

Letters to the Editor:

To The Editor,

About a month ago, I drove out to Yaquina Head, and it made my heart very sad to see what the white man has done. I always thought that "Tidepools" were created by Mother Nature I.E. the constant motion and pounding of the mighty ocean waves, not a bulldozer and TNT.

This was a place where we have gathered shellfish and numerous other sea creatures. Now we are no longer allowed to go there to gather, or to even walk on the rocks. We have lost this place forever and it seems that nothing is being done about it.

We have been taken from and pushed around for the past 140 years, isn't it about time we did something.

It is one thing to be knocked down, but it is another to be kicked in the head while one is down. That is exactly what is happening to us, and we just continue to allow it. Isn't it about time we got up off the ground and took a stand? There is no shame in being knocked down, there is shame in allowing someone to kick you in the head while you are down. Stand up and be proud of the Siletz Nation. Fight for what is rightfully yours and for what you believe in, because if you don't, nobody else will.

There is talk of 600,000 acres of land that is located within our Original Treaty Agreement. Think of a Reservation of that size, a reservation that we (The Siletz Nation) could be proud of.

We need to start setting our priorities and start standing together. Pursue these priorities and make them realities.

If you are proud to be a Siletz Indian, then do something about it. If not, then why not remove your name from the roll?

I am a Tutuni, and only wish that my blood degree was greater than it is. But, regardless of my degree of blood, I am proud, and I am going to stand for what is rightfully mine. I hope to see you standing next to me.

George F. Siniscal

To the Editor:

I wanted our sister Lavonne Butler to know that we are very proud of her, for completing 3 years of "Sundancing". I also wanted to thank all the "Siletz Supporters" that were there. Loraine & I were not there this year because of aunt Polly's illness, but we were at home praying to Congashla, to keep Lavonne strong. I also wanted to let Dino Butler know that we are very honored to have him Sub-Chief of the Sundance at the Mt. Hood Sundance this year.

We love you both.

Laverne & Loraine Butler

To the Editor:

I wanted to thank Maxine Rilatos for all the time that she put in on the phone and the patience that she had with uncle Chet and I, for getting a roll up bed for aunt Poly, and also thanks to Judy Muschamp.

You're a beautiful lady Maxine,
Laverne Butler.

To The People,

I would like to thank all the people, friends, and family that have supported our boys through this time: George Nagel, Janet Dair, Darin Rilatos, Dino Butler, Regg and Lee Butler, Frank Petersen, Alissa Lane, Adrian Nelson, Ronelle Welch, Felicia Edenfield, Natasha Kavanaugh, and all the rest that have been there in Prayers and Songs. The boys, Paul & Rusty, are doing well. They are in good spirits and are strong. I know it's from all the prayers, love and understanding that comes at this time. They have learned a lot from this and also from the friends they are meeting. They have grown a lot in this short time that they have been away from us physically but not spiritually. If you would like to write, the boys would be happy to hear from you. I would like to thank the Tribe for all their support.

Sylvia, Jacob,
Sarah, Paul, in spirit & the
rest of the family.

c/o MacLaren School

SITP

Paul & Rusty

2630 N. Pac. Hwy.

Woodburn, OR. 97071

To all Tribal members:

As a Tribal member this is in regards to the Tribe of Siletz. The Tribal Council passed resolution #94-168 to have a vote of the membership on whether or not to lower the blood degree to 1/16th. The Tribe can't even take care of the Tribal members that are already on the roll, why put more on? I am not totally against 1/16th, but at this time we are not ready.

The truth is, some of the Council members that get elected are just for their families and not for the whole Tribe. It also stated on the resolution that after 5 years that it should be determined if the enrollment should be changed to descendency. If the Tribe goes to descendency, than what our ancestors fought for would all be in vain. Tribal members don't realize that it is a very serious step. The Tribal Council sits back and makes decisions that could either help our future or destroy it. So far, what have we seen? The Tribe's priorities are not for all Tribal members but for selfish reasons. If you look at the last 10 years, what has the Tribe accomplished? When we were one of the first Tribe's to get restored, why are we in last place now? We need to get new blood on the Council for one. Two, the Tribe needs to change its priority list. The Tribal Offices are getting larger and the services are getting smaller.

Tribal members, please take interest. What we have, what we want and what we need, should be General Council input, not just the Tribal Council.

A Concerned Tribal Member,
Celeste Mann

I hear the drums beating over the hills.

I hear the voices of our ancient ancestors in the wind.

I see the Eagle soaring high above the crowd, the emcee, and the dancers.

As I dance, I think of all the old ones that have passed on.

When the drummers sing, I can still hear my grandfathers voice within them.

Felicia Ann Edenfield

New Moon and Evening Star in Purple Haze and Golden Halo of Pink Sunset

*Sister, I don't know you, yet I know
you are a mother as was the mother that
gave birth to our grandmothers.*

*I send prayer with the sunset
and wonder if any of our young
people payed attention to the
marriage in the sky.*

*In my heart young ones. I pray for
you, and those of you that noticed
New Moon and Evening Star, Thank You
for you are my spirit of continuation
though confusion is bedded deep
within my mind, at times my heart tells
the truth to my soul.*

*New Moon and Evening Star
in Purple Haze and Golden Halo of
Pink Sunset.*

*There was a new moon this nite,
as Evening Star shined, it won't be long
and once again my people you will
give feast and dance in joy of
New Moon,*

*I see in your eyes light of full
moon fever, what is the feeling that
you feel?*

*Like the winter winds you want to
run free, listen to me, are you willing
to end what we struggled
generations for, look how many
are behind the iron doors, and all of
you won't set us free.*

*I stood in the eye of the tornado
one time, it was the third nite of a four
day ceremony, I was chosen to be
there, why I've never been told, like now
I once again stand in the center of a
tornado, confusion all around me, here
in my heart it is calm, for my people.*

*Though we are forced in to
struggling for our very lives and
torn apart.*

*I'm with you and always will be,
Todd Mable I have not forgot you, stay
strong, young one for I will make it
to you or die trying.*

*My young ones in MacLaren stand
with me in light of the new day.*

*New Moon and Evening Star
in Purple Haze and Golden Halo of
Pink Sunset.*

*Magic comes in a moments time,
then it's gone, unless you capture that
moment, then it lasts forever...*

*Robert (caboose)
Van Pelt
Butler*