

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

All letters received will be printed except those which are known to be slanderous or racist. Please type or write legibly, no profane language will be printed. The Siletz Newspaper and Tribal Government accept no responsibility for statements made in the Letters to the Editor. The opinions expressed are those of the individual writing it. Letters that are excessive in length may be edited for length as approved by Tribal Council Resolution #96-142. **All letters must include your name, address, and signature.** Send letters to:

Siletz News
P.O. Box 549
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Phone: (541) 444-8291 --or-- 1-800-922-1399, ext. 291.
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Please note: The General Manager of the Siletz Tribe is the Editor-in-Chief of the Siletz News.

Dear Tribal Members:

I am writing this letter to express my gladness for Tribal Council. It is a relief to know we have a good, solid Council back, working for the good of the Tribe. They are the Tribal Council that has worked hard to achieve what we have now; Self-Governance (Tribal & IHS), Housing Programs, Gaming, Health Programs, and Education Programs.

I received a survey in the mail from Tribal Council which asked my opinion about projects and programs they are working on. To me this shows that Council wants to do for the whole Tribe, not just what they want. I hope all Tribal Members filled out this survey and mailed it back. It is your opportunity to state your ideas and give your feedback on what's going on.

Remember, as Tribal Members we need to work together and take pride in ourselves. Go to Tribal and General Council Meetings, but go to listen, ask questions, and be involved in getting things accomplished. Look to the future, don't look back on things that tore the Tribe apart and wallow in it.

I have gone back to College to work on getting my degree. I plan to use my education working for the Tribe in some capacity when I graduate. I look forward to it, knowing our Tribal Council is doing everything in their power to make sure our Tribe is strong and capable of putting our Tribal Members to work.

I look forward to graduating, working for the Tribe and serving fellow Tribal Members. Thank you for reading this, remember, get involved! It is our Tribal right!

Glendora L. Osborn

Dear Editor:

A very special thank you to Justin Mason and Jason Butler for their support during our Girls Basketball Season. Justin was a referee for all of our home games. Jason helped referee and ran the clock for our home games. You gentlemen did a fantastic job. Thank you again!

Luann Collier, Coach
& Girls Basketball Team

Dear Editor:

We would like to express our appreciation and gratitude to the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Youth Program for the donation of a van to transport the Siletz Girls Middle School Basketball team to all 5 of our away games. A special thank you to Kent Rilatos for his support and friendship during the season.

Luann Collier, Coach
& Siletz Girls Basketball Team

To My Fellow Tribal Members:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every member who took the time and effort to vote both in person or by mail. There were 715 members who voted this year!!! I especially would like to thank everyone who showed their confidence in me by casting their vote for me. I am very thankful and appreciative.

I consider it an honor and a privilege to serve on Tribal Council. I will continue to do the best I possibly can to serve all tribal members in a fair and unbiased manner. I believe we should all work together for the best interest of the tribe. There is a lot of work to be done and I am glad that I will be a part of the future development of the tribe!

If anyone has a question, concern or just want to give a comment on an issue, please do not hesitate to call or write. Thanks again.

Jessie Davis

Dear Tribal Members:

My heartfelt thank you to all of the tribal members who voted for me in the last election. The next three years of my term will be spent in representing you to the best of my ability. Feel free to call me at (503) 622-4270 or fax me at (503) 622-0100 at any time. My mailing address is P.O. Box 477, Siletz, OR 97380.

Once again, thank you for your vote of confidence in me.

Rosemary Breon Landis

Dear Tribal Council and Tribal Members:

Now that the Elections are over for 1999, I would like to request that Tribal Council send a referendum to the tribal voters to make a change in the Tribal Constitution. I would like the Constitution changed so that if a Tribal Council Member is recalled by the membership, they would no longer be eligible to run for Tribal Council. I am asking that the Tribal Council send this as a referendum vote to the membership as soon as possible.

The Tribal Attorney will have to develop the correct wording, but I believe this is the desire of the membership. It is certainly how I feel. If you agree with me, please get in touch with the Tribal Council Members and encourage them to submit this referendum change to a vote of the membership.

This will not affect the members who were recalled previously, but would empower the membership in future recall elections.

Tina M. Retasket



Happy Birthday Nakai Redhawk Easter. Here is a poem for you son:

Cedar Spines

By Tracy Molina-Easter

Cedar spines sprawled
 And cracked
 By the whip
 Of discontent
 Baskets, burdened by spoiled berries
 And a young child shifts
 Black hair across his back
 Back
 Back and forth
 Until mother's sun song pushes east wind
 Cedar skirts dance
 And thump
 An old house
 Guided by Tolowa teeth
 And shells
 Egg toes and salmon feet
 Feel fern paths
 And rhythms
 Remember Takelma roots
 And umbilical cords
 Back
 Back and forth
 Until Aztec past & Siletz truth
 Smoke fresh cedar - smoke, heat & love
 Wrap a child
 Like an old weave
 Of *Ixchilan