

To the editor:

Hi, my name is Manuel Bayya and for those of you who know me, I like to be honest, respectful and accountable. I'm not the most literate of people, but I express my needs and feelings with unselfish and humble respect.

Why I am writing is because in early May 2009, I was attacked by an individual with a welding pipe and in self-defense I threw one punch that stopped the attack. I do not have an explanation for this unprovoked attack, but it was unannounced and without warning. I left the residence and believed the incident to be done and continued my daily routines.

I have been recently re-connecting with my 8-year-old son, Shaa, and his mother and with almost miraculous results, looking forward to being the father I have always wanted to be. I also had been getting to be close with many of my nieces and nephews, happily called Uncle Manuel!

But all that changed drastically on June 29 as I made an appearance in court and was arrested for Assault II, Assault IV and Burglary I. Since that day, I've been held in custody on \$250,000 bail and face

170 months in prison for defending myself against a man with a pipe. The police or detectives have never even questioned me about anything, but I am being treated as if I am already guilty.

So I ask for any and all of you who know me or have the time to support a Tribal member in need to appear at my trial. A show of support can go a long ways. Also, injustice by an unfair jury and judge is less likely to occur. Mainly I fear about the potential damage to my children in the event I'm wrongfully convicted.

I don't know when my trial will be scheduled yet, but to all who appear, I thank you from deep within my heart. It matters a lot and I ask for all your prayers that the truth comes out and justice is served. Take care of my children and let them know I am fighting to be there for them. Thank you for reading this.

Sincerely,
Manuel Joseph Bayya

P.S. I'm not a poet or writer, but the urgency of the support and presence I need, I can't put into words. I'm just scared and worried that I'm gonna lose my son and daughter again – or they're gonna lose me.

To the editor:

This information is for all parents and students who live in Columbia, Clatsop, Tillamook and Washington counties.

The Title VII Indian Education Program is here to assist families with the cultural and educational needs of American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Title VII provides tutors and cultural activities.

If any of you live in one of the counties above, your student is eligible to enroll in the program. All a student needs to qualify is a parent or grandparent with a roll number in a Tribe.

In order for Title VII to know who you are, you must have marked the registration for AI/AN (American Indian or Alaska Native). If you have already registered for school and did not identify yourself as an American Indian, you can contact the administration office at your school and change it. Then Title VII will contact your family to get you signed up.

For more information about Title VII, you can call Ruth Jensen, project manager, at 888-990-7500, ext. 1291.

Title VII is there for American Indian families. If you receive this Siletz newspaper, (most of) you already qualify. If you have friends who are American Indians of any Tribe, please ask them if they are signed up for Title VII and if they are not, let them know to contact the school administration office and have their records changed to be identified and then Title VII can contact them too.

This program is here to help American Indian students. It does not cost you anything and it will help enrich your lives.

Here's the number again to call for more information – 888-990-7500, ext. 1291. Ruth Jensen will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you, Siletz Tribe, for helping to sponsor Title VII.

Virgene F. Blair

A teen-ager will graduate and go to higher education. Ninety-one percent of our high school students attending Summer Institute have graduated and gone on to higher education.

Native children will succeed in the classroom. Eighty-two percent of our NAYA Early College Academy students are passing their classes.

A Native child will learn her tradition dance and sew her first beaded regalia. Children enrolled in our cultural arts classes succeed in school at three times the rate of those who do not receive NAYA Family Center services.

Our kids will have their arts classroom better stocked with supplies and their physical education classes supported.

Thanks again!

Sincerely,
Christine Dupres
Sustainability Officer
NAYA Family Center

Ceremonies at the Creek Pow-Wow

Oct. 10 • 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Oak Creek Youth Correctional Facility
4400 Lochner Road SE • Albany, Oregon

Nick Sixkiller, Emcee

To RSVP or for more information, contact Robyn Eicks, 541-791-5926.

I wish to thank all the Elders who so thoughtfully sent the card wishing me well for surgery and my recovery.

Lonnie Andrews

Happy 80th to Urla Fife!

Wish we could be there to celebrate with you way down in Texas. We will be thinking of you on that day especially.

Love, yer fav bro Earl and Mary

We wish Miranda a happy day on Oct. 9. We love and miss you.

Love – Mom, Randy, Tylan, Billy Dee and Donna

We want to wish the world's most beautiful mom, Miranda, a happy day on Oct. 9.

Love your three sons, Sequoyah, Denali and NaKoa

Layla Covington is turning 2! We love you! Keep melting our hearts every year! Have a great birthday, Princess!

Love, Mommy, Daddy and your big brother and sister

Happy 9th Birthday, Lanaya, and good luck in soccer!

Love, Dad

Happy late Birthday, Daphne. Congratulations on going back to school!

Love, Rory

Congratulations, Talon, on starting kindergarten and good luck in soccer!

Love, Dad

Chris and Angela want to thank everyone who helped make their wedding dreams a reality. Special thanks to Shari Logan, Aimee Husberg, Grandma Sue, Sandy Justice, Gina Bennett, Robert Husberg Jr., Roxanne Rebarcek, Tammy Lewis, Amanda Brown, Whitney and Apple Trejo, Miles Harrison, Jessica Bayya, Sissy Rilatos and everyone else who helped make their wedding day fantastic.

With sincere gratitude, The Rabideaus

Happy Birthday to Lincoln Lewelling on Sept 25! I hope you have a great birthday, Kuz!

Love you lots, the Carmonas

Happy Birthday to Tasha Mason on Sept. 29! I love you, Kuz, and hope you have a great birthday!

Love, the Carmonas

Happy Birthday to our Lil Kuz, Joshley Howell, on Sept. 15! We love you lots-n-lots.

Felicia, Carlos, Aurora and CJ

Happy Birthday to our Kuz, Christopher Lance, on Sept. 22. Even though you're waaaaay over there in Yuma, we still love you and keep you in our heart!

Love you always, the Carmonas

Happy Birthday to "Pop" in Alaska. I love you and miss you lots.

Selina

Happy Birthday to our Papa in Alaska. We all love you.

Cheney, Emily, Cameron, Mateas, Ella, Rachel and Sara

Passages Policy

Submissions to Passages are limited to two 25-word items per person, plus one photo if desired. All birthday, anniversary and holiday wishes will appear in the Passages section. Siletz News reserves the right to edit any submission for clarity and length. Not all submissions are guaranteed publication upon submission. Please type or write legibly and submit via e-mail when possible.

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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