

## In time of need family is best

By Selena Boise  
Management Successor

When your loved one is in the hospital with an uncertainty as to whether they may make it or not, you feel helpless, scared and lost in uncertainty yourself. Who is it that you turn to? Most likely your close family who are right there with you, probably feeling the same fear you are feeling.

Well, I am happy with the fact that my brothers were there with me during this time because it gave my dad a sense of togetherness in his last few months, to see the family come together. After losing my mom he was lonely and I know she would have been there by his side had she been here. But we did all we could to make up for her absence.

After doing everything we could for him in his last few months it seems we brought back that togetherness, which we should have held onto for years. It is my hope that families could come together and be a family before its too late. Life takes us in all directions but make time for gathering of family.

I learned a lot from my dad, and I hope to carry on that knowledge to my children. Most important thing I learned was that nothing is ever just given to you. You earn everything you own by working for it. My dad worked many years for everything he had, home, transportation, food on the table. He was a provider for his children, which is something you don't see much of anymore.

I hope to see my children be providers for their children and work for everything they own, because there is very little pride in having these things given to you. He was proud to hear about his grandchildren that worked during their summer months because they are learning how to work, and to manage a budget for themselves.

But, this year has been hard because my mom became ill in February and it seems we spent a lot of time at the hospital since then. I can find happiness in all this by the fact that they are together again. They spent over half their lives together and would have been very lonely when separated. They took care of me and cared for me for more than 40 years and I appreciated all of it right to the end.

I hope that everyone appreciates their parents because one day they will be gone and you can't go back and say the things you wanted to say to them.

## Letters to the Editor

### Adoption

Boy, are we in trouble. Why? When have we adopted all or none? Maybe we should not vote.

This is not fair to our Indian eligible children with blood quantum. If we don't have blood quantum, Why?

The choices we make are ours. The choices we make, make our offspring eligible, right?

Now residency does not count. I guess it's all right for us to adopt, and the choice they make to not be a resident and benefit themselves or whom-ever, without consideration for our tribes, culture, traditions, everything we stand for. Our children with blood quantum should be automatically in. But no, Vital Stat turns us away or charges us 75 cents per page for enrollment papers. This is reason for us as a tribe to reinstate an enrollment committee, of us, elder tribal people of our tribe.

Please, think people is this right for our eligible people.

Respectfully,  
Eliza Brown-Jim.

### My gratitude

I love our Native peoples, especially our Confederated Tribes of this great Nation of Warm Springs, Oregon.

I love you for always being there for me in the good times and not so good times... gotta keep the good in it... init?

This letter is long over due. I love you and thank you all for helping me through my son Ryan Clement Eagleheart's death... words can't express my gratitude.

Special thanks to my family, Marie and Jody Calica, Alvis Smith Sr., Kanim Smith family, Alvis Jr., and Sissy family, Austin Sr., and Lois and family, Leta family, Vernon "Besta" family, Kennedy family and Edna, Mona "Burney" and Bill Cochran family, Joseph Smith, Lillian Sis Moses family, Michelle Moses family, Cece and Rick Schimmel family, Andy and Lettie Stacona family, Kanim Jr. family, Alvis III and Vivian family, Lucy Scott-Smith family, Sharon Jackson Dick family, Nettie Kunki family.

Lucy, I'm sorry for not remembering you at Ryan's memorial stone setting... I was still smarting and not really thinking straight...

It's hard burying one's children... To all my skin bros and sisters especially Chaz Mitchell, Jude Goudy, Sacred Heart Suppah, Carlos Calica, and Councilwoman Bernice Mitchell

family... Wolfman and Ferrel Suppah, Hilda Culpus, Franklin Suppah family, Bullneck family, Marsha Smith family, atwai Delia Walsey family, Bird, Daffy, Dot, Marita, Shauna, Konga, Myra, Sandy, Muff Ike, Viola Kalama, Kerk and Lola Sohapp family, Adeline Miller family, Evans Spino family, Satch and Butch Miller family, Mary Ann Meanus family, Mona Baez family, Franklin Suppah and family, and Ronnie Suppah and family, and Tribal Council. Thank you all for helping me through life, especially our elders and children. Love to you all.

To all those I can't remember right now, neigh you wee, nee me poo, Yakima and Springers, I love you... We are all like family like it or not.

Nyny  
Bobby Eagleheart.

### Great job!



Victoria Katchia, Lex Anguiano, LaRonn Katchia

Congratulations to Victoria for your very first 4.0. Great job Toy!

Also congrats to Lex for your 3.40, and LaRonn for your 3.60 gpa's at Madras High School this 2006-07 school year. You guys did awesome in school and also accomplished making it to districts for Track, and keepign up those grades. You should each be proud as we are very proud of you and hope to see you continue those efforts next year.

Saphronia and Sky Katchia.

### Recovery

Family, friends and foe:

I am writing to the community to announce my graduation from the Puyallup Tribal Treatment Center in Tacoma, Washington on July 19, 2007.

I've started learning about my addiction and my poor decision-making. I am taking this step so that everyone at home knows that I do not want alcohol or drugs in my life anymore.

I would also like to tell each and every one of you that I've hurt during my active addiction

that I am very sorry for my outrageous and poor behavior. Please forgive me. You know who you are.

I am especially asking for my children's forgiveness. I am so, so sorry for not being there for you the past eight years. I know you need me.

Mostly I would like to forgive myself.

I'm writing to let you know there is hope if you want to quit the insanity and sickness you are living in. This disease only wants one thing: death.

If you would like to feel good about who you are and want to enjoy watching your children and their children grow up, then please realize this disease can be arrested. There is hope if you are still alive and want to live.

I plan on finishing my last year of college and then returning to Warm Springs.

I am also working with CPS on getting my 12-year-old girl back into my custody and my life.

I was blessed with a new beautiful grandson, Keon Alvarez, on July 22, 2007 at 9:03 p.m. to my oldest child Martha Alvarez. My youngest son, Jose Alvarez Jr., graduated from Madras High School as well.

There is life after you quit using—just waiting for us.

I am looking forward to living clean and sober and enjoying all that life has to offer.

If I can quit, so can you. You are worth it—all of you.

Much love in recovery,  
Lois Estimo.

P.S. I give our God in heaven all of the glory for my freedom from addiction. God bless Warm Springs. Please keep me in your prayers.

### Our children

A child born and raised on the Indian reservation here is suddenly removed from a family who dearly loved him. There is something drastically wrong with this picture. Do we have untrained persons working in some of our departments? It appears that way. The child is the victim in this particular incident. It is cruel to uproot our children and place them off the rez and into the greedy arms of non-Indians. The same family has had multiple tragedies in the family, persons gone now who had a positive impact on their child's life. At the first grandmother's funeral the child was allowed to attend the funeral with strict rules. The child looked so adorable dressed in full Indian buckskin regalia fit to be a

chief's child. This same child was denied a plea from his family for him to attend his paternal grandmother's funeral. We the traditional persons believe that a child will always be looking for her because he did not witness her funeral. The culture shock this child has had to endure is unbelievable if not downright cruel. This child although very young would drum Washat services as well as participate in the wasklickt and the Indian medicine services. It worries me to think what it will take to bring this child's mine back to what he was forced from. I have always thought a parent pretty clever to accuse anyone of child molesting when their own lives are not going their way. I have noticed in a lot of relationships that these sort of accusations are too common.

What will it take to bring this child home to the grandparents who have been a positive role model for him?

Neda Wesley.

### Photographs

Dear family and friends,

I am writing you this letter to wish you all a good summer... Drink lots of water.

Yeah, but anyway, I was just wondering the possibilities of any of you having photographs of my dad, my mom or even of my sister Felicia? I sure would appreciate copies, as I have lost mine several years ago during the "LeClaire fire."

I also would like pictures of current ones of family and friends as I am incarcerated over here in Hillsboro, Ore., until September sometime. I just know it should be before my 40<sup>th</sup> birthday on Sept. 21.

Anyway, my goal now is to get myself spiritually right with our Creator, so that this way I can show the probation office that I can be totally responsible for myself, shoot, I can even get a job now because I am totally getting really fed up with this in-out of jail...

Yes, I know there are going to be some pretty stressful situations and or obstacles that will occur, but with a little help and encouragement from my alcohol sponsor and family, then I can win this battle with my alcoholic addiction.

But anyway, I would also like to take this time to apologize to my uncle. Late July last year I went to your home with alcohol, I even opened up a bottle of 211, I was pretty stupid and quite drunk to disrespect your home like that.

Uncle, I am deeply sorry for that, so sorry! And also to Velma too, I am sorry.

I know I have lived heavily in the past, dwelled on trivia minor things, but I was locked up during the deaths of my parents and grandma, I have never let them go because they were very much alive when I last saw them and that's how I wanted to keep them in my mind and in my heart. And all the years I have let alcohol rule my life, my so-called friends, well no more, I am going to do my best to enter and complete an in-patient alcohol treatment on my terms and not because the courts have ordered me to...

But anyway, you all take care and be strong in heart, soul and mind. Much love and respect,  
Floyd "Pengie" Tewee Jr., bk no. 07-09251, 215 SW Adams Ms33, Hillsboro, OR 97123-3874.

### Friends, family

To friends and relatives on the rez,

I am writing this short letter to tell you that I am doing fine and trying to get strong again so I can come to visit back home. That is all I want to say for now.  
Sally Medina, apt. 17, 240 SE 160<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland, OR 97233-3594.

### Doing all right

To my family and friends, I want you to know I am doing all right. Here is my address, if anyone would like to drop me a letter: Michael Meanus no. 65571-065, federal detention center, PO box 6000, Sheridan, OR 97378.

I know there is no excuse for me being here in prison. I would like to apologize to the officers for my actions when I got picked up, and anyone else that I have offended. Alcohol is the demon that has been messing up my life for a long time. Well, I will close for now. Thank you for your time. With respect, Michael Meanus.

### With much love

To my brother Joe and family, Bonnie, Ken, Joe, Sunshine and Jermayn Tuckra, I am very sorry to hear about your loss of a beautiful, precious daughter, sister, niece. She touched many hearts in so many ways. I couldn't be there physically, but I was there spiritually. My prayers were with you all. With much love and prayers, Laura Edna Robinson.

## Happy birthday and other wishes...

Happy birthday to my August birthday buddies: My brother Jesse Reese on the 3rd, Angie (Selam) Smith on the 4th, Barbie "Lynn" Tanewasha on the 6th, my real birthday buddy, Ron Palmer on the 7th, Monica Leonard on the 8th and Marty "Moose" Tanewasha on the 9th. To another year on our belts! Love ya guys, Saphronia Roslyn Katchia.

Happy 9<sup>th</sup> birthday, Denzel James Bailey. You brought joy to my life! You are very special. I love and miss you very much. Love, (mom) Jamie and Hans Schmitt, Johnny S., Joey S. From Lapush.

I would like to wish two very special people a happy 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. You are like my parents. Thank you for being there when I need you. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sam Sr., I love and miss you! Love, Jamie and Hans Schmitt, Johnny S., Joey S. From Lapush.

I would like to congratulate my son Kevin Ruiz for riding in the Wild Horse Race during Pi-Ume-Sha. I love and miss you very much. I am proud of you. Love, mom, Jamie, and Hans Schmitt, Joey S., Johnny S. From Lapush.

I would like to say I'm proud of you, son Clarence Chad

McKinley, for riding in the Pi-Ume-Sha Parade. I love and miss you very much. Love, mom Jamie and Hans Schmitt, Johnny S., Joey S. From Lapush.

I would like to wish the Oregon Natives luck when they go to Phoenix, Ariz. Good luck Whitley Latoya and to the coaches, also Mr. Taw James, keep it up, you are a very good role model and the Oregon Natives are very lucky to have you as a coach. Love and miss you all. Love, Jamie and Hans Schmitt, Johnny S., Joey S. From Lapush.

Congratulations, Izraii aka "Happy Feet" for taking First Place at the Jefferson County Fair talent show in the youth division.  
Love,  
Mom and Dad,  
Carlos,



Damian, Soraya and Jaibline. We would also like to take the time to thank all our family and friends for being there and showing your support for our son. DJK9, thanks for putting the CD together. We hope to see you all at the state competition in August. Sincerely, Joy and Jose Ramirez.

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Publisher Emeritus: Sid Miller

Editor: Dave McMechan  
Management Successor: Selena T. Boise  
Reporter: Leslie Mitts  
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Any written materials submitted to Spilyay Tymoo should be addressed to:  
Spilyay Tymoo, P.O. Box 870, Warm Springs, OR 97761.  
Phone: (541) 553-1644 or 553-3274.  
FAX No. (541) 553-3539.  
E-Mail: spilyay@wstribe.org.  
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