

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the editor:

I would like to congratulate the elected 2004 Tribal Council members Lillie Butler, Delores Pigsley, and Bud Lane. I also want to thank those tribal members who supported my candidacy for this year's election and the tribal members who took the time to discuss their tribal government concerns with me. This process was one of the most rewarding experiences for me this year. I realize that in our society we tend to disconnect on a daily basis and how important it is that we stay in touch.

It is my hope that our Tribal Council will strive to serve the general membership in a holistic manner, rather than continue to micro-manage the tribe's programs and services, especially the casino.

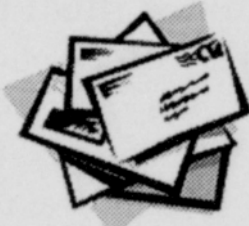
I am also concerned that our current administration and Tribal Council fail to acknowledge the need and importance of keeping an objective process for tribal members to voice their concerns. During the candidates fair, I suggested that the tribe initiate a forum to seek input from tribal members in order to evaluate program services. This information would assist the tribe to better serve the tribal membership and address continuing problems, establishing more objective procedures to evaluate the tribe's programs.

I sincerely hope that 2004 will bring a fair and consistent government to our tribal members. I also encourage tribal members to not become complacent with tribal programs or

their government when they encounter unprofessional and unjust policies. These issues need to be heard and addressed.

It is also my hope that the Tribal Council will consider scheduling the Tribal Council meetings back to Saturday and Sunday, posting the council meeting agenda on the tribe's Web site, and look at rotating the meetings throughout the four tribal service area offices. These practices would provide an excellent method of communicating with the tribal membership and encourage participation in the meetings.

Laurie Brown-Godfrey



To the editor:

At the January 2004 meeting, I was re-elected to the position of chairman of the Elders Committee. I would like to thank all of the elders for their support. It is an honor to serve and a responsibility I enjoy. We have a great budget for 2004 and I look forward to a successful year for our elders.

Sincerely,
Shirley Ben Walker
Elders Chairman



To the editor:

To my dearest family -n- supporters -

I would like to send my thanks and gratitude to my mom Lavonne and Leon, Aunty Loraine and Lavern, my cousins Misty, Angie, Bird, Lil' Lil', and Paul for all your support in the struggle -n- fight for our peoples and me against the system. Also for all your prayers for me in my struggle on the red road. It felt good and made me proud to see all the support. Forever movement of the resistance!

I want to make an apology to my family and loved ones for the pain I've caused. I also want to apologize for any shame and disgrace I've brought to our family name. I haven't given up nor do I plan to in my struggle. I love all of you so much for not turning your backs. We have a bit of a road ahead of us. I can just only use this time to make me stronger for tomorrow.

Big thanks and love to all of you for the prayers and support and also to the brothers and sisters behind the walls.

Last but not least, a big Happy 1st Birthday to my dearest son, Jaden Sage Butler, AKA Sage Jr.! I love you, son. Many prayers to all of you!

Shu Ashi Nuu La. Hum Chi'!
One Love,
Sage Prarie Dancer

To the editor:

This letter is in regard to what I think should be a cultural right for Siletz Tribal members.

Although many people might be aware that Siletz Tribal members are "permitted to gather saltwater mussels, rock oysters (paddocks), clams, and sea anemones in excess of the daily and possession bag limits within the geographical limits of the marine water areas of Lincoln County," gathering has been a custom of my family for years and we wish to continue with these rights in the future. My family (and a lot of others) would get these permits to be allowed to get as many needed for other tribal members, friends, and elders of the Siletz area.

My main concern is that we are required to obtain a permit for crab as of this year. Never before did our family have to worry about crabbing permits. Although it's not an expensive permit to obtain, I think that crab should be added to our tribal permit because it's a tradition for many tribal families to gather crabs in the bay area and distribute them among the community and, most importantly, elders who aren't capable of gathering.

It would be greatly appreciated by many people if crabs would be added to our tribal permit. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Respectfully,
Aldona "Rosie" Hall

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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