

To the editor:

A special thank you to my family and friends for your thoughtfulness and support through this difficult time.

A special acknowledgment to Ronald Butler Jr. for the beautiful song, Pastor Vance, Ardella Case Parr, Shannon Case, Mary Dederick, Nancy Simmons, Cheryl and Alfred Lane III, Elouise Case, Bonnie McAlpine, my co-workers, Melissa Strickler, Janet of ABC and Frank Rilatos for being the true friend to Bo.

With sincere thanks,  
Joella Strong



*Editor's note: This letter was written prior to Wayne L. Case II's passing in October. The family requested that it be published.*

To the Siletz Tribal members of voting age:

I hear that there might be a vote on descendency in the near future. If so, I hope you vote "no."

I can understand why you would want this if you're a 16<sup>th</sup> blood degree because of your children and grandchildren. But you must understand (the effect) it will have on the members who are a 16<sup>th</sup> or more. It will take away the little help we have now.

For example, we don't have money for all our health needs with the members we have now. It will also take away money from the Elders. It would more than likely take the money that families need for funeral costs. Plus it would take from our young who would be going to school.

What scares me most is it will open the doors for the federal government to stop giving the Tribe federal funding or not even seeing us as a Tribe any longer.

The U.S. government is under financial duress and is cutting money every way they can. The government wants to break the treaties as it is. Look at history; they never do what they agreed on, especially if it helps the people. If the government does start cutting funds on matters, believe me the Tribes that have gone to descendency will be the first to go.

So to the people of a 16<sup>th</sup> or more, be happy with what you receive because it just takes that mark of a pen and the government can take everything we have. We would have no health care, casino, housing, nothing. I'm sure the government would consider descendency a Tribe that bred out all their Tribal blood.

Voting members, vote "no" if there is a vote. Remember the past. It can happen again.

Wayne L. Case II



Dear fellow Tribal members:

My name is Santos Curiel. For those of you who don't know me, I am a fellow Tribal member and I have been selling cars at Toby Murry Toyota/Nissan (Newport, Ore.) for a year and a half now.

When I started here, I initiated the Tribal Preferred Pricing Program (TPPP) for Tribal members and Tribal employees. I just want to write today to thank each and every Tribal member and employee who has inquired, bought or referred a friend or family member to me. You have made this transition easy and successful.

I just wanted to say thank you and you know who you are.

For info regarding TPPP, call me exclusively at Toby Murry Toyota/Nissan.

Thank you all again!

Sincerely,

Santos Curiel

541-272-4176 or Sc\_tobymurry@yahoo.com

tobymurrytoyota.com

**For more information about the Siletz Tribe, please visit [ctsi.nsn.us](http://ctsi.nsn.us).**

### 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

To the editor:

The family of Michael Elkins would like to express their sincerest thanks and gratitude for all of your thoughts, hugs and prayers during our loss. We couldn't get through this difficult time without all of our loving family and friends.

A special thank you goes out to the ladies and men who helped in the kitchen. Thank you to my sister Jen Metcalf, Alissa Lane, Kelley Ellis, Selene Rilatos, Elaine Jackson-Butler, Tasha Mason, Stuart Whitehead and Rick Leaton. Thank you to everyone who cooked food.

Thank you Bud Lane for officiating my dad's service; it meant a great deal to our family. Thank you to Rick Bayya for making a wonderful DVD of our memories.

Elouise Case, thank you for coming up and praying with my dad, praying for him and helping him accept the Lord into his heart.

Kyle, thank you for staying up all night and not leaving his side during the wake. Taren, thank you for helping with the pictures. Thank you to those who attended and honored his memory.

I'm so sorry if I missed anyone. He was a great man and he will be forever in our hearts and missed every day.

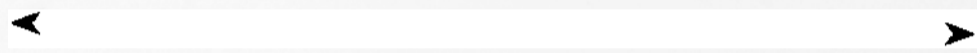
With thanks,

The Elkins, Metcalf and Baker families

Dear Dr. Sparks:

Thank you for taking care of my dad and allowing us more time with him than we ever thought we would have. My dad thought a great deal about you and he knew you always had his best interests at heart; that's what he appreciated about you. Thank you, Dr. Sparks.

Chuvonne Metcalf



To Tribal members:

I am going to run for the position of Tribal Council and have appreciated the support I have always received in being elected to this position. I have not wavered from the beliefs I started with when I first got on Tribal Council. The times have changed and I do try to alter my decisions but still keep the values I began with.

I am again asking for your support for a Tribal Council position.

Lillie Butler



To the editor:

Our Taft Elementary School fifth-grade students, chaperones and teachers enjoyed our visit to the Siletz Tribal Center on Nov. 7, 2012. We would like to thank Juanita Whitebear for organizing this field trip for our students. Hayu Masi, Juanita!

Brenda Bremner's introduction and interesting history of the Siletz Tribal Council and the beautiful Siletz Tribal Center were very much appreciated. Many student questions were answered as Ms. Bremner broadened our understanding of the Tribal members and their organization. Ms. Bremner also explained the story behind the fantastic Native American artwork throughout the center.

Students were very impressed with the fish hatchery and Stan van de Wetering's explanation of how it works. Our fifth-graders were very excited to see the eels up close. Touching the lamprey eels and petting the goats were both very exciting to our young learners. Crossing the bridge over the salmon pond was very educational. Students understood how the dead salmon helped feed the young fish.

Bud Lane's wonderful voice enchanted young and old alike. His stories and informative talk kept students on the edge of their seats in the Dance House. The room became hushed each time his voice and beautiful native language filled the air. We greatly appreciated his sharing of Siletz Tribal traditions.

We thank the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians for welcoming our students, chaperones and teachers. Thank you to the Elders for sharing the cafeteria with our students and chaperones. You were very kind.

Sincerely yours,

Valerie Baker and Kimberly Miller

Fifth-grade teachers

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