

We can 'just do it'

A letter to fellow tribal members

I've lived through 79 years of watching the changes that have occurred, bringing this reservation to the brink of falling off a cliff, economically. Me and my brother grew up in the old two-story house that sits along Highway 26. I recall the meetings that were held there by my grandfather 'Judge' Jerry Brunoe. Those meetings were the ones that set up the future of the Warm Springs tribal government.



Ted Brunoe

In those days the tribes did not have a lot of money, so they pooled their funds and sent one individual to Washington, D.C. to do business with the U.S. government. This individual shared the results of the meeting with the Warm Springs Tribal Council. Those members of the first Tribal Council did a good job of getting this reservation on its feet, ready to move ahead.

In 1958, Warm Springs got a financial settlement from the U.S. government for inundating Celilo Falls when The Dalles dam was built. The Tribal Council made a very good decision in using part of those funds to have an economic survey of the reservation, done by

Oregon State University.

The results of that survey showed that the reservation had many opportunities with regard to natural resources. These resources could be accessed without harming the Treaty and our culture and heritage. Those opportunities are still waiting to be utilized. (They will be identified in upcoming articles.)

From those days to the present, the tribes have not kept up with the economic growth of the surrounding country. We have to understand that changes need to happen before we fall off that cliff.

This letter is not to pin blame, but only to suggest the changes that need to occur in order to make a

positive move into the future.

Protection of the Treaty and Ownership of the Land

We need to understand that we can take advantage of those opportunities without harming our Treaty or our culture and heritage. There are possibilities of doing this without any financial expenditure by the tribes. What it will do is bring additional, badly needed income to the tribes and increase employment and education.

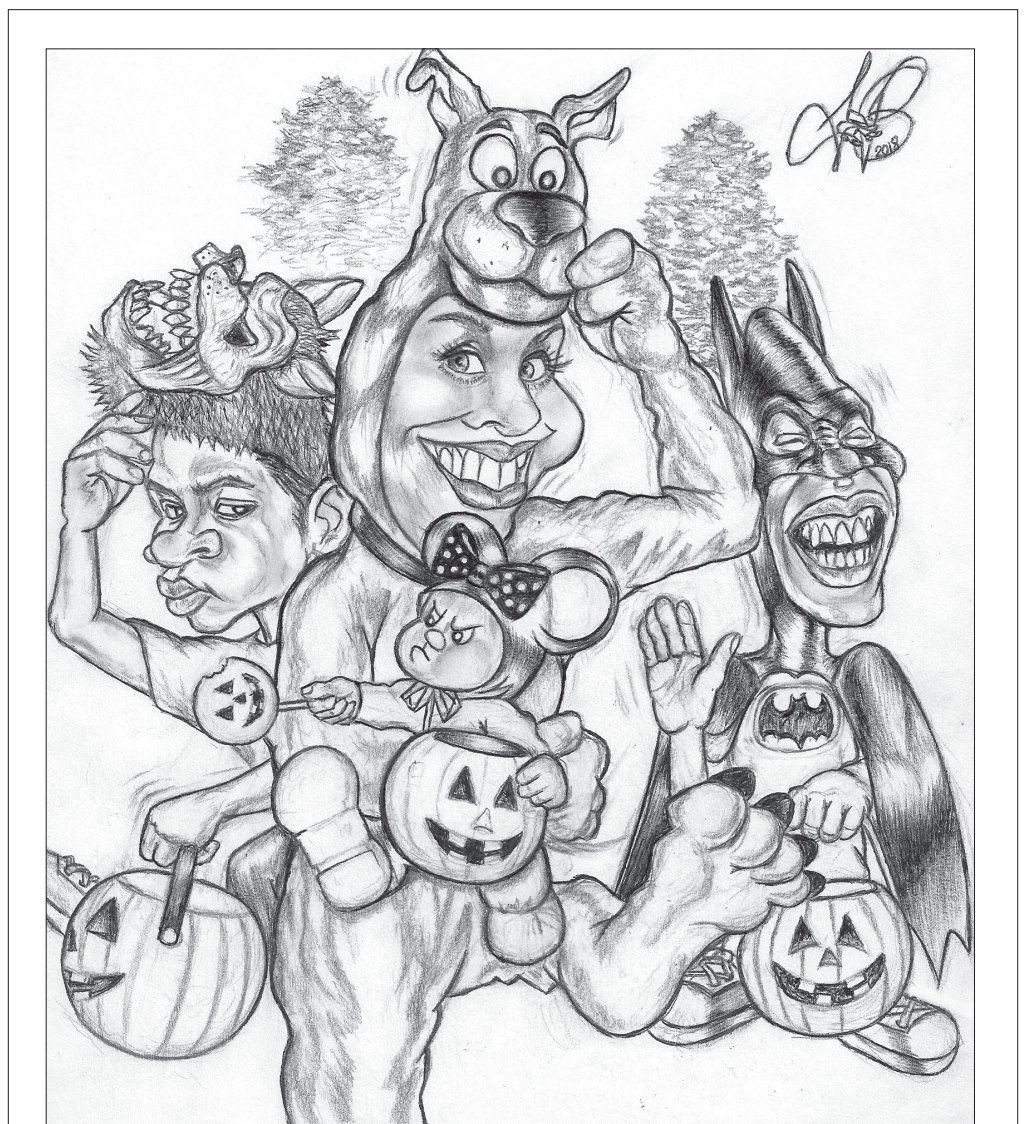
In the 1950s and 1960s the Warm Springs Indian Reservation was recognized as one of the more economically successful reservations in the country.

Many contacts were made by other reservations to inquire on how we did it, and our attorneys did a lot to help those reservations, including the Grand Ronde.

My suggestion to my fellow tribal members is to understand that we can be there again, by taking advantage of those opportunities that lay before us.

Let's make the changes and 'Just do it.'

Ted Brunoe



Warm Springs artist Travis Bobb wishes Warm Springs a Happy Halloween!

Letter to the editor

Election

I am a pharmacist and can no longer remain silent about this. According to the OpenSecrets database, op-

erated by the Center for Responsive Politics, as of June 30, 2018, Greg Walden has received \$507,500 from the pharmaceutical industry, including companies that manufacture, market and distribute opioids. Companies which he oversees in his role as Chairman of the House's Energy and Commerce Committee. And yet, he sent out a single-issue flyer to voters last week about his efforts to solve the opioid crisis. Interesting, don't you think?

grew faint.

I think the 2005 Buffalo Nickel and the 2005 Kansas Buffalo Quarter struck a spark to memory or DNA, and I was moved to suggest Burping a Buffalo when it was necessary or more beneficial to say NO when a YES was easier and less helpful—or even hurtful.

This new method is simpler and less dangerous than the historical task.

All you need is to have one of the new Buffalo coins handy and squeeze it when you are tempted to spend for a WANT when you NEED the money to provide for a NEED. That's two NEEDS to one WANT.

The Needs deserve it. The Needs should prevail. The Needs have it.

Suggestion—Drill a hole in one of the coins and put it on your key ring. Squeeze it when tempted.

Nobody has to see you squeeze it.

And nobody will hear it burp or squeal. Not even you!

Remember, you aren't trying to make it squeal; Joe and the tightwads did that. You are trying to make it Burp—sort of like the grandfather suggested.

It's relatively safe; you won't get trampled or head butted into a river. Sprained fingers are a small risk.

And, you will save lots of money in a lifetime. Think of all the new NEEDS you could afford. What a deal!

Yahoo!!!

healthcare issues. Out of the 535 members of Congress, he is the largest recipient of donations from pharmaceutical and healthcare companies. This troubles me and I'm not alone.

As voters, don't you think that we should be supporting candidates willing to stand up to the entire drug industry and who are willing to allow Medicare to negotiate lower prices with drug companies? Candidates who would support legislation to allow generic drugs to come to market faster and who would require pharmaceutical companies to explain large drug price increases?

Who is Walden representing—the people or the corporations that fund his campaign? I will be voting for candidates who support access to low cost prescription medications. Jamie McLeod-Skinner believes in providing access to high quality, affordable health care for all Americans. This includes affordable prescription drugs. She strongly supports increasing the availability of low-cost generics, enabling Medicare to negotiate with pharmaceutical companies for the best available prices and placing caps on out-of-pocket costs. Jamie McLeod-Skinner has my vote!

Why do American's pay the highest prescription drug prices in the world? The pharmaceutical industry, which determines drug pricing and has about two lobbyists for every one member of Congress, has spent \$152 million on influencing legislation in 2016. Drug companies also contributed more than \$20 million directly to political campaigns last year. Walden is the chairman of the influential House Energy and Commerce Committee that has broad jurisdiction over

Michele Gemelas, Madras

The Vital Statistics Department is closed this week, through October 26. Vital Stats will re-open on Monday, October 29.

Indian Business Talk

A lesson in history, and smart budgeting

By Bruce Engle

Loan officer
W.S. Credit Enterprise

A history of the saying, 'A tightwad would squeeze an Indian Head/Buffalo nickel so hard that the buffalo would squeal.' And how squeezing a buffalo coin might help you...

The story, according to legend, probably goes back several hundred years to when there were Buffalo along the Sprague River in South Central Oregon.

We know it was long ago because buffalo don't roam there now. By the way, our word for Buffalo is Yuhò. Another possible pronunciation comes later.

A Modoc boy named Joe—that's close enough for English—about 12 or 13 years of age lived with his family along the river.

Joe had entrepreneurial urges and was being cautioned by mom, dad, and most of the cousins, aunts and uncles. They thought his big idea wouldn't work.

Well, enterprising youth that he was, Joe explained his plan to the elder grandfather and asked for permission to pursue it.

To this day we don't know what the plan was. We don't need to know. It's unrelated to this story though a future entrepreneur might want to research it if he desperately needs a new business idea.

Grandfather was skeptical and also inclined to say no; but he also saw potential in the boy and decided to assign the lad a task so he might earn the approval to pursue his dream enterprise.

His task was to 'Burp a Buffalo.' It was a test of will, strength and cunning. All entrepreneurial traits.

Joe accepted the challenge and cautiously sneaked up on the nearest herd. He quickly decided that Bulls were too big and dangerous to tangle with and Cows were no safer.

Inspiration came with the sight of a Calf curled up and asleep near the bank of the Sprague. Joe didn't see a mamma nearby.

Surely, that was one Burpable Buffalo.

Well, Joe sneaked up on the calf, wrapped his arms around and squeezed. That calf didn't burp. It squealed!

Mamma was grazing about 40 yard away. Her ears perked up and she charged to save her baby. Her intent was to trample the perpetrator; but she couldn't risk hurting her kid.

So she head-butted Joe over the bank and into the Sprague. Her baby was safe and Joe learned something about evaluating risk associated with new ventures.

Yes, Joe survived. He landed in a nice deep pool and floated until he came to the next riffle whereupon he crawled out of the river and,

while drying out on the bank, took stock of his assets and liabilities. He concluded that some endeavors are too risky, too dangerous, and maybe too likely to result in failure.

Joe learned his lesson well. He shared his new wisdom with family and especially with his grandfather.

He became known as Joe Buffalo Squealer. It's interesting how we sometimes get our names.

Joe also became a successful fisherman because of what he observed while floating down the Sprague. More about that some other time.

Buffalo Squealing became legend; passed on by word of mouth for years and generations. It spread North, South, East and West as tribal members traveled and shared wisdoms around campfires.

It may be that the Lewis and Clark expedition encountered it somewhere along their trail and took it back east on their return journey. It had to get there somehow.

It seems reasonable that it resided there in legend and was restored to popular understanding when those 1913 Indian Head/Buffalo coins were brought into circulation and Tightwads became examples.

The story also resided in our tribal memory and, maybe as part of our personal DNA when memories

Wellbriety Celebrating Families—Parent only classes—will meet through November at the Warm Springs Behavioral Health Center.

The next meeting is this Friday, October 26, with the topic being Anger Management. The classes meet from 9 a.m. to noon.

The Monday meeting, October 29, will focus on facts about alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. Then on Wednesday, October 31, the topic is: Chemical dependency is a disease. And on Friday, November 2: Chemical dependency affects the whole family.

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