

Letters to the editor

Time of need

I know it has taken me a while to write this letter to all of the people who work for our tribe, the EMTs and other tribal members who helped us in our time of need, when we were looking for my brother, atwai Wallace LeClaire, who passed on to be with our Creator.

But the main reason I am writing this letter is because of all the things that have been happening to my family, the loss of our loved ones. I would like to thank those who helped us in our time of need when our father Louie LeClaire passed one.

I would like express my gratitude to all those who helped us look for our brother Wallace when we lost him. Thank you! I would like to say thank you to Mr. Stoney Miller and the EMTs who knew our father and brother and helped us in the time we needed to grieve over the ones we lost.

Thank you.
Ms. Gina LeClaire and the LeClaire family.

Appreciation

I am new to Warm Springs this school year. I was hired to be the Life Skills teacher at Warm Springs Elementary School.

On Monday, February 10 we did not have any school due to the weather conditions. Since I live in "teacher row" across from the school, I walked over to the school later in the day to do some lesson planning.

Imagine my surprise when I came home a few hours later and all the snow was cleared from my driveway!

My neighbors told me that members of the tribe came over and plowed the two feet deep snow off the teachers' driveways. How nice! Thank you so much. I appreciate it a lot, especially since I had a new teacher meeting in Madras the next day. You saved me several hours of work shoveling. My muscles would have been

very, very sore.

Sincerely,
Karen Rothery, Special Education teacher, Warm Springs Elementary.

Honor Dinner

At the Museum at Warm Springs we are very excited about this years Honor Dinner.

We hope that you can share this special evening with us to help honor Mr. Dennis Karnopp and Mr. Billy Mills, our recipients of our Lifetime Achievement Award and Twanat Award, respectively.

In 2014, the Museum is "Celebrating our Youth."

Youth play a vital role in our tribal community, and all events and exhibits in 2014 will focus on our youth. We feel that today's youth are tomorrow's leaders. Billy Mills and Dennis Karnopp both strive to engage, support, encourage and advocate for our youth.

Please join us as we honor Mr. Karnopp and Mr. Mills for their contributions, support and never ending work on behalf of Native American communities.

We look forward to seeing you there!

When: Saturday, April 12 from 4:30-9 p.m.

Where: Tiger Woods Center - Nike Head Quarters, 1 Bowerman Drive, Beaverton. Call the museum at 541-553-3331.

Apology

I apologize to the Warm Springs Pi-Ume-Sha Committee for my negative choices, and in the future I'll work on making better choices for myself and not the negative stuff. Sorry Pi-Ume-Sha Committee. **Randolph Boise Jr.**

Wishes...

A Happy Valentines Day (belatedly) to my love Wesley J. Teeman. I love you. **Clarissa Wolfe.**

To my dearest sisters, I

love you, hoping all the best for you. I love you girls, always, your baby sister Clair and your older sis. I love you Rheianna Kaylyn and Cassie, miss you girls.

A Happy Valentines Day (belatedly) to my grandparents Beulah and Raymond Tsumpti. Love you very much. **Clarissa.**

Births

Aaliah Kay Nizhoni Weaselhead

Blake Weaselhead and Tanaya Ann Hunt of Warm Springs are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Aaliah Kay Nizhoni Weaselhead.

Grandparents on the father's side are Marena Wolfe, and Edward Ray Weaselhead II.

Grandparents on the mother's side are Sylvania Russell Brisbois of Airzona, and Abraham Hunt of Warm Springs.

(The above announcement is the corrected version, which was accidentally misprinted in the last Spilyay. We apologize for that error.)

Edward Xavier Jones

Madeline Brunoe of Warm Springs is pleased to announce the birth of her son Edward Xavier Jones, born on February 21, 2014.

Edward joins brothers Ricky, 10, Seth, 8, Jordan 6, and Aidan, 1.

Brehana Lynn Marks

David A. Marks and Porsche L. Bledsoe of Madras are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Brehana Lynn Marks, born on February 25, 2014.

Brehana joins brothers David, 7, and Daniel, 5.

Grandparents on the father's side are Jean and Jim Marks of Midland, Georgia.

Grandparents on the mother's side are David Douglas of Madras, and the late Sherri Sewell.

Buford Johnson Jr. Memorial tourney

The Buford Johnson Jr. Memorial Tournament was held Dec. 14-15 at the Madras Rialto Tavern, also honoring past members Mernie Polk, Merle Kalama, Merle Suppah, Glenda Kessel, Chuck Moody and Jacqueline Simtustus. The following participated in the tournament:

Curtis Guerin, William Leonard, Jeremy Howard, Lyle Howard, Alfred Hawk, Leonard Wahsise, Leon Wahsise, Virgil Hunt, Bill Martinez, Clint Smith, Alfred Wolfe, Tony Boise, George Boise, Jerry Bagley, Eugene Tanewasha, Roger Suppah, Billy Begay, Louie Smith, Del Frint, Levi Vanpelt, Mike Patterson, Pohn Thach, Tony Little Leaf, Reven, Jeanetta Brown, Lori Smith, Pat Allen, Pearl Vanpelt, Michelle Patterson, Gale Lewis, Julia Miller, Vicki Raspberry, Yvonne Colfax, Karla Bagley and Lynn Davis.

Many prizes and raffle items were donated for this event. We would like to thank Theresa Vanpelt, who donated \$250; Sky Katchia, who donated \$250.

Other prizes were donated for the raffle, including a vest and other prizes for men and women. First place for men and women were made and donated by Lillian Gilando. Shirts were printed by Aaron graphics and promotions in Redmond, who also do-



Men, Del Frint, Mike Patterson and Tony Littleleaf (from left); and Beulah Tsumpti (left) and Leota Sanders, Buford's sisters.



Karla Bagley, Vicki Raspberry and Pearl Vanpelt (from left).

nated the color of the shirts as well.

T-Shirts are still available in sizes double-xl and triple-xl at price of \$20 per shirt. Check with Lynn Davis at her office located at management at the tribal administration building.

Winners: Men's first place, Mike Patterson; second place, Tony Littleleaf; third, Del Frint.

Women's first place, Karla



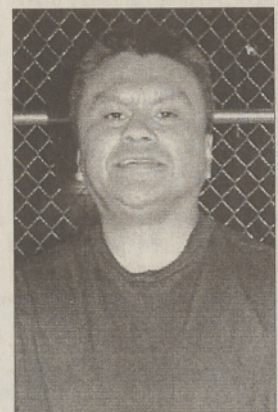
Bagley; second, Pearl Vanpelt; third, Vicki Raspberry

Memorials for Richard Payne Jr. and Clara L. Kennedy

There will be memorials, March 15, for Richard "Monster" Payne Jr., and Clara L. Kennedy.

The Payne and Kennedy families invite everyone locally and visitors from afar to come to the 1910 Shaker Church on March 14, 15 and 16, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Bring your families to eat, talk, laugh, visit pray and support each other as brothers and sisters.



Memorial and Name Giving

The Muriel C. Suppah and Jackie Simtustus Memorial with name-giving ceremony is set for April 19, 2014. The Memorial and Name-Giving

will be at the Simnasho Longhouse.

9 a.m. Washaat Service. Noon lunch, name giving and giveaway.

Legal Aid Services of Oregon can be reached at 541-385-6944.

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State lawmakers addressing school mascot issue

The Oregon House gave final approval last week to a bill that could allow some schools to keep their Native American mascots.

The bill passed on a 40-18 vote, with 17 Democrats and one Republican opposed. Gov. John Kitzhaber is expected to sign it.

Under Senate Bill 1509, school districts that want to keep their mascot would need the approval of one of the nine federally recognized Oregon tribes.

And they would have to comply with yet-to-be-

written rules for mascots drafted by the state Board of Education.

The bill represents an attempt at compromise after a two-year legislative back-and-forth over the issue, following the education board's approval in May 2012 of a rule that required Oregon schools to scrap their Native American symbols by July 2017 or risk losing state funding.

Rep. Sherrie Sprenger, a Scio Republican and key backer of the bill, said she is "incredibly confident that the state Board of Education is going to be narrow in their rule-writing" to prevent offensive mascot names and

imagery.

"Maybe this is the catapult to create the relationships (between high schools and tribes) and some real diversity," she said.

But Rep. Jeff Reardon, a Portland Democrat, said that while Oregon's major tribes support the bill, those tribes "only represent about 5 to 10 percent of the Native Americans in this state." Some national Native American organizations "want the immediate and unconditional cessation of race-based mascots," he said.

"This bill has a great potential to hurt kids and only some modest hope to im-

prove community understanding," Reardon added.

Rep. Lew Frederick, a Portland Democrat who is African-American, echoed that sentiment, recalling a time when some Oregon schools identified as the Rebels used the "stars and bars" imagery of the Confederate flag.

"That has an impact on kids in a way that you cannot go back and try to reverse," he said.

Under the education board's 2012 rule, eight Oregon high schools would have needed to find new names as well as new mascot logos.