

Sacred and Living

By Duran Bobb

Recently, human bones found on the bank of a river in Washington's Benton County were returned to a group of tribal governments—one of which was Warm Springs.

The bones were determined to be between 300 and 350 years old, based on the amount of mineralization on the teeth.

The Umatilla tribes told the Army Corp of Engineers that the remains were Native American. However, the corps needed a second opinion from anthropologists at the University of Idaho.

They concluded that the mandible and teeth had traits unique to the Native American population of that time.

The older the remains, Robert Kelly, professor of anthropology at the University of Wyoming said in a recent New York Times article, the harder it is to place them to a certain tribe. Maybe one day, all remains will be returned...but until that time, there's much that can be learned about the living.

The Falmouth Institute presented the question: Should archaeologists be allowed to maintain possession of Native American remains and funerary objects if there is no true affiliation to an existing tribe? Or should they be forced to reinter the items or return them to any tribe, even if the tribe has no cultural link to the items?

That seems like a one-sided question. "True affiliation" status shouldn't automatically be determined by archaeologists alone.

There are laws in place, which should be followed by archaeologists, tribes, and museums.

Granted, the "cultural link" of remains and funerary objects is probably closer to "any tribe" than to archaeologists.

Cultural remains are sacred items to our people. They can never be considered as doorstops, decorations, jewelry, displays, or online auction materials.

If scholars want to know more about the living...as the Umatilla tried to tell the corps, here we are!

TOE NESS...

On Santa's lap, Spilyay asked how much it costs to get married. Santa thought for a while and then said, "I don't know...I'm still paying for it!" YIKES!

SSS SSS SSS

Letters to the Editor

War bonnet

Thanks from Harvey and Family

We the wife and children of Harvey Jim would like to thank all Veterans for the services (war bonnet) on Veterans Day.

We thank you everyday for the service you all did for our country.

First, thank you nephew Gene Sampson for the loving work you did when you made the bonnet, Rex Buck and your wife for traveling and doing the honor, Myra and crew for cooking the beautiful meal, (even when you had to do a lot of running to cook), my sisters Tessie Williams and family, Marie Olney for being with us during this beautiful time, Maxine McKinley, and JoDe for your thoughtfulness.

This was a big day for Harvey. We swear he never slept for he waited too long for this.

Sister Neda, niece Aurolyn, Wynona, Bobbi, and our VanPelt children, we couldn't have done it without all of you.

Thank you to the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, the main people, you know who you are. And Jody Calica for the food.

My love to all. Thanks.
Eliza Brown-Jim and Children (Tony, Marella, Leonard Jim).

Smoke free

Oregon's Tobacco Prevention and Education Program works.

It helps Oregonians quit, keeps our youth from starting tobacco, and protects all residents from secondhand smoke.

We must continue and increase this work. For each year we maintain our current pace, we'll save 2,800 lives and more than \$875 million in Oregon.

Since the Oregon Tobacco Prevention and Education Program (TPEP) began in 1996, per capita cigarette consumption has declined 46 percent, meaning that 3.2 billion fewer cigarettes were sold.

After program funding was reduced, sales went up and then dropped again when funding was restored in 2007.

TPEP has made tremendous strides in reducing secondhand smoke exposure in Oregon, most recently with the expansion of the Smokefree Workplace Law, which now protects almost 100 percent of Oregon workers from secondhand smoke.

Oregon's tobacco prevention budget is just \$7.1 million in

2010.

This pales in comparison to the tobacco industry's \$137 million annual marketing budget in Oregon. For every \$1 we can spend to protect Oregonians from tobacco, the tobacco industry spends \$20 to get our residents hooked.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention suggests Oregon spend \$43 million annually to effectively prevent tobacco use.

We still have work to do: 17 percent of Oregonians smoke.

Four out of five smokers want to quit but struggle to break the addiction. Tobacco accounts for 22 percent of all Oregon deaths and costs our state more than \$2.2 billion every year.

Want some free and friendly help to quit smoking or chewing? Call us! 1-800-QUIT-NOW. The quit line is open seven days a week, 5 a.m. to 12 a.m.

Scott Kalama, Tobacco Prevention Coordinator.

Loving Memory

I'd like to thank all the people who happened to be with us in our time of sorrow.

There are a lot of family, friends and others that helped out. The drummers, Ron Suppah, S. Suppah, and Rex Robinson for your officiating at the home.

The ones that cooked, Corrina Sohapp, Gabriel Sohapp, Lola Sohapp, Deanie Johnson, Reva Johnson, and the rest that were there to help us. Thank you so much for all the support and bring there for the family. It was so fast and he didn't want to have all kinds of things for him and it was a very nice funeral.

All the people in Pendleton that helped out there... Ernie Selam for officiating, going with us while we were transferring him to Pendleton; Willie Selam for dressing. I know he had it hard, doing the dressing by himself, but he did a great job. Thanks for all your hard work.

Thanks to the VFW Post for the Military Honors for him. It was wonderful, and an honor to receive the American flag on behalf of my father... He was a Korean vet, served two years plus, with honorable discharge, and I'm proud to be his daughter. I know my boys took it hard, but he let us know when it was time and didn't want us to feel bad, but to rejoice his life he had here with us.

If I've left anyone out, please know that you are thought of, and I know you all had respect for him and he ap-

preciated all who helped him in any way you could.

So to be honored with all the family, friends and people that cared enough to support, give their stories, memories, and the way he was there for all of us in one way or the other. He tried to be there to help all if he could. I hope and wish all a full loving life and you never have to suffer in this world we have to live in. It's hard and we are the ones that have to make it work in this hard time we are going through... Thank you very much for your time.

Winona George, Merle George, Charles VanPelt, Podzee, Jerome Lewis, Tyrone Lewis, Louie VanPelt, Jaliyah George, Bryson George, Sharri Miller, Percy Lewis, Jeremiah Lewis, Vivian Sohapp, Brooke Sohapp, Scott Minthorn, Sirita VanPelt.

A thank you

It has been some time since the passing of my daughter. I can never say thank you enough to all those who shared in our sorrow.

Through all of the shock, I have been humbled by the endless prayers and condolences from family, friends and the brothers and sisters of the Longhouse, the teepee and the Christian church.

Thank you so much for comforting us. Please, continue to pray for Redsky, Rosey and atwii two sons, Andrew SpottedEagle Suppah and Tony J. Suppah. We love and miss her very much, not the addiction.

Respectfully,
Kotnum Suppah and family.

Time of need

I would like to take this time to thank the people that were there for us in our time of need. We thank the people who came to visit Duane Winishut Sr. while he was in the hospital. A special thanks to Uncle Reggie, Aunite Maxine, Auntie Carol, Miriam, Val and Jay. Thank you to Onte, Laurie, my sister-in-law Kim for coming in and having prayers for him.

Thank you to Mr. Elston and Pastor Rick for visiting him and having prayers for him also. Ansd thank you to all of the family, relatives and friends for being there for us during the funeral and afterward, you know who you are. Thank you to my sisters for helping get my house clean. We thank and love you all. **From the family of**

Duane Winishut Sr.: Martha, Chance, Cissy, Chantel, Donny, Lenora, Emilia, Duane Jr., Sasha, Raelee, Eddie.

Lateral oppression

Lateral – from the sides of or on the side of a person.

Oppression – lengthy cruel or unjust treatment or control; mental pressure or distress.

Sometimes, you face ridicule for your successes, and just so you know, you are not alone. Native Americans and Indigenous Nations have experienced cruel and unjust treatment from dominant societies for so long now that oppressed groups oppress each other. Their ambition to pursue goals and comfort is common. Yet, if successful, such individuals are scorned, ridiculed, and pressured to fail by some of their fellow people, making it a lateral issue.

Native Americans continue to endure some of the worst of lateral oppression, as their celebrations of success are constantly critiqued. It is an unhealthy cycle passed on from generations and ancestors who also experienced it clear back to 500 years ago. The cycle will continue to survive until we begin to understand its negativity.

Beginning in the 14th century, Indigenous Nations across the Americas began to be oppressed as immigrants came to their world. Our nations became the minority as the number of diseases and immigrants grew, passing laws to assimilate our people and make us fit into the American Way.

The inequalities and oppression inspired Indigenous people to make efforts to reduce the oppression. Indigenous Nations were forced to acknowledge the dominance of the immigrants so much that some minorities began to replicate the characteristics in an attempt to fit in with the oppressors and in-turn, reduce the oppression they received. After centuries of cruel and unjust treatment, the suffering became known as multigenerational trauma, carrying many types of abuses with it.

Our nations were forced into "survival of the fittest." We began to do our best to get by, fending for what little we can grasp in an attempt to survive and prosper in even the smallest ways; spirituality, mentally, physically, emotionally, educationally, financially, and culturally. Although successful sometimes, our people faced lateral oppression. Amongst tribal nations,

struggle is common and the oppressed weren't hard to find. Today, they continue to group together to critique and ridicule for the sake of oppression and dominancy, just as previous generations had done to them and gone through.

We are in the midst of experiencing and living in a world of multigenerational trauma and lateral oppression. The understanding of multigenerational trauma and lateral oppression are important to our people because to understand is to understand the hurt and pain our people still endure. Sure we face ridicule when we do wrong as it, in most cases, affects others who care, but we also face it when we do right and experience success.

We must begin to understand that someone's ridicule of our actions is an attempt to empower themselves through oppression. Empowering each other creating role models is important. When we begin to not be hindered by lateral oppression, we can begin a positive road of encouragement, prosperousness, and recognition of the strength within us and around us.

Jefferson Greene

Happy birthday and other wishes...

Our families would like to take this time to wish a very happy birthday to our brother, Lamont Brown, December 21.

There are trials and struggles in life, dear Lamont, but never forget that there are also victories and great joy.

You will always have love, whenever you need it, and in those hard times remember that there are people around you who are able to loan you strength and celebrate with you.

With all of our love, Raymond, Charlotte, Neda, Chet, Lil Lana, Curtis, and the rest of the Gang!

Best of birthday wishes to my nephew and granddaughter, December 22, Chet VanPelt and Lil Lana Shike. We love you! From Raymond, Gramma, Auntie Charlotte and sister, Anona.

Happy birthday Sis (Sybil Smartlowit, December 18). She takes care of everyone. She's a mom, grandma, great-grandma and sister. From Oop-sh, Creda Queahpama, and bro, Snowball, Mike Peterson.

Indian Business Talk

To moms and pops, from me to you at Christmas time

By Bruce Engle

Credit Enterprise Loan Officer

You are constantly exposed to a hazardous condition—"Spenditis."

It is almost a disease for some of us and it can be catching; children learn it from parents. That's how it can become a generational problem.

A holey quarter or nickel (see instructions below) can be used as a reminder of the risk and a partial defense against the malady.

Christmas Offer — I will give one of these coins to each of the first 25 tribal members

who come to see me at Warm Springs Credit before Christmas. I'll do this with a reminder, a warning, a suggestion, and a hope:

Reminder—You can be a prudent spender without being a cheapskate.

Warning—The hole in the coin may have reduced or destroyed its value in commerce.

Suggestion—Remember to put wants in their rightful place—behind needs.

Hope—That you will be very careful when defining wants and needs.

Your families rely upon you to look out for them. One good

way to do that is to pay for needs before spending for wants. They need you to concentrate on that because:

Wasteful spending gets in the way of providing for basic family needs.

Family survival and success requires an adequate economic base.

How to use

Attach coin to keychain. Keep it near at hand when considering whether or not to buy something that you really don't need.

Hold coin between thumb and forefinger with thumb on

buffaloes when tempted by a "want."

Squeeze hard. Squeeze harder. Squeeze as hard as you can—carefully. Don't hurt yourself.

You may spend for personal wants ahead of needs if you can make the buffaloes burp, belch, hiccup, squeak, or squeal.

Squeeze again after needs have been met and you still want to spend for a "frivolous" want.

No burp—No buy! That is the rule.

Do not modify or ignore the rule.

Good luck and Merry Christmas.

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