

Remember those close to you during the holiday season

By Selena Boise
Management Successor

Hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving and held onto what they are thankful for in their lives. We realize all that we are thankful for because many times we lose sight of that especially after the loss of loved ones. And there were a lot of losses in recent years.

Sometimes after these losses it's easy to say, "What is there to be happy about?" But there is a lot to be happy about. There are people still close to you that are here and willing to share memories, make new memories, and just be there.

While our hearts are heavy because of these losses we should remember that we still have loved ones here with us and that they need you.

Remember these important people when you are ready to celebrate the Christmas season. To spend time together doing Christmas activities, for the children in your family most of all. Making memories for them is important because they will have these memories forever. So, why not make them good memories?

I know the economy hasn't been good, even here on the Reservation. So, for some who think of Christmas coming from a store it will seem like a difficult time to celebrate.

Well, actually most of the gifts come from a store but we don't have to be extravagant and spend more than we have. Lots of times a practical gift is worth a lot for people struggling in this bad economy.

But, we shouldn't worry about the economy during this holiday season and just enjoy the fact that family can come together and share good times, make new, happy memories. That is the reason for the season.

So, with all that is said and done, we should remember who is important in our lives at this time of the season and remember them with your love and appreciation for they are a part of your life—past, present, and future.

Enjoy your holiday season.

Toe Ness

There was this not so bright guy named John. After 20 years he still couldn't figure out why his wife named their child "Bill Jr."

Letters to the Editor

Donations

As we all know, our reservation, the state and country are hard hit by challenging economic times. For too many Warm Springs families, bare cupboards are a fact of life. There are also the homeless who are hungry. Too many seniors have to choose between buying medication or buying food.

We can do something about it by donating food and resources to the local Food Bank at the Presbyterian Church.

It has touched my heart when Pastor Rick Ribiero, of the Presbyterian Church, recently donated two boxes of groceries to my elderly/handicapped mom and dad—there are 14 to 20 people in the home, half are toddlers and youth!

We're asking you to help us support the Warm Springs Food Bank by collecting food from your friends and neighbors and dropping it off at the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs administration building—food bank locations. We'll continue this drive through the end of the year.

Thank you, and Happy Holidays to you and yours.

Aurolyn Stwyer-Pinkham, Tribal Council vice chairwoman.

Congratulations

I just want to congratulate both of my cousins Erickson and Tony Lucci for their newborn babies. I wish the best for your both and for your new baby girls. Take care, and love to you all! Sorry I wasn't able to see your baby. I will as soon as I can. With love, you lil sis **Kat Hoptowit and Darleen Hoptowit**.

Ducks

College football is now on and I watched the Oregon Ducks play their home game here at Autzen Stadium. The Ducks a few great and super players, both on defense and offense. It's great that my uncle Olney Patt Jr. is also a graduate of the U. of O. in Eugene. Sincerely, **Evette Patt**, 50 Koart Dr., apt. 3, Eugene OR 97404.

Veterans

While at Roseburg VA hospital undergoing treatment for substance abuse and post traumatic stress disorder, I happened to have the honor of viewing the Replica of the Vietnam Memorial wall that traveled through Roseburg. The names of my brothers and sisters etched upon it inspired me to write this letter that very evening. Upon this wall was the name of "David James Ohm,"

whom I became very close to during my tour of Vietnam in 1968. In July, 1968, while we were on a recon patrol, my friend David was killed. This letter is dedicated to David and the 58,000 plus and one not yet found.

David James Ohm, To Remember, To Reflect, To Heal

From David to David With Love

Today I went to see you. At first it was from afar. I felt my heart race, my pulse quicken, and tears formed and streamed from each eye. I told myself, "No, the time is not right." "Later," I said, and as I walked away from you, I heard a calling from behind, "Come back! Please! You don't have to be afraid. There is no need to be scared. I turned and looked back, and there you were. I know it was you, or him, or he calling back to me. "Later," I said. "I will come back."

Later came and as my veteran friend and myself walked towards you, again my heart raced and my pulse quickened, but now my whole body trembled from head to toe. Your arms extended towards me, and I wondered with the feeling I had, was this how it felt to die and go to heaven? And as I walked towards you, up the green trail to you, I felt as though I was coming home. At first it was hard to touch your name, because I had not seen you for so many years. Though you were never out of my mind. I wondered then just how many of our family had been to see you.

Now I begin to feel the nearness of you. I walk with reverence and greet the rest of our family, they reached out to touch me as I walked by. I knew that I had forgotten some of your names, but no matter you were always in my heart. And now as I neared my favorite Brother, and saw how he had somehow placed himself near the end of the line because he knew that I wanted to see everyone. My heart began to race even faster and my pulse quickened even more. And there he stood, the one I had not seen for so many years but carried



Warm Springs artist Travis Bobb comments on flu season.

in my heart with mixed emotions for so very long. I reached out to grasp him and I heard him whisper in my ear, "It's not your fault for not coming to see me for all these years. I knew that someday you would come here and find me."

I felt a peace that I had not know before, wash over me, and I heard my Brother say to me, "Go and be with your Family again and live once more as we did long ago, without any fears... in life. As I walked away, I turned and saw you again. "The Wall" and all my brothers and sisters names etched upon it. And my Brother's spirit, as did mine, soared toward the heavens, free at last to live again.

David J. Gonzales (first submitted on 8/8/99; relationship to Veteran: my best friend in Nam.)

Holiday wish



Softball team that won the championship.

To my family and friends, Have a safe and happy holiday. (Above is a picture of our softball team that took the championship here.) Please write me at the following address: **R. McKinley**, no. 65363.065, WSP Lee County, Jonesville, VA 24263-0305. God bless.

Happy birthday and other wishes...



Happy Birthday, Daddy (Dale Casey). Love you always and forever. **Kahneesha, Kalona, Tredamas and Shaniquah Casey**.

Happy 9th Birthday Ellise "Sissy" David How much u n Ty have grown Im Very Very Proud of you guys , Have a Good one We miss u. All The way from Washington Love Auntie Ed, Tyrece, Simyan, N Kylan.

Happy 21st birthday to my son **Matthew Dean (Mafia-Snoopy) Ortiz**.

I love you lots and miss you as much. I can't wait to see you again. You're bros and sis wish



you the best too. Love, Mom, D-Bear and all of your family.

Happy birthday to **Leonardo (Chacho) Cuevas and Armando (Mondo) Becerra**. We all wish you the best. From the both of your other families. Much. Take it easy. Love, D-Bear and the rest from Park Heights.

Happy birthday on December 11 to one of our pride and joys, 8-year-old **Dartanian Wilson Picard**. We are all so happy that you're all home. We love you and you have a fun day. Love from **grandpa and grandma Robert and Marella Sam**.

Happy 8th birthday to Dartanian Picard. Have a good day kid. Love you, from your uncle Thomas Chester Sam, Tracy Ray Sam and Robert Tracy Sam Jr.

Happy birthday to our brother **Dartanian Picard**, who will be 8 years old on December 11. You have a great day. Love from all of us, **Woody Jr., Chantel, Kaylobe and our baby sister Elisha Picard**.

Happy birthday to our son **Dartanian Wilson Picard**. Dad and Mom love you son and are so proud of you. Keep up your good work at school and home. We hope your day is a good one this December 11. Love a lot, from dad and mom **Woody and Sadie Picard Sr.**

Happy birthday to my brother **Dartanian Picard**. We love you. We will have a good day, from **Elsie and Clarence Vernon Sam**.

Happy 8th birthday to our big brother **Dartanian Picard**. We all love you. From us **Gerald, Big G, Neda and little Tracy and Gerald Tias Jr.**

Happy birthday out to one of the my boys **Dartanian Picard**. Aunt loves you and I am proud of you in school and at home. For what you do, you

have a good day. Love from aunt **Jealeah Ooah Sam**.

Happy birthday out to one of g-grandson **Dartanian Wilson Picard**, 8 years old. You have a good day Dart. We love you. From g-grandpa and g-grandma **Harvey and Eliza Jim**.

Happy birthday to **Dartanian Picard**. You have a good day, from all of us, **Tony, Marella, Leonard Van Pelt**.

Happy birthday to **Dartanian Picard**. Love you. This grandma misses you and I hope your day is a good one. Love from grandma **Itta**.

Happy birthday **Dartanian Picard**. Have a good one. From **Eliza, Rigo and kids**.

Happy belated birthday to my baby girl niece **Azsurre Joy Hoptowit**. Hope you had a good first birthday. Love you lots, from auntie **Kat** and auntie **DHDH**.

Happy Birthday to everyone with a birthday this month. From the Spilyay.

Spilyay Tymoo
(Coyote News, Est. 1976)

Publisher Emeritus: Sid Miller

Editor: Dave McMechan

Management Successor: Selena T. Boise

Reporter: Leslie Mitts

Advertising Manager: Sam Howard

Media Advisor: Bill Rhoades

Spilyay Tymoo is published bi-weekly by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

Our offices are located in the white house at 1100 Wasco Street.

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.

Annual Subscription rates: Within U.S.: \$15.00.