

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the editor:

Congratulations to our 2006 elected leaders – Reggie, Frank, and Jessie! Thank you to persons who supported my candidacy this year.

Some of the comments I received: "You are passing on valuable information that a lot of us do not have access to ...," "Calling a spade a spade, while honest, makes some people nervous ...," "Bureaucracy that is strangling the tribe and creates division between those who 'rule' and those who get 'services,'" "I appreciate your honesty and your integrity. Keep on going, you are doing fine."

I was saddened by the low number of ballots returned (only **46 percent** of voters' opinions represented, **54 percent of ballots uncounted** or not returned – this **doesn't** count the number of persons who were "**not registered**" or didn't even receive a ballot!). (This can change by printing list in December).

I hope we'll see "term limits" for council members – see minutes Grand Ronde General Council (they acknowledge what **every** tribal member says (listing roll #). (www.grandronde.org/council/meetings/general/10-09-2005.pdf))

Posting Tribal Council **and** committee meeting minutes on the Internet would allow members to ask questions about what was voted on, help us get from where we are to a more open honest governmental body, listening to, advocating, and sharing info with the membership.

I believe proposed **changes** to ordinances should **appear in our tribal news** 60 days prior to these changes being approved (In 1997, this occurred,

thanks to efforts of Ray Blacketer. Why did it stop?)

I look to Jessie Davis as the person who could make a motion to allow tribal members and **tribal** casino employees to attend Chinook Winds Board of Directors meetings, implement procedures that support our tribal Constitution in the treatment of our **tribal member** casino employees, and seriously look at our "Employee Conduct Policy," which violates our civil rights.

We have a right to speak about what we feel is injustice or no access to details involving our revenue from our casino, or how the revenue is being used to operate programs that provide services to our members. Our tribal members fear retribution, we have limited and at times **no** access to health care.

We must be proactive and in order to do that in the most efficient manner, we need access to information. Not **censorship**. Contact me 541-444-1290, 541-351-0003 (cell), or nadosh2@yahoo.com.

Don't allow tribal government officials or administrative staff to support **censorship**. Request admittance at meetings where decisions occur/determine outcome of **tribal member** financial resources and program services. Make certain your voice and concerns appear in the written minutes – others want to know what you think!

Omission of your perspective is censorship and is used as a method to control votes! I made a commitment and I'll continue to share with those persons and anyone who contacts me in the future.

Respectfully,
Lisa Brown

To the editor:

On 2/14/06 just shortly after 8 p.m., the heat at Chinook Winds quit working. There was no heat all night on graveyard and into the day shift.

At 10 a.m., the temperature was 58 degrees. The cage was using space heaters from the box office until they opened and took them back.

The finance director would not allow the cashiers to wear long-sleeve sweaters, only short-sleeve. The cashiers pay for those sweaters out of pocket for a reason, when it's cold. The cashiers were given little heaters to use, but when they were plugged in they shorted the breakers, shutting down equipment needed to run the windows. This of course forced the customers to leave.

Why was all that money spent on a new system and no backup? Why would management not allow employees to wear sweaters that the **employee** paid for to stay warm? There were cashiers working who were very sick.

I guess this is just another way for management to save money. I did not realize the employees could be treated any worse.

I can't say this enough – management needs to be changed, starting at the top! I wish that someday the general manager and everybody else would

realize that it is the **employees** who keep that casino running.

So why treat the front-line employees like dirt? I see employees away from the casino and all they can say is that Chinook Winds is the worst place to work, but the pay is good. The **pay** should not be the only reason people work at Chinook Winds! Besides pay, people want management that stands behind them and works **with** the employee, better benefits that don't get worse all the time and change with no notice.

Most of all, the unwritten policies, such as the cage manager's unwritten policy that does not allow cage supervisors to associate with cashiers away from work, yet the manager has supervisors and cashiers at her house all the time! Since when do the managers have control over the employees away from work?

It's not hard to see that if we keep certain members of management, the casino will be run into the ground. If only we can go back to the days when Chris Steinbach and Jim Lorson were both acting as general manager. But they were too knowledgeable and were let go.

George Blacketer



To the editor:

This letter is for Jimmy Kikumoto, Jessie Davis, and Dee Pigsley.

Jimmy, the lights on our casino are a disgrace and an embarrassment to the entire tribe. It makes my pride hurt.

You already know how I feel about standing in line. Change people used to cash tickets, a brilliant customer convenience. What happened? You wrote me a letter and said that you had an aggressive action plan going in place. When? I still have the letter.

Jessie Davis, I'm so glad to see you back on Tribal Council. Jimmy has everyone programmed not to look up. Bull dog and roughhouse the key away from him, jam it in his back, and wind him up good and tight.

Poor job performance, poor work habits, refusal to work are grounds for immediate termination. Explain that to him. Phil Rilatos? Please help Jessie and pay attention. **It's lesson time!**

Dee, I'm so disappointed in you. One personal letter, two letters to the editor. Ten, 11 months and not a single word.

On Feb. 4 at the General Tribal Council meeting and elections, you leaned over the table and called me and Bennie Brown the Peanut Gallery. I heard peanut real clear. Remember? Ask Bennie. Better yet, check the video.

I'm known for my smile and good manners, so as nice as I can, I want you

to know that I no longer support or back anything about you. No mail either, please, I don't like chain letters, Dee.

My name is Woody Muschamp and my local family history comes from a place called Lower Farm. Have you ever heard of Lower Farm or did you forget? It's down river from Siletz.

My mother, Gladys Muschamp, said that in the old days it went clear to the ocean. She also said that if anyone ever talked to you and they put **er** on **farm**, don't use (listen) your ears anymore. They're not from Lower Farm.

Please apologize to Bennie Brown. I don't want one nor will I accept one.

Frank Simmons? Tell my elder friends that I'll visit and eat with them in 2013 when I turn 65. I'll miss the bus rides the most.

Tell your elder friends "one down" – then give each other a handshake, **big, big hug**, include a smile ... it won't cost a thing. Get my drift?

Frank, I have a brand new overhauled heart, three months of re-hab. In 30 days, we pick up the pace.

True and Truer,
Woody Muschamp
Via Lower Farm

P.S. Please tell me, someone, what's wrong with a lowly janitor wanting the very best for our tribal casino and CTSI ... anyone?

2006 Charitable Contributions Advisory Board

The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians has established a Siletz Tribal Charitable Contributions Fund Advisory Board to distribute profits from Chinook Winds Casino Resort. The advisory board will consist of one Siletz Tribal Council member, three Siletz Tribal members, two non-tribal members from Lincoln County, and one member of the general public from the tribe's service area.

Term of office is three years. Siletz Tribal members interested in serving on this committee must fill out the following form and return it to the address below by April 28, 2006.

Please send your application to Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Attn: Kelley Ellis, P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR 97380-0549; fax 541-444-2307.

Name: _____ Roll Number: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone: (Day) _____ (Evening) _____

E-mail: _____

Tribal Council will review applications and approve appointments at its Regular Tribal Council meeting in May. If you have any questions, please call Kelley Ellis at 1-800-922-1399, ext. 1227, or 541-444-8227.