

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the editor:

I am hopeful that the tribal election will present candidates who will have the insight to prioritize the development of resources and programming that can serve to help our tribal members acquire skills to serve as mentors or caregivers for our youth and elders.

I see a gap in services for our tribal members who are incarcerated or struggling with addictions and emotional dysfunction. I hope that we can find a way to provide positive support for tribal members when they transition from correctional facilities back into our community. There are numerous barriers and fears that need to be addressed. Community safety is an issue too, as well as accountability on the part of individuals who are released from correctional institutions back into our community.

I volunteer at the Lincoln County Jail to facilitate a talking circle-spiritual services for women. I take time to write letters to tribal members, sharing stories and spiritual messages that might help them to cope. I urge you to do what you can to help with this situation too.

I am pleased to share these words, written by my son, Chris VanDaam, regarding his intent and vision for the future: "I've sweated, I've been suffering for those who can't, and humble myself. I also try to follow what I say. I try to let go of my hate, anger, and jealousy of others. It is not easy, but I'm getting there. I pray for our family, myself, all the people and the earth, and I feel good. I want to be

able to carry on our heritage to the next generation.

"I want to be a leader who does not drink or smoke weed. I hope others will help and show pride in our heritage. I want people to come to me and ask questions on what they should do. The reason why I feel this way now is because of a talk I had at the sweatlodge with Tyler, an elder who is from the Klamath area. I know I have the tools to do these things. I just need to use them.

"I have memories of the Sundance in McDermott. I would welcome letters from others about our traditions, medicines, and tribal ways that can help me to help the people. Sending my peace, love, and respect. Sincerely, Chris VanDaam."

Please address correspondence:

Chris VanDaam #13960586
2605 State Street
Salem, OR 97310-0505

I also welcome your comments or ideas you might have about the content of this letter.

Respectfully, P.O. Box 586
Lisa Brown Siletz, OR 97380



To the editor:

I'd like to serve you by becoming a member of the Tribal Council.

Reasons

I'm very interested in the education of our people
In the health needs of all age levels
In the use of our land and other natural resources
In the continued economic development of our tribal programs; and
In our culture endeavors

Qualifications

Good speaking and listening skills
Ability to study a situation objectively and thoroughly
Physical stamina; and
Woman of integrity and conviction

Personality

Good disposition Happy
Even-tempered Honest
Thoughtful Prayerful

If these are what you need, I'm willing to use my background and talents to the best of my ability for and with you, my fellow tribal members.

I do want your and my dreams to be fulfilled so that we will be happy and proud to be members of our Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon.

Experience

Service on various boards and councils
Years of work with local, state, and federal programs
Involvement with both federal parties
Knowledge, firsthand, of the political system

Thank you for considering my service to and for you as we progress.

Florence Griggs,
AKA Sister Francella Mary



To the editor:

I would like to announce that I am a candidate for the 2004 Tribal Council election in February 2004. My name is Patricia Ann Butler Fredrickson.

I am a lifelong resident of Lincoln County. I've been employed at Chinook Winds Casino for the last six years. If elected, I will do my best to listen and support each tribal member.

My concerns are about the fishing and hunting, the elder care, education,

health care for each tribal member, and Chinook Winds. Our casino was built for our people to have jobs and health benefits. I would like to see more tribal members working for our casino.

Thank you for taking this time to read this. I'm looking forward to working with our Tribal Council.

Respectfully yours,
Patricia Ann Butler Fredrickson

Siletz News Letters Policy

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, 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*.

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Deadline for the January issue is Dec. 10. Submission of articles and photos is encouraged. Please read the Passages Policy on page 24 when submitting items for Passages.



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Change of address: Tribal members – call the Enrollment Department at 541-444-8258 or 1-800-922-1399, ext. 258; all others – call the newsletter office.