

Letters to the editor

Introducing lacrosse



Lacrosse camp at Recreation.

On behalf of the Warm Springs Community Center Recreation Department we would like to thank the following people and departments for participating in the success of the free lacrosse camp.

First and foremost Rick Roy out of Burns. Rick is with the Oregon Native Youth Lacrosse. He has helped start a successful program with the Umatilla and Burns Paiute tribes, and in the near future here in the Warm Springs community.

We did this clinic to introduce the game of lacrosse to the youth, to open more doors for our children's future, and to have new experiences and challenges in this sport.

Lacrosse is a Native American sport, and we have so many natural athletes. I believe this would be a great sport to have here.

Thank you Mike Holyan of the youth wellness program. Thank you for your hard work and dedication.

Thank you to Scott Kalama with Tobacco Prevention, Mykee Martinez,

Leighton Pennington, LeiRon Picard, and Andy Leonard with the Adolescence Aftercare Program, who provided the t-shirts.

Thank you Terry Lomax with the k-8 Academy; Jefferson Greene and his son Koa, who gave the opening prayers and songs. Thank you to the Museum at Warm Springs gift shop for their much appreciated donations.

To the parents, grandparents and guardians, thank you for allowing your child, or children to participate in the lacrosse camp. Without the youth this camp wouldn't be possible.

I hope with having this lacrosse program we as a department and community can open more doors for our children's future in sports, education, and in everyday life. Please look forward to seeing more lacrosse activities with us.

Lastly, thank you to the Recreation staff: Carol Sahme, Satch Miller, Ange Bellanger, Naomi Brisbois, Noreen Sampson and Austin Greene.

Tatum Kalama, Youth Activities Coordinator.

Many memories

I missed hearing from atwai Sid Miller this past Christmas. I always looked forward to his horse-themed card and familiar handwriting arriving in my Portland mailbox every year, even though it was a reminder of my own failings as a friend and correspondent.

My former boss was so good about staying in touch during the many years since I'd had the honor of writing and photographing for *Spilyay Tymoo* in the late '70s.

By the time I heard about his passing on Facebook (the modern equivalent of Macy's door, at least for far-away folks), Sid had already gone back to the earth on his beloved ranch.

But I mourned in my own way, and found comfort in reading about his rich life in the Dec. 9 edition of *Spilyay*. I never expected but was incredibly touched to see my name in that Howlak Tichum as one of "Sidney's Angels," as we were once known.

Those three years on *Spilyay* were some of the most memorable of my life. I'll always be thankful to Sid for letting this unknown kid from Boston share her dark-room skills with the Tribes' brand-new biweekly.

When I started reporting, he allowed me great freedom to get acquainted with his people and community on my own terms. But he also had to wrangle me on a regular basis, pulling back on the reins and saying "Cynthia, you're getting ahead of yourself," which was my sign to stop prancing and showing off. I learned a bit of humility from Sid.

He was also my coach in how to reconcile the modern and the traditional in Warm Springs culture, something he'd done well in his own life.

Sid was a good example of someone who had used the government's relocation program to learn a trade in an urban area, but doing it on his own terms and bringing his skills back to the reservation.

After being tasked with starting a community newspaper, he gently walked the fine line between tribal oversight and freedom of the press, sometimes serving as a burr under the administration's saddle. I imitated him in that, too!

There were also plenty of moments of comic relief, some not funny till years later. The other "angels" and I

dreaded Fridays when it was time to drive the newspaper layouts to Prineville for printing. Who would be the one this week to have to ride along with the speed demon as he steered the tribal gas-guzzler along 54 icy miles of Highway 26? My knuckles have never been whiter.

"Where's Sid?" was a common daily refrain in the *Spilyay* office in the old girls' dorm. The mystery was solved when one of us would go down to the administration building to run an errand or do an interview, and there we'd find Sid making his rounds, flirting with every possible female employee. 'Toe Ness!!

It was one of Sid's convictions that any woman he liked would be much happier as "Mrs. Miller." We would all roll our eyes, but years later Sid enjoyed a small victory when I met a man named John Miller and married him. Forever after, Sid got a kick out of calling me "Mrs. Miller." Yikes!

Sid was gracious when it came time for me to leave *Spilyay* and pursue my other dreams (*Faces of a Reservation* being one of them). We'd had a good run—three years of relentless deadlines, decisions, and, yes, disagreements—but Sid had the energy to keep it up for many more years.

Long after I'd disappeared into the Willamette Valley to start my own Miller family, Sid finally retired to the Tenino Valley to "horse around." In his Christmas cards he would tell me about the latest fence he'd built or the addition of another grandchild to the family.

I saw him only a few times—at my house, at a powwow or feast or two, and lastly at the dedication of the new media center in 2009. I always hoped to see Sid one more time, maybe in his natural ranch habitat, but it didn't happen. And Christmas was sadder this year because of that.

Good healing wishes to Sid's family, and a happy and prosperous 2016 to the whole Warm Springs community. Let's stay in touch.

Cynthia Stowell
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Heart Smart

The Heart Smart Dinner is coming up at the Agency Longhouse in February.

The dinner is sponsored by the Diabetes Awareness and Support Group, pre-



Happy birthday shout-out to Mersayus Hart, who turned 11 this month. We love you very much 'Bug-Bug'! Forever and ever! Always, always! Love, your grandpa Darren, grandmas Mel and Lela, your sisters, brother and auntie Dee!

Happy birthday Amadeo Teeve! He turned 3 this month. We love you lots and lots! More than lupatots! Love, your grandpa Darren, grandmas Mel and Lela, your sisters Adilia, Bug, K-bear, LeAndra and your auntie Dee!



sented by the IHS Warm Springs Model Diabetes Program, and the Senior Program.

The Heart Smart Dinner will be from 4-7 p.m. on February 24. If you would like more information on the Heart Smart Dinner, or the monthly Diabetes Support Group dinners, call **Jeri Kollen**, certified diabetes educator, 541-553-2478; or email: jeri.kollen@ihs.gov

Elder birthdays

The Senior Wellness Program wishes a Happy Birthday to these elders with January birthdays:

Laura Grabner, Iva McKinley Meanus, Robert Sam Sr., Marcus Sooksoit, Gilbert Kalama, Daniel Macy Jr., Delphine Scott, George Danzuka Jr., Patricia Gold, Yvonne Tapedo, Carol Cochran, Alfred Bagley, Grant Clements Sr., Raymond Tsumpti Sr., Janis Gunshow, Cleta Quieahpama.

Donald Wright, Dennis Leonard, Michael Clements, Elveta Steward, Bryon Kalama, Antoinette Lillie, Melissa Charley, Levi Bobb, Lucille Geary, Deliah Suppah, Brenda Scott, Norma Heath, Gloria Warner, Teresa VanPelt,

Rosetta Fuentes.

Donald Winishut, Keith Charley Sr., William Kalama, Anita Jackson, William Stacona, Barbara Poncho, Coleen Johnson, Venita Adams, Franklin Switzler, Emma Smith, and Earlynne Squiemphen.

To Miss Warm Springs 2016

Congratulations to the new Miss Warm Springs, Keeyana Yellowman, to her parents Merle Kirk and Virgil Yellowman, and to her grandma Mildred Queampts.

Thanks you to Shirley Heath. I get *Spilyay* over here in Eugene and was really pleased to see Keeyana on the front page in her traditional dress and patlapah, and drumming a song of her own making in Ishishkeen. Cool!

I'm sure she will go far in her further studies in linguistics, and in being a great representative of the Warm Springs Tribes and of tribes in general.

Also, Congratulations to Arlene Boileau on her retirement, from 'the woman in blue,' from long ago with atwai Nettie.

Best wishes,
Gail Campbell

At High Lookee

We at High Lookee Lodge would like to take this time to thank everyone who came to the lodge and picked up stars from our Star Giving Tree. And thank you for all the donations we received for our residents.

They all had a good Christmas, and it's always a good feeling to see our residents happy.

We enjoyed being able to spend time with them on Christmas. It was awesome to see the smiles on their faces.

We would like to thank Alyssa Macy, Caroline Cruz and the Warm Springs Library staff. Thank you Power and Water Enterprises, Charles Jackson, Anita Jackson, Kahseuss Jackson, Mary Sando-Emhoola, Emhoola

Trucking. Thank you Brenda and Charlie Strom, Chips Kalama and Whitney Jackson, Sarah Frank, Sara Ike, Suyenn and Rickey Walker, Myrna Heath, Jaime and Jason Tohet, Teni Merchant, Susan G., Ollie Smith, Sylvia Ike, Lori Switzler and Rosie Tom.

Thank you Mavis and Tif-fany Shaw, and also the Early Childhood Education center kids for coming and singing Christmas songs.

Thank you Fire Management for our Christmas trees. And thank you to our High Lookee Lodge staff. Every single one of you did your part, and I appreciate you guys so much.

And last but not least, our lil' elves that helped hand out presents on Christmas. Thank you!

High Lookee Lodge.

Casket business would help membership, tribal organization

At tribal Utilities are caskets that the tribes have purchased, and are available for sale to tribal members.

The Omak caskets are lined with Pendleton material, and cost \$1,000. We have been buying them from Dale Palmateer for a few years.

A second group of caskets are purchased from the Yakama Warriors Society, made by veterans. These are lined with Indian-designed fleece, and sell for \$550.

Another option are cas-

kets made by Utilities with no lining. These sell for \$750.

Utilities staff can not continuously make these caskets.

In order for Utilities to make them, the department would have to pay overtime for the workers who make them. Currently, the Utilities staff has been reduced over the years from 90-plus workers to about 35. And funding is not available for overtime.

Adult tribal members receive \$2,200 for funeral grants. This covers, for ex-

ample, the outer box at \$204; a casket if purchased from Vital Stats at \$550-\$1,000, with the difference being paid to the funeral home.

Presently, if using Autumn Funeral Home in Redmond, the basic fee will be \$1,325. This does not include the marker, death certificate and memory books.

If planning to use the Bel Air Funeral Home in Madras, the basic fee is approximately \$1,500.

We would like to know if a tribal member is interested

in starting a casket making business. We could check into possibly working with the Community Action Team, or even Ventures, to see if there is a possibility of starting a new local business.

This would help the tribe out tremendously. When we order caskets from Omak, the order takes approximately two to three months, when we order eight at a time.

When ordering the Yakama caskets, this takes approximately two to three weeks for the eight.

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