

## **March 20,2014 Down She Goes**

Mardell Lewis was a rising star and we all had a lot of our hopes pinned to her integrity. I championed her in this blog, relentlessly. When there was a recall, you all turned out, in an amazing show of support, to vote her recall into a tie, allowing her to keep her seat.

We have all been betrayed. My ego is wounded because I was wrong about her and what she was. That's okay. I've been wrong before. But, The Good People of Spirit Lake have suffered yet another betrayal of their hopes, and their trust.

I have been delaying posting this part of the story because there were, and still are, so many more important issues to be posted and dealt with. So, I decided, at last, to put it on the record, as it's own special posting.

There will be another posting before the week is out to discuss the horror story that is still unfolding in Grand Forks, where the told and untold abuse on little children is being revealed. Children that were betrayed by Tribal Council, Tribal Social Services, and everyone else in the system.

It will turn your stomach and break your heart. I am still gathering the details on that and I want to do it as right and clear as I can.

For now, Mardell Lewis. Mardell has, for some time, possibly since she stepped into the roll of Tribal Councilor, been having an affair with Joel Redfox. I had heard the whisperings of it, but they all came from people I did not know and I could not get them backed up by anyone that I knew, so I dismissed them. I would still dismiss them if I had not had it all backed up by several known and reliable sources these past 6 weeks or so.

She is now openly living with Joel Redfox, having not only split from her husband, but having him fired from his position at the college, and banned from the rez so that he can have no contact with his own children.

Yeah, she's that special.

She and Joel have been using all these 'away trips' to romp on Tribal Dollars, and live like royalty, First Class, best food, and of course, expensive wine, while many of you froze in your shabby little homes, unable to get heating for the winter, one of the coldest and most brutal on record.

Mardell is as bad in her behaviors as any of the worst before her. I see no good choices for the tribe. I see no person of integrity holding office, or wanting to. The corruption on the rez has left only the corrupt in charge. The elections are nothing more than the corrupt competing for the prize package.

If you can find someone of integrity, good luck and back them up. But never, ever, EVER take your eye off them.

Mardell's behavior is a disgrace and a sinking disappointment for those who supported her and counted on her. I feel sorry for her husband, who obviously got the worst of this by being denied access to his own children, who are now living with a sex-offender, predator.

Whatever is driving Mardell down this muddy road, is hurting a lot of people, her own children among them, the tribe taken for a ride by a woman who lacks integrity and morals. She's romping with a sexual predator, and denying her children access to their own father.

I have had disappointments before, but she tops them all right now. If there is a recall vote, and she goes down, that's fine. You can replace her with someone just as bad, and then vote them out.

Meanwhile, it's time to start looking at how it got this way and why there are no decent leaders in any of the seats that control millions of dollars of money intended for the tribe, but going only to a few who get their hands on it.

It's because the children are being eaten alive by corruption. They have been for decades. Children who could have grown into leaders in their own community, are only part of the Human Wreckage in the wake of corruption that feeds monsters who are visible and who hide in the shadows, as well as the monsters in those very high places who only show up to pat themselves on the back for doing such a great job... of screwing Indians.

I'm sure that when the door is closed on Joel's office, Mardell is on her knees, doing what she does best.

I'm sorry I supported her. I'm sorry you all came out and stood up for her. But I am proud of you for trying. I know there are good people out there. I've heard you and I have seen you do your best, despite the odds and despite the outcomes.

Don't let this discourage you. Continue to unite. Continue to find a way. Don't quit.

Don't let Mardell's trampy behavior stop you from doing what you can to make things better out there. You have to keep trying. Not for her. Not for anyone like her... but for those kids. Kids who deserve much better than the abuse and corruption that is being revealed, and more that is being hidden.

THE CHILDREN ARE THE FUTURE. Mardell is the past.

You know where to find me.

~Cat