

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the editor:

My name is Robert Kentta and I am announcing my intention to run for a seat on the Siletz Tribal Council.

I have a deep respect for, and an understanding of, our history, culture, and tribal government. I also understand federal Indian statutes and case law. I know that our Siletz Tribal people have been wronged many times over. We cannot afford to pass up opportunities to have those wrongs righted.

At crucial times, our leaders have made decisions without a full knowledge of our tribe's legal rights and recognition of the negative implications that their decisions may carry for future generations. We need to institutionalize our claims to our treaties and rights contained therein. Those are the kinds of proposals you can expect to see me advocating, ones that build and strengthen our membership and our tribal sovereignty.

Many of you know me from my work in cultural programs and from participation in tribal events. I always try to pitch in and do my part, and conduct myself as well as I expect of

myself. I have always aimed to be fair, independent, and impartial in my decision-making. I have little patience for mean-spirited actions, defeatist mentality, and government stalled because of focus on unproductive pursuits.

Although our government has served many of our basic needs well and we have come a long, long way since restoration, I believe that sometimes it takes a fresh perspective and new energy to refocus tribal priorities, and this election is one of those times.

Through the regular campaign events and other opportunities, I will be sharing my ideas of what we can do to strengthen our tribal people. A stronger Siletz people is what makes a stronger Siletz Tribe.

Of course, I will be asking that you consider voting for me, but please listen closely to all candidates' messages and decide who you believe will serve the Siletz Tribe and its members' interests to the betterment of all. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Robert Kentta



TLC Attitudes of Gratitude

Christmas is just around the corner. As I write this, Thanksgiving is two and a half weeks away, but TLC residents already are talking about decorating for Christmas. Have to admit that lights and tinsel do tend to brighten up dark and dreary winter days. So soon, we will pull out the boxes to see what we have to work with.

We have been blessed by members of our community again this past month. Thanks to Angie Husburg and an anonymous donor for clothing items. Volunteer Alice McCain brought us six blood-red sedum plants. They will provide attractive foliage next summer and beautiful pink flowers that turn a deep, dark red in the fall. Now to get them transplanted ...

We received two food donations this month. Pam and Ray Ben donated two bags of frozen foods. The Logsdon community, through the Logsdon Store, provided us with two boxes of food items (we really appreciate the fruit and

the oatmeal!), two bags of hygiene items, and a box of chewing gum!

Angie Husburg and Bev Youngman brought us issues of current magazines to keep us up on what's going on in the world. We appreciate the support of these wonderful individuals!

Of course, those beautiful women whom we can't get along without – our much-needed overnight volunteers! Our deep gratitude goes to Denise Riding In, Jackie Ashley, Alice McCain, and Carrie White. They keep a feeling of strong security alive!

Also much appreciation to Jason Harrington, who does periodic checks to assure that all is well in our neighborhood. Thank you!

Hope Santa is good to you and you are good to your fellow man. Have a blessed Christmastime!

We still could use a few more good volunteers! Please call Lynn Whitlow at 541-444-8238 or 1-800-922-1399, ext. 1238, if you would like to give of your time.

To the editor:

Thank you to everyone who made donations to the Siletz Valley School Trick-or-Treat the Hallways. We were trick-or-treated by at least 275 children.

Also, a very big thank you to those of you who helped man the doors to hand out the goodies.

This type of event would not be possible without help from people like Jill Irwin, Melissa Butler, Raiona Hawk, Kris Whitehead, Mona Fisher, Felicia Carmona, Stephanie Rilatos,

Sherry Rilatos, Kassandra Rilatos, Savannah Rilatos, Karen Hatch, Spencer Hatch, Sage Hatch, Teri Nielsen, Darla Grove, Randy Grove, Maranda Garrett, Laura Henderson, and Bill Foster.

And an extra big thank you to my husband, Jim, for all of your wonderful help; and my children, Chris and Morgan, for giving up your own Halloween to hand out goodies to others.

Bonnie Crawford
SVS Board



To the editor:

I am writing as a tribal member. I attended the General Council meeting on Nov. 6, 2004, and as usual, one of the main tribal member concerns was Chinook Winds Casino.

I am greatly disappointed that the tribal chairperson is always stating that she does not interfere with the policies and procedures of Chinook Winds Casino and the Siletz Tribal offices. If the Tribal Council does not stand behind our tribal members, who will?

It's sad that our senators and representatives take the time to answer and deal with our concerns when our own Tribal Council does not do the same.

In my opinion, when a person(s) are in office or a job too long, they lose any kind of feelings for others. When one of my family goes to the tribal office and tells me they are not treated nice, I always get upset.

The ones who treat one of my family wrong don't have any room to talk. There are employees who have given their children away, are alcoholics, drug addicts, have police records, and then want to treat my family disrespectfully. Get real, you live in Siletz.

Another thing – we always hear we need money for programs. Programs do not benefit everybody. The Tribal Council takes \$200,000 from the casino for high-income people for fixing their nice homes, and then there are others who cannot get prescriptions or medical help due to no funding.

The tribal election is coming soon. Tribal members need to put block votes and family aside and vote who would be the best representatives for our Siletz Tribe.

Tribal member,
Joella Strong

Tribal Election Deadlines

4 p.m. - Dec. 22, 2004

4 p.m. - Dec. 22, 2004

4 p.m. - Dec. 27, 2004

Week of Jan. 7, 2005

4 p.m. - Jan. 28, 2005

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. - Feb. 5, 2005

4 p.m. - Feb. 5, 2005

Deadline to file for candidacy

Deadline to submit a photo and/or candidate's statement for inclusion in Tribal Voter's Pamphlet

Deadline to withdraw name from candidacy and not have your name appear on the ballot

Absentee ballots mailed out

Deadline to request a mail-in ballot

In-Person Voting - Tribal Elections, Tribal Community Center, Siletz

Deadline for returning absentee ballots

Candidate's Fair

Jan. 8, 2005 – Noon

Siletz Tribal Community Center