

Speaking the Truth

By Duran Bobb

Defamation. Slander. Libel. Defamation is the issuance of a false statement about another person, which causes that person to suffer harm.

Slander involves making defamatory speeches by non-fixed representation.

Spilyay Speaks

Libel is when defamatory statements are printed in a fixed medium such as a newspaper or magazine.

The speed of communication today can be either a blessing or a curse.

In the past few days, a forward was started by an unknown individual. It contained a shocking image along with a brief description regarding a tribal member.

The news spread like wildfire, out of control on Facebook, emails, cell phone multimedia messages.

The Tymoo investigated the forward and found that the image was not authentic, and the information provided was false.

"I deleted that forward," Dot Shadley said. "First, it's none of my business. Second, why would I want to spread another person's dirty laundry? And third, whoever started that message, I really do pray for them." "I didn't pay attention to it," said MartiRai Wells-Ramsey. "The only way these types of messages can do damage is if we partake."

For this same reason, the Tymoo is unable to publish letters which attack an individual, without investigating and giving the other party an equal opportunity to respond.

Every tribal member has the right to freedom of speech, the right to an opinion.

However, every tribal member also has the right to live free in the light of truth, safe from emotional and mental harm.

If a statement is made at a public meeting for example, and it is found to be based on misinformation - this may take away from the credibility of a group.

Within that same group, an individual may have a concern that they have researched. That voice may not get the volume it might otherwise deserve.

The reservation community has been raised on the perseverance of tribal elders. They gave the people much to be thankful for in a positive way. We can use this strength to enforce the bond of our community family.

Letters to the Editor

New Year

On behalf of the Simnasho community we would like to thank everyone who helped make the New Year's Eve Pow Wow a great time.

What a wonderful feeling it was to see all the people come to join us at the longhouse as we welcomed the calendar new year. What a sight it was to see the longhouse full as we song the songs at midnight.

We want to thank: "The men who came to open the floor with the one seven and for Jode Goudy who picked up the bell and gave such wonderful words during the service."

The big drums of Eagle Thunder and Wawokya for providing the songs for the pow wow.

To our boss from the north end for the cash donation that was shared with the dancers and singers

To Charlotte for the donation of toys and "pop money" that was shared with the kids

For Miss Warm Springs Tamera Moody for joining us for the evening

To Mr. Jacob Frank for continuing to teach us the song that is to be song at this time of the year.

To our "clown dancers" for coming to lighten to moment.

To all those that brought food for the dinner.

We have tried to carry on the teachings of the elders of our longhouse. We come together to dance and celebrate for the joy of dancing and singing. It is our hope that what we are doing would bring smiles to the faces of those that taught us this way.

Again thank you to everyone and "Happy New Year, New Year, New Year."

Captain

Round Dance

On behalf of our family and community we would like to everyone who helped make the Fourth Annual End of the Year Round Dance possible.

As we prepared for the evening's meal it began to snow, and snow hard! We thought the weather and road conditions would have scared people away but it didn't as we filled the longhouse up with participants. Throughout the evening, as some people would leave, others would come in the door. At evening's end we still had a good number of people present.

We are very appreciative to Mr. Carlos Calica for carrying the duties of MC for the evening. Kenny Scabbyrobe had

planned on being here but fell ill on the day of round dance. Mr. Colin Chief who comes from the Cree people was asked to carry the duties of selecting the singers and helping us follow the protocol of the round dance and we were grateful for his presence.

We also want to thank the Lead Singers for coming to join us for the evening, Henry "H-Bomb" Aleck, Earvin Paskemin, William "Hobo" Patt, John Scabbyrobe, Algin Scabbyrobe, Erwin "Bear" Scabbyrobe", Kyle Queahpama. We also appreciated the other 16 singers that came to help sing the songs.

We would like to thank those who bought raffle tickets, shirts, and jackets to help sponsor the singers that joined us. We would like to thank those who made cash contributions to help us with this event: Char Herkshan, Mike Collins family, Evaline Patt, Tom & Allison Ball, Lisa Lomas and family, and the Warm Springs Credit Enterprises. Your financial support was shared directly with the singers, MC and stickman.

Our family donated the majority of the items for the raffle with all the proceeds going to the singers. We want to thank Rosalind Sampson and Kris "Fred" Sampson for always donating items to the raffle.

In closing, we have completed our four-year commitment, and our family wants to thank everyone who has supported the round dance throughout the years and we were truly blessed with your help.

Captain, Nonie, Tillie, Tamera, Huston, Antone, Ryan & Char Herkshan

Apprenticeship

Dear friends, Are you a traditional artist? Interested in learning traditional arts? Know someone who is?

The Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program is back!

The deadline is February 29, and you can find out more information at the Oregon Folklife Network's website: ofn.uoregon.edu/programs-projects

Rebecca J. Dobkins, Professor of Anthropology, Curator of Native American Art, Hallie Ford Museum of Art, Willamette University.

Birthday and other wishes...

Happy birthday to my Red Hummingbird. Niimiipoo taamanno ilpilp-Atosba Lucien Picard Greene. Double digit 10 years old - from her Eesabt Delsie Greene. From friends and family from Warm Springs, Lapwai, Umatilla and Yakama res. And belated grandfather Harold Michael Greene, and belated Sheila Isaac Yoke Greene.

Happy birthday to our grandson Gabriel Ladarious W-Picard, who is turning 1 on February 6th.

You are our family gift that we have been waiting for from Daddy.

Even if we don't get to see you very much, Papa Vernon n Grama LaDonna love you very much.



No comment

If we want to stay out of trouble, our statement of words should be "no comment."

I learned that we should say "no comment" from another head-injured friend in Eugene.

When I first heard that statement, I sure did giggle a lot, but when you really think about it, it can be the true thing to say to stay out of trouble.

My friend that I learned that no-comment statement from is not here on earth anymore, but I will always remember this friend with the no-comment statement.

I learned that the prescribed medications he had to take is what ended this friend's life. That means we should also be very aware and careful of the prescribed meds we have to take too.

I know I don't drink any alcohol drinks and listen to what your MD says.

May this New Year of 2012 be good for you all in Warm Springs.

Evette Patt, 50 Kourt Dr. apt 3, Eugene OR 97404

A thank you

Happy New Year! I am writing to express gratitude to Kaka Bertson Simtustus for the gift of Kiplinger Money magazine and to the following for offering support during time of health concern:

Warm Springs Presbyterian Ladies, Nomi Strong, Aurelia Stacona, Lupe Katchia, Potts, Lori, and Andy Fuentes, Bonnie, Kal, Kara Briggs, Wilson Wewa, Lucinda Green, Roma Cartney, Rosanna Jim, Linda Clinger, as well as my family, especially son Ty Eaglespeaker.

Love, Nak'ishayat Aurolyn Stwyer

Right to elect

Considering the fact that the Wasco Chief represents the entire Agency District, all eligible District voters have a right to elect the next Wasco Chief.

Viable Wasco Chief candidates should include our three Tribal Council members: Austin Greene, Stanley "Buck" Smith, and Lola Sohapp, as well as: Alfred Smith Jr, Louis Pitt Jr, Ralph Minnick, Charles Jackson,

Bruce "Mickey" Brunoe Sr., Antony Boise, George Clements, John Katchia and Garland Brunoe.

This is my short list of possible candidates with extensive business experience and leadership qualities. However, it will be the Agency District voters who will be nominating individuals when the Agency District is call together to make these nominations.

Redine Billy, Agency District.

Regarding Chieftainship

Tribal Council did not authorize, nor did they initiate any survey in regards to the Wasco Chief issue.

The parties with personal interest are trying to implement politics into this tribal, cultural and sensitive traditional issue.

Politics was never a part of tribal leadership, and Spilyay Tymoo is not to be given documentation that has not been authorized by our Honorable Council.

The majority of the agency membership did not receive any survey.

Leona Ike

Notice

To Agency District Wascos:

During the first week of January, 2012, a "Wasco Chieftainship Survey" was mailed out to approximately 1250 Wascos registered in the Agency District from a list compiled by Vital Statistics. The survey will gather input on the selection process for the next Wasco Chief.

Due to complaints that many surveys weren't received in the mail, the date for returning completed surveys to the drop box at the Tribes' Main Admin Building will be extended to February 17, 2012. Survey results will be compiled by the end of February, 2012.

If you haven't received your survey, you may leave a mes-

A message from W.S. Police

The directive to the Warm Springs Police officers is that it is our job to make the community safe through enforcing all trial laws and traffic codes.

In the past month, tribal police have initiated 379 traffic stops. Officer John Wallace is the Traffic Officer for Warm Springs.

Some of the reasons folks are stopped include defective equipment, failure to maintain a lane of travel, speeding, failing to stop at stop signs, erratic driving, seat belt problems, failure to use turn signals, stopping or standing in the roadway.

These are some of the minor things that officers look for as they are patrolling.

In most cases, if it is the first time a person is stopped, drivers will get a warning.

Keeping the community safe involves the task of keeping the road free of drunk drivers. We are consistent in stopping and arresting drunk drivers.

We also ensure that vehicles are safe and are in proper working order, and that drivers obey all traffic laws.

When stopped

When a driver is stopped, Warm Springs Police are better able to do their job if a driver

sage at 541.325.6089. Please include your name, correct mailing address and phone contact number and a replacement survey will be mailed to you.

Submitted by Charles Jackson.

Found item

A women's necklace was found in a recent donation to the Mountain View Hospital Volunteer Thrift Store.

To claim, please speak to Chuck at the Thrift Store from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday or Friday. Must be able to describe the necklace in order to claim. Call 475-4212 for more information.

Meeting on fisheries projects

The Branch of Natural Resources Fish Habitat Program would like to invite community members to join us for questions or concerns regarding projects in the Beaver, Coyote and Quartz watersheds.

Most of the projects focus on riparian protection using fencing and planting, so the input from grazing groups and cattle owners would be very beneficial.

The meeting will be at 6 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 8 at the Simnasho Longhouse. Agenda: Fish habitat program projects in 2012 and the future.

Please contact Johnny Holliday at 541-553-3606; or Scott Struhs at 541-553-2027, if you have any questions about the meeting.

Spilyay Tymoo
(Coyote News, Est. 1976)

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Spilyay Tymoo is published bi-weekly by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. Our offices are located at 4174 Highway 3 in Warm Springs.

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

Carmen Smith, Police Chief