

To the editor:

My name is Selina Rilatos. I have been a foster parent for 10 years and I am now going to speak on behalf of myself and other foster parents.

Foster care is incredibly rewarding, but there are times when it is incredibly difficult. The difficulties don't come from the kids in care, it usually comes from the parents of the kids who are in care. You make our jobs very difficult at times and it isn't fair to us.

I am sick and tired of the parents with kids in foster care trying to make the lives of the foster families difficult. We did not take your children from you, ICW and DHS did. We have rules we have to follow. This doesn't mean if we are your friend we are breaking the rules for you.

We take in your kids because we care about your children. We do not do it for the money either, because it isn't much.

We let your kids be kids, so sometimes when they come for a visit, they are going to have bumps, bruises and scrapes. That does not mean they are being abused.

When your child is in care, it is hard on them. I know this for a fact. You make it harder when you as the parent/s start promising the kids that they are coming home soon, promise to visit them, call them or buy them stuff. That is not fair to your kids because when the promises are broken, it is us, the foster parents, who are picking up the fragile emotional pieces of your child.

Foster parents can be a very good ally to you. That is ultimately your choice.

Instead of harassing us, stalking your children at the foster home or day care provider, thank us when you see us. Say thank you for taking such good care of my child/ren while I am trying to get my life together. Thank you for caring about my child/ren.

We are not the bad guys here. We are here and put ourselves out there for your kids.

Sincerely,

Selina D. Rilatos

Dunn steps in for Travis in concert

With the cancellation of the Randy Travis show because of illness, country music marvel Ronnie Dunn, formerly of the hit country music duo Brooks & Dunn, steps in on Aug. 16-17 at Chinook Winds Casino Resort.

Dunn joined the solo scene with up-tempo country rock hits like *Singer in a Cowboy Band*, *Let the Cowboy Rock* and the mariachi-style *How Far to Waco*. He's charmed us on a more intimate and romantic level with his ballads *Last Love I'm Tryin'* and *I Don't Dance*.

For 20 years, Dunn was a big part of the single-most successful and popular duo in recent country music history:

Brooks & Dunn. While still on top, they decided to hang up their boots.

Dunn now has time to call upon his particular voice and storytelling skills to tell his own story in a way he's never done before. As he explains, "When I started this album, right from the first song, every track that I wrote or co-wrote or picked was autobiographical in a way. I began with *Singer in a Cowboy Band* – which is definitely a big part of my story – and we went on from there, and on and on."

His very public life in music continues now in a whole new and exciting way with the album that shares his good name.

Show time is 8 p.m. Ticket prices range from \$35 to \$50.

Calling all Tribal member business owners

If you would like to be on the preferred Tribal members business list with Chinook Winds, please fax, mail, email or drop off your business card, brochures, or business information to:

Chinook Winds Casino Resort
Attn: Purchasing Dept.
1777 NW 44th St.
Lincoln City, OR 97367
Phone: 541-996-5853
Fax: 541-996-3847
erica@cwresort.com

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

To the editor:

I am writing to give our heartfelt thanks to all those involved with our Native First Foods Ceremony that was held here at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility on May 4, 2013.

We were grateful for the food donated to this event, especially the salmon donation by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. This feast could not have taken place without your generosity. We were also gifted with roots (piaxi) and huckleberries.

The following also gave their generous support and made donations for this year's event:

Chaplain Al-Admin, Coffee Creek

Red Lodge – Trish Jordan, Tawna Sanchez and Rita

Alaskan Elder with daughter and granddaughter

Drummers/singers – Guy Wallulatum, Gene Sampson, Art McConnville, Rusty Butler (Siletz), Ed Edmo (Shoshone-Bannock)

All who participated in the dancing

All inmates who made cards, beaded items, other contributions to the giveaway

Also to the ladies who helped serve the food – Mabel Jackson family – meat donation (Warm Springs), Sonja Foster, fry bread queen (Siletz), Cleona Burns, Veronica Manderjano – giveaway items

We would also like to thank Alice Sampson and Guy Wallulatum for their inspiring and encouraging words. Your words meant a lot to many who attended.

Also thank you Ed Edmo for your wonderful stories.

Our ceremony turned out great and everybody had fun being together for the day. It felt so good to hear our Washut songs and to be able to dance.

Also, a big thank you to Rusty for all his time and work to help us build our new sweat lodge in preparation for this ceremony.

We look forward to seeing you all at next year's Spring Ceremony!

Kathy Danzuka – Warm Springs

Carma Nelson – Klamath/Modoc

Sharon Kirk – Klamath/Modoc

Danelle Zosel-Sanderson – Siletz

Tammie Felix – Warm Springs

Mary Greenwood – Blackfeet

Barbara Kinney – Choctaw

Eva Guzman – Yaqui

Clarice Rios – Warm Springs

Christina Burschia – Assiniboine

Latina Ortega

Melody Morgan – Chickasaw

Tamara Kennedy – Paiute/Grand Ronde

Lorita Looney – Klamath/Modoc

Cruzita Robles – Yaqui

And all the Native sisters here at CCCM



Over a hundred years ago Black Elk had a vision of the time when Indian People would heal from the devastating effects of European migration. In his vision the Sacred Hoop which had been broken, would be mended in seven generations.

The children born into this decade will be the seventh generation.

Photo used with permission of Sacred Ground Outreach



**"When the Children Grow Old ...
We Want Them to Know We Fought for Them"**

There are many ways to fight to protect our children ~ one of those ways is by being a foster parent.

The Siletz Tribal Indian Child Welfare Department is accepting and recruiting foster homes on behalf of our Tribal children.

For more information, call Christy Hurt, foster care certifier, at 800-922-1399, ext. 1338, or 541-444-8338.