

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the editor:

I want to thank the elders, the Salem staff, and the Eugene staff for all their help and prayers in our time of need. Also, thanks to all the staff for the Elders Christmas Party in Salem. I had a really nice time.

Betty Whitehead and family



To the editor:

On behalf of the Siletz Valley Friends of the Library, I want to say "Thank you" and "Welcome to our new Siletz Public Library."

Our community's dream of a new, modern library has come true in great part because of the financial assistance from the CTSI Tribal Council, the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund, and CTSI employees. In addition, the spirit of leadership extended to our building project helped remove obstacles and boosted our spirits when difficult challenges arose.

I am so glad many of you came to the grand opening. Library hours are the same as in the old library: Wednesdays, 10:30 to 6; Thursdays, 10:30 to 8; Fridays 9:30 to 5; Saturdays 9:30 to 3. You can call during those hours for information – the phone number is 541-444-2855.

We are working on policies and procedures for the new meeting room. The six new computers saw constant use during the grand opening. We even have wireless access for notebook computers.

If you are a resident of the Siletz Valley area and don't have a library card, you can sign up for a card at no cost – the Siletz Library manager can help you. Cards issued by libraries in Lincoln and Tillamook counties can also be used at our library.

Come enjoy your new library!

Sincerely yours,
Sunshine Keck
SVFOL Secretary

See photos of the grand opening on pages 1 and 7.

To the editor:

Thanks ...

I would like to take this time to thank each and every person for the monetary contributions given to help support my financial situation due to my recent accident. I especially want to thank those who included me in their thoughts and prayers.

The generous support from my co-workers exceeded any of my expectations. I thank each one of you for your generosity of thoughtfulness. I look forward to getting back to work and greeting you with a good morning and a smile.

Not enough can be said for the appreciation I have towards my family. When I say family, I mean both immediate and extended. With all my heart, I thank you for the care and support you have shown.

Stuart Whitehead



To the editor:

I would like to make a comment about our tribal restoration.

First, it was a tribal achievement; there were only a few people who started the process for restoration. Most of our people never lived in Siletz after termination.

Restoration was a tribal goal; a few of the elders wanted our people to be recognized as a tribe. One of those was my father, the late Stanley William Strong.

My father and two others went to Washington, D.C., and spoke before the United States Congress. He served many years on Tribal Council in the early years.

When addressing restoration, it was a tribal achievement, not an individual one. Too many "I's" or "My Father," but should be changed to "Our Tribal Achievement."

If you are going to use names, use all the names. Don't leave anyone out.

With respect,
William S. Strong

To the editor:

I'd like to write about a couple of tough guys whom some of you consider nice and friendly guys.

First, he's the **transporter** who was hired to take me to dialysis. At first, we got along good, never had problems, had good rides to and from Siletz to Corvallis.

He always talked about "my little girl." I thought he was raising a granddaughter; come to find out he was talking about his little dog.

One day he asked me, "William, do you have a problem if I got my dog?" I said, "Yes." He got mad at me when I said that. He was smiling at first, then that smile came right off his face and filled with hatred.

He wouldn't talk to me after that. Every time I got in the van, he was so full of hate and anger. It was not a good ride. I knew he was going to explode. I remember how he talked to his wife.

About two weeks later, he exploded on me. He started screaming, cussing, and threatening to beat me up halfway home from dialysis. This went on for a few miles. Then when we got to Pioneer Mountain, his wife called and he told her he was going to beat me up and cussed me again.

His boss and co-worker think the world of him. They said he's such a friendly guy.



To the editor:

Dear Siletz Tribal Members,

On Nov. 29, 2006, the Federal Correctional Institution in Sheridan, Ore., held a Lunch and Learn program to celebrate the nation's Native American Commemorative Month.

This program was developed by the Federal Bureau of Prisons to promote social diversity and equal employment opportunities for members of minority groups, women, disabled veterans, and qualified individuals with disabilities.

I would like to extend my personal thanks to the Siletz Tribal Chairman Delores Pigsley for being our guest speaker. She educated federal employees on the history and culture of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz. Ms. Pigsley's husband, Don, and tribal el-

Second is my sister's daughter's boyfriend. He left a harassing phone call on my answering machine. Well, his son likes to be mean to my niece. He treats her like his daddy treats his mommy.

This guy doesn't work, has no income, but he can sure drink alcohol and do drugs every day. He does not support his kids with nothing, a freeloader.

When his son is mean to my niece, I told his mom to make him mind. She won't say anything to him. I did.

Well, she runs home and tells her boyfriend I cussed his son out so now he's threatening me. ICW needs to be involved in this family; those other kids have to put up with the guy's screaming, cussing, and abuse.

What a couple of **tough guys** who want to fight me. I'm an amputee. I have no balance; I need a cane to stand up. I had heart surgery, part of my sternum removed, heart failure and kidney failure, and now dialysis. What a couple of tough guys who want to fight me.

And some people think these two guys are so nice ... or are there any lonely and desperate women out there who want one of these guys and live a miserable life?

With respect,

William S. Strong



der Emma Russell also attended.

The Grand Rondes were represented by Wink Soderberg, Jan Michael Reibach, Bobby Mercier, Siobhan Taylor, and Eagle Beak singers Shane Harmon, Richard Sohapp, Lawney Havranick, and Travis Stewart.

If you have any questions about this program, please feel free to contact me or go to www.BOP.gov.

Sincerely,

Tyler K. Munsell, Native American Program Manager
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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*.

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Deadline for the March issue is Feb. 9. Submission of articles and photos is encouraged. Please read the Passages Policy on page 20 when submitting items for Passages.



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