntie Dede Picard.

Happy birthday to my Nana Marcy aka Miz Picard. I love you sis. Wish I was there to wish you happy birthday. I'm sending you wishes from the jail. Love, your lil' sister Delores "Babygirl" Picard.

Happy birthday to my No. 1 cousin, Kima (Dopey) Crookedarm. Have fun my Nana but not too much without me, but I love you and I'm wishing and singing you happy birthday from the jail. Love, your lil' sister and cuz Delores "Babygirl" Picard.

Happy 9th birthday to my baby girl Dahl'ana Antunez, from you aunty Charise. I love you!

Happy birthday big sister, 27 years old. Hope you have a blast, Crystal Scott.

Love you always and forever. Charisse Rose Haskins.

Happy 16th birthday to Harvey Tohet Smith, with lots of love from your family.

Happy birthday to Marcie Picard, from Danica and staff.

A very happy birthday to everyone who will soon be celebrating another year. From the staff at the Spilyay Tymoo.

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