

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the editor:

I attended the council meeting where Dee Pigsley mentioned the need for youth to be involved in Tribal government. I recalled when I was Prevention Program Coordinator I tried to recruit youth ... to form a youth council ... since the time I left that position I've not seen a continuation of this goal. I'm hopeful that some youth, who are now young adults, remember the efforts they put forth ... they even sat in the Tribal Council chairs and discussed needs and actions. It was a start.

I've inquired about what benefits youth receive from the casino operation (as for elders). An equitable effort in this manner would be good. Data or statistics of how many youth are served/outcomes would be good info for Tribal members to see in our Tribal publication. Even more importantly, letters from youth would make a powerful statement.

There's much to consider. Marty Lockhart said (2/2005 General Council meeting), "If only we had a place for people who are misplaced".... a transitional program would be great ... not just for elders, but everyone. At present we as members have unmet needs in areas housing/health. It's impressive that we've recouped from third-party billing (\$902,626 - '07, \$1,081,208 - '06, \$918,960 - '04). Where or what this money goes for is the next question. I've been contacted by a significant number of members who would like to see chiropractic and acupuncture treatments available. At this time, Grand Ronde is the nearest IHS facility with these services and priority is for their members.

When I served on the housing committee, \$200,000 was set aside for an elders care facility ... much planning was expended ... elected leaders/administrative staff determined that it would cost too much to staff (specialized qualifications for staffing). I recommended an alternative plan ... remodel a building for a "senior center"... This money was reallocated for a different purpose rather than an elders care facility ... or a "senior center."

The key to these issues is input from tribal members, then planning, and then implementation to assure we meet our goals and objectives in a timely manner. That is the question ... needs ... resources ... implementation.

I offer thanks to "Lowerumpquapride" who posted comments on www.siletz.net. Constructive criticism isn't an effort to show disrespect for Council members. When I voice objections or opinions, it's not meant to be personal ... but rather to address principles of the decisions that have been made.

At this time, I and others are learning to agree to disagree and to have the opportunity to create dialogue/clarify what has occurred with tribal programs, funding and services. Please call or e-mail me if you have comments.

Yours truly,
Lisa Brown, CPS
541-444-1290
nadosh2@yahoo.com

To the editor:

This is in response to the tribal member who is in Oklahoma and thinks "out of sight, out of mind" is how the tribe thinks of her due to the computer denial. My daughter, son and I live right here in Salem. Immediately upon hearing about the available computers, we submitted our paperwork. Each one of us was denied as well as you. It has nothing to do with location. Think about it. Once the tribal employees hear and tell all their family and friends, we are pretty much "doomed" at that point.

Also, our family lived in California for 30+ years and received nothing from the tribe! In the latter years we were able to go to Indian Health Services clinics (and the tribe did not pay for that).

Cindy Jackson



To the editor:

Hello everyone. My name is Jolynne Clawson and I am the daughter of the late Geraldine Strong-Belgarde and the granddaughter of the late Mamie McDonald-Strong. I am also a Coffee Creek Correctional facility inmate. I am writing in hopes of encouraging everyone to let their voice be heard if they believe this affects them, theirs and/or ours.

The Dept. of Corrections has proposed an Administrative Rule that allows full discretion of "sensitive to" and "respectful of" when searching sacred items or grounds. They have omitted the legal term "probable cause" which then allows search based on "suspicious activity." It is my belief that these general terms need to be specific when desecrating, handling and searching these sacred items based on "suspicions."



To the editor:

This November, Oregon voters will have an opportunity to provide much-needed health care insurance for the more than 110,000 children without coverage in our state. Ballot Measure 50 gives us that chance. This is one of those rare opportunities for us to collectively do the right thing.

Opposition, however, is coming through a slick and deceptive barrage of brochures and TV ads paid for to the tune of over \$9 million by big tobacco companies, including Phillip Morris USA and R. J. Reynolds. Of course the tobacco industry opposes the measure. They are not, however, concerned about the state constitution (**a non-issue they are trying to convince Oregonians is important**). They are clearly hoping we'll swallow the bait. If we do, it will only

benefit tobacco industry stockholders. Our children will be left in the cold.

Check your voter's pamphlet when it arrives. You'll see that Measure 50 is backed by a bevy of distinguished organizations, including the American Cancer Society, Oregon Medical Association, Oregon Business Association, Children First for Oregon, Oregon Nurses Association, Stand for Children, Oregon AFL-CIO, Oregon Pediatric Society, United Seniors of Oregon, and more than 70 other established state and national organizations. For a good idea about who supports Measure 50, and why, go to the Healthy Kids Oregon website at <http://www.healthykids-oregon.org/>.

When Measure 50 passes, more than 110,000 uninsured Oregon children

will have access to the health care they are now without. At the same time, support for programs aimed at preventing the growth of tobacco use will nearly double. It is true that the cost of smoking will go up for smokers, but this will help diminish the tremendous drain on health care costs that their habit has left with the rest of us.

Don't be fooled by the slick and expensive tobacco industry campaign. Vote **yes** on Measure 50.

Sincerely,
Doug McKenzie

Editor's note: While the Siletz Tribe has not taken a position on Measure 50, we encourage tribal members and other citizens to vote in the November elections.

Nuu-wee-ya'

(our words)

Introduction to the Athabaskan Language

Open to tribal members of all ages

Siletz

Siletz Tribal Community Center
Nov. 6 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Dec. 4 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Salem

Salem Area Office
Nov. 13 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Dec. 10 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Portland

Portland Area Office
Nov. 14 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Dec. 11 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Eugene

Eugene Area Office
Nov. 5 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Dec. 3 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Tribal members who need help on cultural projects should contact the Siletz Culture Department. We can assist you prior to the language classes.

For more information, contact Bud Lane at the Siletz Culture Department at 541-444-8320 or 1-800-922-1399, ext. 1320; or e-mail budl@ctsi.nsn.us.

