

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the editor:

Promise me good things  
Campaigning is in the wind again.  
Anytime changes are made, mudslinging starts. It is always someone's fault.

When I vote, I want to know what I'm voting for, not what I'm voting against. When you talk to me, tell me what you stand for, not about your opponent and their shortcomings. Your opponent can speak for themselves.

The mudslinging and finger pointing should be left back in the school yard. After all, anyone who runs for Tribal Council is willing to put their reputation on the line, supposedly because they want to serve the tribal membership. Mudslinging will only pull the membership apart. You need to fashion a plan to pull the membership together.

Many good people have had their reputations and their lives ruined simply because they dared to throw their hat into the ring. Families have been subjected to wrong information that has been printed about one of their family members who serve on our Tribal Council.

When you think of throwing that first mud ball, think about your own self-preservation. You could be on the receiving end. When you think of making that first snide remark about your opponent, think about the moral standard you are supposed to be setting. When you think about tearing down that person, think of your own image and how you look to me.

I don't want to know how evil or bad the other person is. I want to know what you believe. I want to know what you will do to improve the tribe. I want to know where you stand. That's what a platform is for. Your platform should be one that you can stand proudly for – don't try to tear down someone else's.

We have read and heard this mudslinging before, over and over again, but when it became your turn at the plate, you didn't even get the bat off your shoulder. Show me that you have pride in yourself; don't show me your guilt.

Frank Simmons

### New Letters Policy for Siletz News

Starting with the October 2000 issue of Siletz News, this publication will adhere to the following policy, per Tribal Council Resolution 2000-279:

Siletz News, a publication of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon, 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, 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.

To the editor:

Here we go again. Some tribal members will try to blacken our name and cost us money out of spite for Delores Pigsley and some of the tribal members. I would hate to have them sitting on a jury if I ever had to go to court. Before they ever heard the facts, they would find you guilty.

I don't know where they come up with all the dollar figures when it never went to court. It did cost us for Delores to have to make the trips to Washington, D.C. (not her doing). If they want an audit, why not go back to the beginning and include the Council that was recalled and see where the money went while they were in office.

If they are still holding a grudge and don't have the tribe's interest at heart, go somewhere else. But stop trying to find fault with everything the tribe and Council is trying to do.

Sincerely,  
Wanda Melton

### LETTERS, DEADLINES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

All letters received will be printed except those that are slanderous or racist. Please type or write legibly. No profane language will be printed. The Siletz News and tribal government accept no responsibility for statements made in these letters. The opinions expressed are those of the individuals writing them. Letters of excessive length may be edited for length as approved by Tribal Council Resolution #96-142. **All letters must include your name, address, phone number, and signature.** Send letters to:

**Siletz News**  
P.O. Box 549  
Siletz, OR 97380  
541-444-8291  
1-800-922-1399, ext. 291  
Fax: 541-444-2307  
e-mail: [pias@ctsi.nsn.us](mailto:pias@ctsi.nsn.us)

Please note: The general manager of the Siletz Tribe is the editor-in-chief of Siletz News.

**Editor-in-Chief: Brenda Bremner**  
**Editor: Diane Rodriquez**

**Deadline for the October issue is Sept. 10.** Photos are encouraged. Everyone loves to see photos of events, tribal members, and especially babies. Don't forget those birthday or anniversary wishes for loved ones.

The newsletter is free to enrolled Siletz Tribal members. For all others, a \$12 annual subscription fee applies. Fill out this form and mail it with \$12 (make check payable to Confederated Tribes of Siletz) to Siletz News.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Change of address on your newsletter: **Tribal members** call Lisa Norton, enrollment clerk, at 541-444-8258; all others, call the newsletter office at 541-444-8291 and leave your new address with the editor.