

To the editor:

I would like to thank the Siletz Tribe for providing summer employment to Tribal youth. The Tribal Youth Education and Employment program is such a valuable program, I hope that it continues. Thanks also to Nick Sixkiller, education specialist, for helping youth get plugged into good summer jobs. I appreciate your hard work and dedication.

All three of my children were fortunate to participate in this program over the past few years. They weren't able to participate every year, but when slots were available. I have watched each one mature, become more confident and develop a good work ethic.

My daughter's first job placement was at a veterinary clinic (because she enjoys animals). She started as a kennel assistant. She eventually ended up working at the front desk with other receptionists, answering phones and greeting patients. She developed a friendship with the doctors and their families, which continues today. Another job placement for her was working for a company that develops educational materials. She enjoyed the work and gained important job skills.

My oldest son worked at a summer camp for a couple of summers. The

camp was located right on the scenic McKenzie River. He assisted with rafting trips and group games. He blazed trails, life-guarded at the pool, worked in the camp store, helped out in the kitchen and even frequently dressed up in a gorilla costume to entertain other youth. I watched him become more confident in himself, year after year.

My youngest son's experience consisted of working for our city, for two summers in a row, in the Public Works Department. He helped keep the city looking beautiful and well-maintained. His employment through the TYEE program ended in August 2008 and the city just recently hired him to work full time. He is ecstatic about landing a good job and is currently planning out his high school/work schedule.

I am a single parent raising three kids. I don't know how we would have managed without this important program. Not only am I pleased with the positive growth in my children, I just absolutely loved watching each one of them purchase their own school clothes and extras, and manage the money that they'd earned themselves! Again, thank you.

Adrienne Crookes



Dear Siletz Newsletter Readers:

I'm concerned in regard to the two publications in the September newsletter: Barack Obama's Principles for Stronger Tribal Communities and Welcome (John McCain's information). I would like to point out as probably many of you noticed that Mr. Obama's "Principles" mainly consisted of statistics, while Mr. McCain's information obtained from his website clearly stated the areas he has actually been involved with as it concerns Tribal people.

I would ask you, dear reader, not to be fooled by Mr. Obama's statistical knowledge or let that mislead you into believing he has true concern. Anyone



To the editor:

My name is Casinda Lane, I am a Siletz Tribal member working on my recovery. I was staying at "Amongst Friends," a transitional housing unit in Newport. It is a faith-based program.

I would like any Tribal members considering living there to understand that I was treated unfairly and they may have the same experience I did. They gave me a 72-hour notice to vacate because they said I had a bad attitude. I have a 2-year-old daughter and no family to go to. I had nowhere to live. The director gave out personal information about me and I feel I was treated wrong.

I am now in a temporary shelter and trying desperately to locate somewhere to rent that I can afford. Please be cautious if you are thinking about living there and know that this may not be a safe place to live.

Signed,

Casinda Lane

can quote statistics and that Mr. Obama does well in his information.

Two areas of concern:

One: Mr. Obama clearly tells of his lack of participation in his political career in regard to Tribal people, or he would have mentioned involvement.

Two: Mr. Obama's article leads me to believe that he wants more government control in Tribal peoples' lives.

For a people who've been trying (since the encroachment on your land, customs and beliefs) to succeed on your own separate from government control, it would appear that Mr. Obama would like nothing better than to in-

To the editor:

I'm so pleased the Tribal Council funded \$100,000 (minus \$20,000 administrative/fee) for alternative (acupuncture/chiropractic) services. Many Tribal members aren't aware of this or don't understand the services, so I submitted an article and requested info posted on the CTSI website. This funding is a change that speaks of progress for our Tribal leaders!

Access to these services is a step towards using traditional treatment options similar to ancient Tribal practices. A natural progression would be to fund naturopathic/homeopathic medicines/supplements. If you have feedback regarding results from this treatment, I'd be interested in hearing from you. Please visit www.siletz.net to view resources/comments of interest regarding alternative healthcare. Some good news - we have one Tribal member (New York) acupuncture provider! It's my goal that our clinic fund a position like this for our present/new clinic.

To the editor:

Every month in *Siletz News* is a notice that says, "Attention Siletz Tribal members. The gift shop is looking for Tribal members who would like to sell their beadwork in the gift shop."

After many unanswered voice mails over a 10-week period, I finally reached the Chinook Winds gift shop manager in late July. I told her I was a Siletz Tribal member and I have beaded bracelets to sell to the gift shop. She informed me that she doesn't have any money in the budget to buy anything until January 2009. She refused to look at the beadwork and told me to try her again after the first of the year. Another Tribal member who tells me that she doesn't get a response from the gift shop manager when she calls to sell her work has given up on trying to do business with the gift shop.

Chinook Winds is the primary interface between our Tribe and the general public. It's important to have Siletz Tribal members' work displayed there. If the casino is so strapped for cash that they can't buy a few beaded items from Siletz Tribal craftspeople, what does that say about our priorities?

Also, why does the notice continue to run in *Siletz News* month after month when the gift shop manager says she has no budget to buy members' work and refuses to return our calls?

Lynette Warren



crease funds for this, that and the other, thus putting your people further under government authority.

In conclusion, don't be fooled by statistics, truly research both candidates (Google both candidates and add Native American to their name). You might be surprised at the information you'll find (good and bad). Above all else, pray for God's leading in your decision. No matter who becomes our next president, as hard as it may be, pray for them and for our country as well.

In Him,

Kimberly Belgarde



It's been over 5 years I've campaigned for alternative medical services and change within our Tribal government/gaming enterprise. In the process I've received lots of constructive feedback, both critical and supportive. In retrospect I realize I've made mistakes for which I've openly apologized. As time has passed, I've changed my behavior. I can assure you I'm a hard-working student, dedicated to be the best I can in providing service.

I tend to view communication as a progressive action. I watch how TC members vote and how they do/don't answer questions. Our government is in dire need of a separation of powers, open scrutiny of attorney contracts and aggressive communication to seek Tribal members with the expertise and integrity to be of service to our Tribe. It is time to eliminate justification to keep information from members regarding financial endeavors, especially in cases where money has been lost.

My happy and great grandson,
Happy 7th Birthday, Kenneth Johnston Jr.
Love, Grandma J

Happy 7th Birthday to Kenneth Jr. "KJ" on Oct. 23. You're a great son and a good brother. May your wishes come true.

Love - Mom, Dad, Jon, Seth, TT and Nahayla and Sahayla

Happy 20-something to Rosa Mason on Oct. 24. We hope you take time this year to celebrate your birthday and have fun.

Love - Ang, Ken Sr., Jon, Seth, KJ, TT and Nahayla and Sahayla

Happy, Happy BD, my fun and great daughter, Rosa N. Mason
Love, Mom

Wishing my daughter, Miranda Descheenie, a very special day on Oct. 9.
Love, your Mom

We wish our sister, Miranda Descheenie, a very special day on Oct. 9.
Love, your brothers Billy Dee and Tylan Moore

To the editor:

Hello everyone, my name is Frank Simmons. I am your Tribal Council representative in which my term will be up soon. With that said, I am asking for your support for re-election in the 2009 Tribal Council elections.

Many accomplishments have been made by your Tribal Council and Tribal staff that are very transparent. Many new facilities have been constructed in Siletz. Funds have been distributed evenly to cover a lot of activities for the Tribal membership. We have good leadership and can continue on affording real needs for our people.

I humbly ask for your continued support.

Thank you,

Frank D. Simmons



I don't know how familiar folks are with the new CTSI website, but the "member only" section allows viewing of "resolutions," but no "supporting documentation" or dollar amounts for actions. This is troubling, but does allow a chance to get a glimpse of what TC/attorneys are orchestrating.

I welcome comments and suggestions. I assure you I'm committed to taking into account Tribal member observations and concerns, and I won't make you regret having faith in me enough to have cast your previous and future vote for me as a 2009 Siletz Tribal Council candidate.

Thanks again, I'm pleased to be able to communicate with you in this manner.

Yours truly,

Lisa Brown

Editor's note: The Tribal Council approved \$105,000 for alternative health care, with \$3,590 for administrative fees.