

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the editor:

The Royalty Court, Royalty Advisors, and chaperones would like to thank everyone who donated their time and effort to make our raffle and taco feeds a success. We cannot thank you enough for everything that you did to help us raise money to go to the Gathering of Nations Pow-Wow in Albuquerque, N.M.

Thank you to the following people and committees: Angela Ramirez, Angeline Easter, Bev Youngman, Carlene Easter, Danise Barker, Darcy Lal, DeAnna Pearl, Delbert and Sharon Bell, D.M. Miller, Education Committee, Felicia Carmona, Holly John, Jennifer Flores, Larry Hammons, Lisa Brown, Pow-Wow Committee, Selene Rilatos, Sharmon Cook, and Vicki Morace.

We would like to give a special thanks to Anne Marie Eddings for taking the time to make the fry bread for both of our taco feeds. We couldn't have done it without you.

Thank you again,
Royalty Court, Royalty Advisors,
and Chaperones



To the editor:

The Siletz Royalty Court members and the volunteer Royalty Committee would like to thank everyone who has helped us raise money to fund our trip to the Gathering of Nations Pow-Wow in Albuquerque, N.M., on April 27-29.

While we were there, we went to the Miss Indian World Pageant. There were over 2,000 registered dancers and hundreds of visiting royalty from all over America and Canada.

There were 28 ladies running for Miss Indian World. Their talents ranged from the Warm Springs paddle dance to the explanation of tribal flags.

We all had fun and hope the community and tribal members will continue to support the Siletz Royalty in future fund-raising events.

Holly John

To the editor,

I would like to express my deep gratification and sincere thanks to everyone in Siletz housing, in particular Rob Smith, who helped me so much in making my home habitable.

Mr. Smith took the time to help me with the application process by listening and understanding the issues in my home that adversely affected me. He coordinated with a local contractor to address those problems to provide me an environment that will require much less worry, where I hope I can live the rest of my life!

It was a very humbling experience to have to ask for help, but I had no one else to turn to with my limited resources. Rob Smith was very professional and treated me with great respect. He is truly an asset to Siletz and every day I am grateful for his help along with the help of a committed support staff that I worked with.

I want everyone to know how truly thankful and proud I am of the accomplishments that we as a tribe have made after all our ancestors have been put through. There are still struggles ahead, but our people still stand united and support one another in the best ways that we know how.

John Gardner, Jr.



To the editor:

My name is Danny Mura, a newly enrolled Siletz elder.

On April 28, I traveled to Siletz and had the privilege to meet with Tina Retasket. Tina helped me sign up for a computer and gave me a list of names and numbers to help my daughter, who lives in Portland, with information on jobs and scholarships.

It was such a great experience to talk with someone who was so nice and helpful.

Thank you, Tina, for all your help.
Joan and Danny Mura



To the editor:

I would like to thank Donna Strong Kessinger and her kids and also Norma Jimenez for the return of this helmet. This will always stay in the true Strong family. The story behind this helmet is that my father, the late Stanley Strong, during WWII shot and killed this German sniper and took his helmet.

To Norma Jimenez, all the Strong brothers agree that you are the only one who looks like your mother.

To Donna Strong Kessinger and Josephine H. Strong, from the Strongs – a Happy Birthday in the month of June.

Royce A. Strong



To the editor:

It's been a while, but I read about people blaming the tribe for the problems with the Cage cashiers. It actually is not the tribe's fault. This you can blame on the new Cage manager. Another one of those people from Vegas trying to run a little tribal casino like Vegas. They need to be told they are not in Vegas anymore.

The Cage manager is doing so many things wrong. First she thinks that if there are too many people in line, then the supervisor needs to open a window. There are so many things wrong with that. If a customer needs a supervisor, what do you tell them, "Sorry, our supervisor is working a window right now."

She took over doing the schedules and is now making supervisors work entire shifts in a window. Her new thing is that she wants to know what all the cashiers do on days off. This was brought up a few months ago and she told all the cashiers to write down all the activities they do on their time off. Wrong, you can't do that.

Another new thing she is doing – she wants to know why people are taking PTO (vacation). When filling out the request, the employee has to put **why** they want time off. Wrong, again you **can't** do that.

The cage is so short-handed that people are working six days. Nothing wrong with that, it happens. But when you make people work six days for more than two weeks straight and on their sixth day, make them work a late shift. Not only that, when a person works six days and asks to leave two hours early and is told no, but the manager lets another person working six days leave two hours into his shift, that is wrong. I really think she needs a reality check.

The general manager is aware of **some** of the things, but again, he is only being told what he **wants** to hear and not what he **needs** to hear. I know that when Jim hears the rest of the story, things will start changing.

George Blacketer

Siletz News Letters Policy

Siletz News, a publication of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, is published once a month. Our editorial policy encourages input from readers about stories printed in *Siletz News* and other tribal issues.

All letters **must include** the author's signature, address, and phone number in order to be considered for publication. *Siletz News* reserves the right to edit any letter for clarity and length, and to refuse publication of any letter or any part of a letter that may contain profane language, libelous statements, personal attacks, or unsubstantiated statements.

Not all letters are guaranteed publication upon submission. Published letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of *Siletz News*, tribal employees, or Tribal Council.

Please type or write legibly. Letters longer than 450 words may be edited for length as approved by Tribal Council Resolution #96-142.

Please note: The general manager of the Siletz Tribe is the editor-in-chief of *Siletz News*.

Editor-in-Chief: Brenda Bremner
Editor: Diane Rodriguez
Assistant: Natasha Kavanaugh

Send letters to:

Siletz News
P.O. Box 549
Siletz, OR 97380-0549

541-444-8291 or
1-800-922-1399, ext. 1291
Fax: 541-444-2307
E-mail: pias@ctsi.nsn.us

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