

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the editor:

I am writing this letter to bring up a few points we as tribal members should consider about why maybe Tribal Council members should not also be employees of the tribe at the same time.

Let me first say that I respect Bud Lane and I think he is a good person. I have no problems with him or anyone else on Tribal Council.

I am afraid that if a person is on Tribal Council and also a tribal employee, we will have less control over their actions. For example, what does a supervisor do when his/her employee bends the rules or needs reprimanding?

Tribal Council still holds the ultimate decisions over funding, creating new positions, what gets passed, and what doesn't. I ask you, would you be afraid to reprimand an employee who you knew could withhold your funding for the next year? Or who could fire you, make sure your

program needs aren't met, or give you unnecessary amounts of extra work? It creates a conflict of interest.

I know that Tribal Council has its own set of rules on ethics, but just because the rules are there, it doesn't mean that they will always be followed. How can we guarantee that our council members who are also employees aren't going to take that power they have for granted? How can we guarantee that they will not show favoritism to their own programs and needs? We can't.

Again, I am not speaking of anyone in particular or saying that these scenarios will happen. I am just using examples for what are very real possibilities. I just want our tribal membership to consider this while we wait to see what happens next.

Respectfully yours,
Darcy Lal



To the editor:

This is in response to all the letters and commentaries in the newsletter about Bud Lane. Don't people ever stop and think before they say crazy things?

As long as Tribal Court has been in existence, **anyone** who worked for the tribe and wanted to run for council could have done the **same** thing Bud did! But apparently no one up to this point had the gumption to do so.

And what I find fascinating is that Bud, a normal everyday guy, represented himself in court against a "real"

attorney and was victorious! I think that lends a lot of credence to the validity of his challenge!

I think Bud should be commended and, quite frankly, I cannot wait to be able to vote **for** it being acceptable for tribal members to work for the tribe **and** be on council!

Our elders did a good job when they drafted our Constitution. But as was stated, that was **20 years ago!** Maybe it's time for those issues to be revisited and

To the editor:

I would like to thank the staff of the Portland Area Office (Katy, Toni, Connie, Verdene, Elizabeth, and Anna) for the **wonderful** surprise grandma shower that they threw for me.

I had purple balloons (my favorite color) and pink balloons for my granddaughter. They fixed all of the yummy food that I could eat (even chocolate-dipped strawberries!). And of course, all of the adorable little outfits and jammies, along with all of the neces-

sities too! It was such a surprise. You guys are good! Melissa, Casey, baby Jaiden Rose, and I all appreciated it.

I also want to thank the Vaughan family for all of the little outfits passed down from their adorable little girls and to Joni and Wayne Johnson for the neat baby lullaby CDs and mocha card for me! What a great idea!

You guys are all a blessing to me!
Rebecca Williams



To the editor:

I would like to extend my deepest and most sincere gratitude to those of you who voted for me in this year's Tribal Council election.

I would also like to congratulate Delores, Lillie, and Bud in their success in holding and gaining their positions on Tribal Council.

Though unsuccessful in this year's election, I will now begin my campaign for the 2005 Tribal Council election.

Thank you all again and I hope to see you soon.

Speaks Out Loud,
George F. Siniscal



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.

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Please type or write legibly. Letters longer than 450 words may be edited for length as approved by Tribal Council Resolution #96-142.

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