

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the editor:

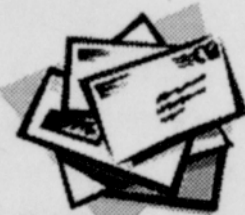
I would like to express my gratitude to all of you who supported me in the 2004 Tribal Council election. It was a close race. However, losing a tribal election after having received 330 votes is historical. I once won a Tribal Council election with 175 votes.

I especially want to thank my nieces, Gloria Ingle and Elaine Smith, for their support and for the wonderful buffet dinner they provided at the family and friends gathering in Toledo. Everyone enjoyed it. I can't thank you enough for your love and loyalty. I love you and appreciate you more than you know.

I also want to thank my daughter, Denise Jordan, and my niece, Lani Cordova, for working so hard on my election campaign. I love you guys. You and your telephone bills can take a much-deserved rest.

To the Rilatos family members who didn't vote, shame on you!

Phil Rilatos Sr.



To the editor:

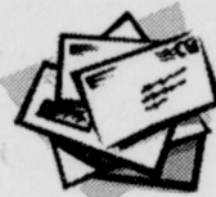
I express my sincere thanks for the votes received for my re-election to the Tribal Council and I appreciate the confidence that I can be your representative. I will continue taking tribal member issues before the Tribal Council. I pray that God will be with you and your families in the coming year.

I also encourage you to vote in your local and state elections. Many issues are coming before the tribe, such as U.S. Supreme Court decisions on tribal sovereignty rights and recommended federal budget cuts that will impact tribal programs. The tribe needs representatives who will work on tribal interests and your vote counts in your local and state elections. If you are not registered to vote in your state, the tribal newsletter has given you steps on how to register.

You can call the tribe's number at 1-800-922-1399 (ext. 203) and leave a message if you need to speak with me.

Thank you for your votes.

Lillie Butler



To the editor:

I would like to commend our tribal health clinic for creating opportunities for our tribal members to become aware of our diet and exercise. I signed up for the exercise challenge and the service to pay for visits to a local health club. It's been extremely beneficial in motivating me to get more physical exercise and to use weight-training equipment to do treatment for my frozen shoulders.

I would like to suggest that our Health Committee look into how we can gain providers for alternative health treatment methods. I'm speaking specifically about the practice of Chinese medicine and acupuncture. I've received treatment from the Grand Ronde Clinic and it's been a successful treatment method for my trigeminal neuralgia and sciatic nerve problems.

I hope that more tribal members will attend committee meetings or write letters speaking of their needs and solutions that you might be aware of for problems that are happening in our tribal organization and communities.

I frequently submit articles to our newspaper about programming available to address issues for members who are locked up in correctional facilities or for resources that can help us with community policing. I think it's very crucial for our tribe to focus on developing programming to help our members recognize behaviors that are adverse to their success and help us to become educated about these **thinking**

errors (http://www.choicesoforegon.com/thinking_errors.htm).

Our tribe has helped fund a parenting class, but the focus was on older children and we still need a class that teaches about the parenting of birth to 5 years of age. We have a community prevention group that does wonderful things for our tribal members – Siletz Valley Partnership (541-444-7310).

Our concern shows when we take the time to get involved. Our Tribal Alcohol and Drug program has a Transitional Living Center for recovering women and they have a Talking Circle on the second Wednesday of each month where women can go to find and give support. We now have a very clever article in our newspaper called "Ask Raven." What great accomplishments for our future.

I see positive things happening, but then I see drug use, domestic violence, and dysfunction. I want to make a difference. So I'm considering running for Tribal Council – please contact me with feedback – nadosh2@yahoo.com, P.O. Box 586, Siletz, OR 97380. What do you think, how do you think our tribal representatives should be interacting, with whom, and where?

Whatever we do, we must do something to speak out about our needs and the things we believe can help us with our recovery, whether it be from addictions, financial hardships, emotional trauma, or physical illness.

Respectfully,

Lisa Brown

To the editor:

I would like to express my appreciation to you, the Siletz Tribal Council, for your endorsement of the Rogue River Indian History Lodge. I appreciate the quality of leadership you have shown in supporting the lodge and all the things it could potentially mean to the Siletz people and the community at large.

I look forward to a cordial and productive relationship with you and with the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians as we all work toward a brighter future for our people.

Respectfully yours,

Rocky Hoiness

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 May issue is April 9. 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. 1258; all others – call the newsletter office.