

Council election nearing

By Yvonne Iverson

Tribal Council elections are just around the corner, and people are announcing their intent to run. The voters list has been posted at the store, and there is a group on Facebook called "Tribal Council 2013."

One

Facebook

user writes,

"In little over

a few months

this reservation

will be at

a critical juncture, one of decision.

Will we as a people initiate change?

Or will the ballots be filled with the culture of non-change, of favoritism, of popular familial voting patterns?"

This sparked discussions about who should be elected to Council.

Some called for younger leadership to step up, while others wanted leadership that practices our traditions and culture.

The overall theme I saw in the discussions is that people want change, and they feel that there is a lack of accountability.

Will 2013 bring change for the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs?

In times of financial woes and a shortage of jobs and housing, it would be a difficult position for anyone to take on.

Who will best represent your voice on Tribal Council? It is time to start thinking about it.

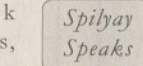
The voting lists have been posted; and if you want to change your voting district, the last day to do so is February 14.

Nominations for the Twenty-Sixth Tribal Council will begin on March 4. The election date has been set for April 16.

Sweetheart Sale

The Warm Springs Recreation Department invites you to the Sweetheart Sale in February. Shop for your sweetheart and find that special, unique gift. The sale will be in held in the Community Center social hall.

The first 17 to sign up will get a table (one table per person). For more information, contact the Community Center office at 541-553-3243.



Letters to the editor

School meeting

Dear community members, parents and students,

I want to thank you for attending the public meeting regarding the tribes applying for funding from the USDA Rural Development Loan Program Community and Facilities. This was a requirement as part of the application process.

If you request copies of the minutes from the January 17, 2013, meeting, please contact Urbana Ross, Chief Operating Officer at the tribal Administration building; or call 541-553-3228.

Thank you.

Urbana Ross, Chief Operating Officer.

Hunting, fishing

In reference to an article that was published about hunting all season on this rez, stating there were no limitations till lately. Not true.

I am 76 and it used to be one deer per month per family. Somewhere in the 1960s, tags were needed and cut-backs happened. Then hunting for deer went to one per year in the '70s. Wake up and find out on your own about our hunting and fishing. We had a handful of violators that constantly shot too many deer all season long. And they were supposed to be cut and dried traditionalists. Wrong hunters selected to hunt for funerals.

Some hunters, in the early '70s, told me that they were going to kill a buck for every deer in October, and they did. For my father-in-law's funeral, seven deer were shot, two made it to the longhouse.

A few other spot-lighted and just said it was their right to take deer, no set numbers, killing doe and bucks of all sizes.

And we still have a huge problem with our hunters.

The hunting and fishing rights belong to the tribes, it is not an individual right. In other words it is a Privilege to participate in these areas. We had about 1,050 people in the '50s, now over 3,700.

When one hunts or fishes, our elders said to take only what one needs. The tribe regulates no differently than yesteryear, but new laws have to be imposed because of unlawful acts by individuals.

The other thing missing is there are no longer elders that teach the young that each hunter or fisherman must set

a limit on how much to take, and it must come from the heart. I hate rumors.

Each of us is responsible for the health and wealth of this special place we call our "Rez."

Terry Courtney Jr., Box 13, WS OR.

Where are the salmon, the eels? Aren't we all together supposed to help protect the salmon? Is the salmon still sacred or are those just words? We all hold our future in our hands and minds. Do any of you really still care about the culture and traditions? Well anyway, the salmon need all of your support and voices to survive, that's the bottom line.

Terry Courtney Jr.

From CPS

On behalf of Children's Protective Services, I want to thank the community for their generous support, providing a wonderful holiday to our children this year.

We received a number of private donations, along with overwhelming donations from Toys for Tots, Indian Health Services, Councilman Scott Moses, Warm Springs Credit, and Indian Head Casino.

Every year, many children are affected by circumstances beyond their control. They are often brought from abusive, neglectful homes and placed with "angel families." These families open their homes, lives and their hearts to these children to offer them a home but also to show them love.

Oftentimes, these children leave with nothing but the clothes on their backs. Through your generous donation and support, our children had big smiles on their faces, as they enjoyed the gifts your donations provided.

Children's Protective Services is continuously seeking families in Warm Springs who are willing to serve as foster families. If you are interested in receiving more information about becoming a foster care provider, please contact Tayva Tucker at CPS 541-553-3209.

Thank you for your kindness, generosity and ongoing support.

Ron Hager, CPS director.

Wishes...

I would like to wish my little sister Justice "Bug" a big Happy 13th birthday! Love you and I am here when you need me. Love always, Josephine Teeman Zacarias. I'll be out soon.

Happy belated birthday to my Aunt Judy and Uncle Isaiah and Orlando and my dad Alroy Teeman Zacarias on Jan 4. And my little Uncle Jaspy Kalama on the 6th. Love always, Josephine Teeman Zacarias. I'll see you soon.

To Veterans

Tribal Veterans Service Officer Keith Baker is at the Veteran's Hall office Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. You can reach the hall at 541-615-0347; or the Tribal Veteran's Service Office at 615-0348.

Our tribes

This is my own true feeling and no one else's. I have to admit that it was me and not my sister who insisted that some religions are used by the elders of the Sahaptin speaking people and not to be used by "lil' kids." My sister was attacked by a member of the Tribal Culture and Heritage Committee at the Shaker Church. She blamed my sister of her stupidity for being selfish with one of our less practiced religions. I still stand on my beliefs.

I have a difficult time trying to understand how our WSC's has gone from one of the most prosperous tribes to the brokest tribe in the nation. It is time we start tracking the last three Tribal Council activities. We do not receive any reports of the tribes. The answer we get back is always, "In order to receive money, we have to travel." Let us know how much money you have brought back. Prove to us that you are valuable to be on the Tribal Council. As a matter of fact we must choose and nominate with common sense and not for a family member. For instance, the Tribal Council sets hiring policies and does not enforce them. A neighboring tribal member apologized to me in her own words, "Oh Neda, I am so glad to see you! About your daughter, I know she applied for the job I now have. I had just received my diploma and I know your daughter had all the qualifications for the job." However our tribe does not support the policies they have set up in support of our tribal members. That rule is to first hire your tribal member! We are very wrong to not enforce the rule.

I believe that persons that are in charge of the powwows should raise funds to put the powwows on. For instance, the powwow for the Lincoln's

Vital Stats fiscal coordinator

Dear tribal members,

I will be handling the Minors Trust Fund and Senior Disbursements, and will be assisting Vital Statistics with gathering the correct documents for the Bureau of Indian Affairs-IIM to help with the processing the reissuing per capita checks.

For the Minors Trust, please make sure your high school transcripts and diploma are turned in to my office.

I am located in the Finance Department. For more information, please contact me at my office; or by email: margaret.switzler@wstribe.org.



Or phone 541-553-3253. The mailing address is PO Box C, Warm Springs, 97761.

Thank you, Margaret Medina, Vital Statistics fiscal coordinator.

Powwow raised their powwow with raffles every Sunday. Herb Stwyer always killed a beef to feed the people. He was also the treasurer who reported the funds for his committee. Yes, I know it can be done.

The present Tribal Council, the CEO and COO need to support our small businesses 100 percent. If we cannot offer jobs to our people, let's support their efforts.

Last but not least, What did it cost our tribe for the potatoes distributed in December? Our precious salmon that cost our tribe mega-bucks? While we are trying to uphold our treaty rights, we are giving the salmon away. I can afford my potatoes but I cannot afford to buy salmon. What else!

Neda Wesley, tribal number 74.

My good friends from the Portland area are bringing clothing, bedding and food in February. I am seeking volunteers to help separate ev-

erything so it will be organized. There will be no charge for anyone. Contact me. Neda Wesley, 541-553-1538.

Grief support

St. Charles Hospice invites you to attend our next Grief Support Group from 5-6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 7 at High Look Lodge.

This is a four-week program which creates a safe environment in which to look at ways we deal with loss.

Losing a loved one to death is one of the most difficult times in a person's life. As with most challenges it is easier to manage if we know what to expect, if we are not alone, and if we have support.

To that end, we offer free bereavement support groups throughout the year. This group is open to everyone who has lost a loved-one. There is no charge to participate. To register or for more information call St. Charles Hospice at 541-420-8673. We ask that you pre-register. St. Charles Hospice



Warm Springs artist Travis Bobb is reminding people that Valentine's Day is fast approaching!

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