

## Thanks Letters to the Editor

By Duran Bobb

Towards the beginning of November, it starts... you can read about Squanto and Governor William Bradford, 1621 and Abe Lincoln. Pilgrims and Puritans. Religious freedom and winter starvation.

As the month ages, we hear more about being grateful for the little things in life.

That becomes the shame-on-you attitude for gloating while there are so many who have none.

That drags into the daily commercials tugging on your heartstrings; sad puppies staring out of kennel cages while "In the Arms of An Angel" plays in the background and you learn how just 45-cents a day could make a difference.

Thanks is an acknowledgment of appreciation. Giving is an offering.

When people don't know you're asking for a specific reason, they'll tell you they're thankful for cars, houses, money, new shoes, the newest cell phone that everybody is just dying to have.

Over the past year, I've met extraordinary people. One person has taught me how to be thankful for life - no matter the good or bad. Because all life teaches a lesson, every single breath is a step on our journey. Whether we make that a good step or a bad step, he said, it's up to us.

There's so much for us to be grateful for on this side of the Thanksgiving table. The soil beneath our feet, the open sky overhead. Family, culture, love, lineage, health, tradition, language.

The lesson here could be, there's much for all of us to be thankful for this year.

The food for thought: *W/ho* am I thankful towards?

### TOE NESS...

Teacher: When the Pilgrims landed...where did they stand?  
Spilyay: On their feet!  
YIKES!

### SSS SSS SSS

Teacher: If the Pilgrims were alive today, what would they be most-famous for?  
Spilyay: Probably how old they are!  
YIKES!

### SSS SSS SSS

Wise Man: Can a turkey jump higher than Culpus Bridge?  
Spilyay: Yes. Culpus Bridge can't jump at all!  
YIKES!

Spilyay Speaks

### Horse problem

It's admirable the letters in defense of all the "stray" horses and the part they used to play in our culture. But being tolerant and politically correct won't feed them or find a solution to this dilemma, nor moving them to another part of our country. The horses are locusts eating our deer, elk and cattle out of their food they need to survive.

A slaughter house is the only humane way to deal with this situation and the highly critical views of our people's treatment of our stray horses in local papers. The facility will provide jobs, income to improve our quality of life, solve a problem for not only us but other reservations and federal land agencies.

Stray horses are free range fed and chemical free, an excellent dog food. The whole animal would be used in various products for not only dogs but cats, feed for other animals, zoos, animal-rescue refuges for bears, lions, wolves and many more possibilities if we look.

You go to any web site for pet or other supplies of free-range fed and chemical-free products, the prices are extremely high. We would not have to pay state taxes or other fees. A site on the outside would have to pay. Everybody is screaming for more income we need now, when all we have to do is make a very wise choice to benefit our people, not some outsider who only wants to criticize us but not help us.

Maury G. Rhoan Sr.

### New longhouse

Hoka hey. All my relations. This is Wesley R Smith. I first would like to send out my condolences to the families who have lost their loved ones. It breaks my heart dearly to hear of your loss, and my prayers go out to you and your families.

I am doing well here in Eugene, attending school at Lane Community College.

I have been here in Eugene now for two years and my plans are to graduate by the 2011-2012 fiscal year. That is if nothing gets in my way of my progression.

I have been part of the Native American Student Association (NASA) here at Lane since my start and attendance to get my post secondary education in 2008.

NASA is a group of Native students and others who have been here to keep each other on our feet while we are away

from our families and loved ones. I couldn't have made it this far without the feeling of our club being my family away from my family.

We are planning to open our new longhouse on Friday, Dec. 3 starting at 11 a.m. We will also have our annual powwow the following day here at the Lane campus on December 4.

Grand entry will start at 1 p.m. continuing till 5:30 p.m. for the first session. Then we will be serving dinner while supplies last from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Then we will have the evening session grand entry starting at 7:30, lasting till about 11.

This will be a commemorative moment due to our longhouse being the first community college to have a longhouse, then being followed by our powwow. I hope that you will be able to attend and share this time with us.

We, the Native American Student Association, are looking for donations to help us with our raffle for the powwow and gifts to present to the people who have made our long house happen.

If you have interest in taking part and honoring us with some much needed gifts, we ask that you please call us at 541-463-3235. You can ask for Chuck, Daniel or Mollina. If you have no contact, please leave us name and number and we will get back to you soon as possible.

Thank you for your time and much respect. If you would just like to contact me you can write me at: **Wesley R. Smith**, 133 Howard Ave., Eugene, OR 97404. Or call me at 541-357-0895.

### Bio-mass

As the suburban neighborhood community of Sunnyside and parts of Upper Dry Creek the wind direction is variable not just west to east. At other times there is no wind at all to flush away the lingering smokey haze and strong odor when they are burning trash and tires at the landfill (dump). If they build a huge electricity producing bio-mass plant located by the landfill area, the pollution would be much worse and would cause havoc in the vicinity and the surrounding communities.

We need an environmental impact statement (EIS) regarding the long range effects on human health to long lasting pollution, especially elders and those residents with pre-existing respiratory or cardiac conditions and other adverse impacts of the thick haze that would be emitted into our air.

The general manager of Power and Water Enterprises explained that the tribes have lost millions of bucks of much needed revenue because natu-

ral gas prices are down, also because the need or demand for energy is off because the hydro dams system along the Columbia River has sufficient reservoir levels. Evidently, that is the reason why our Pelton dam cannot sell our own electricity at a good price. Do we need an outsider owned huge bio-mass plant? It is obviously not a sound idea and would cause much added traffic congestion and the long range health risk on the communities is not worth it.

Anthony Littleleaf.

### Fish on

I wake to hear a sudden splash, when Kishwalk shouts "fish on!"

We're down and out, we need this fish, this yearly run's half gone. He asks me "Are you getting it?"

I'm up and on my way. I check the hoops all night long. He checks them during the day.

My headlamp shines upon the fish, I shout, "It's a hog!"

He's right behind, ready to help. We hope it's not a dog. I get the hoop into the air the notice there are two!

I quickly grab the first one's gill. The other bursts right through. I lose my grip upon the fish, then reach to grab my club.

I pound until the fish is still, then throw it in the tub. My brother cleans the algae out, the hoop is set back in. We war whoop for this fish we caught, our spirits shine within.

Otis Johnson.

### For the holiday

During the past two months, the Prevention Coalition group has been planning activities for Christmas. One of the events discussed during this planning process is putting together baskets for either a Christmas basket walk (like a cake walk except with Christmas baskets), or distributing baskets as prizes for the car light parade.

The Prevention Coalition is asking for department participation in this Warm Springs Christmas family fun event. You can help by donating small Christmas items to be put together for baskets or participate to make this event a success for the community.

For more information, you may contact me at 541-553-3205.

**Rosanna Jackson**, Community Counseling Center Prevention Coordinator.

### Apologies

I am sorry I broke tribal law by getting caught with drug paraphernalia. I apologize to the



### Congratulations, Graduate

Congratulations, Annie.  
Praise God for the strength to overcome adversity and reach your goal. Praise God, my girl.  
**You mama and family**  
- Yeah! Yeah!



Warm Springs community. I'm going to try to keep this from happening again. **Chanelle Jackson.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law on Oct. 3 by driving while under the influence of intoxicants. I apologize to the arresting officer and the tribes. I will think before doing what I do, because action is going to take place, good or bad, so I must make the right decisions. **Allen Charley.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law on 10-12-10 by D.C. and L.C. I would also like to say I hope it will not happen again. I'm planning on bettering myself for the community and hope my apologies are accepted. I apologize to A.W., E.J.J., and J.R. **Krystal Finnley.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law on July 28, 2010 by getting pulled over for driving under the influence and reckless endangerment between Quail Trail and Mt. Jefferson St. I apologize to the people of Warm Springs. **Charise Haskins.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law on Oct. 17, 2010 by driving under the influence. I understand that what I did was wrong. I endangered myself as well as the people in the community with my actions. For these actions I am now paying for with my freedom. I apologize to my family for the time I lost and will never redeem. I apologize to the tribes. I will be motivated to target the positives to adapt in my life's struggles. **Samuel Scott.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law on May 5, 2010 by unlawful possession of a controlled substance, reckless endangerment, concealed weapon, drug paraphernalia, assault. I apologize to all the police and the court. I'm going to stay away from alcohol because it made me black out. **Jenny Culpus.**

I would like to apologize so to the tribes of Warm Springs for my actions on Sept. 28, 2010. It was very foolish of me to be in the possession of marijuana and for that I am sorry. I would also like to apologize to J.D. and D.D. and anyone else who feels my actions have affected them in any way. I am working on bettering myself so this does not happen again. **Julia Simtustus.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law on 8-6-10 by trespassing on private areas in West Hills. I apologize to the residents I trespassed. I will do better and not do it again. Truly, honestly sorry. **Ambrose Meanus.**

I am sorry I broke tribal law on Feb. 25 by violating my restraining order. I apologize to V.W. I will try my hardest to not let it happen again. **Chey Culpus.**

I apologize sincerely to Warm Springs for my wrong actions and behaviors. I'm doing my very best to change. I broke the law on 9-20-10 by driving under the influence, reckless endangering x 4. I would like to apologize to H.S.P., R.R., M.A.D., W.C. I will do my utmost to prove that I can change. **Spencer Poitra.**

I'm sorry that I broke tribal law on 8-25-10 by committing assault and battery. I apologize for my actions. I'm sorry A.F., who was impacted by my actions. I learn by my mistakes. **Chandra Howtopat.**

### Notice to members

The Vital Statistics Department is requesting that tribal members update their address and tribal identification card for checks, letters, tribal elections notices, etc. You can write to Vital Statistics by at PO Box C, Warm Springs, 97761. Or call 541-553-3252, or come by the office in the administration building. People Vital Stats needs to locate:

**Lucas Whitehouse, Heather Duncan, and Rowena Johns.**

The next deadline to submit items for publication is Wednesday, Nov. 24. Please note the early deadline due to the holidays.

Thank you all for writing to the Spilyay Tymoo!

### Happy birthday and other wishes...

On November 15, Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday to Jadrian. From your crawler buddy **Lindy.**

On November 21, Happy Birthday Uncle Scott. Love, **Lindy.**

Happy belated birthday to Monie Caldera. From your ole security-cell bud, **Freddie.**

Happy birthday, **Nicky.** Love, **Amy.**  
Tyson, I want to wish you

a Happy Thanksgiving. Mom loves you a lot. I'll see you soon. Mom.

Holly, Momma wants to wish you, Mike, Jaden and Daren a Happy Thanksgiving.

Happy Thanksgiving to Mom and Dad in Boca Raton, Love from **Dave.**

Congratulations, **Andy and Heather!** From **Cheryl and Dave.**

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