

Tribal members:

Please take the time to read this concern regarding the right to receive a tuition grant for a college education.

It's been over a year since my sister went before the Tribal Council at a General Council meeting with her concern regarding her son's tuition needs. He was offered a scholarship, a chance to play basketball and receive a good education at Linfield College. Once he accepted and had everything in place to begin college, they discovered the Tribe would pay up to a certain amount for tuition, leaving them to pay out-of-pocket \$1,000 a month.

When my sister approached the Tribal Council, comments were made and a small amount of concern was shown. She followed up with e-mails and letters even to the newly elected Tribal Council member, who commented, "I support not changing the Education policy at this time." Tribal Council has no intention of looking into this issue.

What's the issue? Linfield is a private college like some trade schools and with a reputation of an Ivy League college like Harvard, Princeton, Yale, Stanford – familiar names? This is a dream education for our Tribal member.

Is our Tribal Council not interested in supporting our high achievers by paying their tuition? What is the problem? Why can't there be a policy for our children to receive an education to the level they worked for?

This student strived for a 4.0 GPA in high school and took college courses. He worked hard for his grade average, impeccable study ethics and an outstanding athlete. Why? Because he has an educated mother and parents who know the value of an education and raised their son with the same value. Why persecute them for that; people do, jealousy, envy. It can destroy a dream and our future.

"Help to achieve to our highest potential," heard that somewhere? See under Purpose #4 in our Constitution. Isn't it our constitutional right to receive tuition expenses paid? Not living expenses, not housing, not transportation, not books or a computer. Tuition!

Our Tribal Council chooses not to support change in our Education policy to meet our valued high achievers' education goals.

Look hard at this issue; we have more than one Tribal member striving for self-sufficiency by pursuing his or her education to be a college graduate.

Thank you for taking the time to read my concern. Help make a difference, support change, election is near.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon Case

To the editor:

I am a Siletz Tribal member and a patient at the Siletz Community Health Clinic. I am sad to learn that our dear Dr. Haeg is leaving us! I am concerned because Dr. Haeg is a good and thorough doctor and good doctors are hard to come by. This is a travesty! It's really hard for patients to adjust to a new doctor, let alone for a doctor to become familiar with my health history and the patient ends up suffering.

I know that writing this won't keep Dr. Haeg here, but I just wanted my opinions to be known!

I feel the patients lose out on good doctors when our doctors leave.

I would hope in the future we have doctors as good as Dr. Haeg and the clinic works hard at keeping our doctors.

Sad, unhealthy, soon-to-be-sick, without a doctor,

Elaine Greene (Jackson)

Greetings,

With the United States fundamentally off-track in areas such as the economy, health care and the environment, I am running for the U.S. Senate to bring change to Oregon and Washington, D.C. American Indians are important to Oregon's rich past, present and bright future. With nine federally recognized Tribes, Oregon's first people are integral and vibrant members of the community. I will be a strong voice for Oregon's Tribes when elected to the U.S. Senate and will ensure that my work will enrich the American Indian community.

I have been and will continue to advocate for Tribal sovereignty. As Speaker of the House in 2007, I helped pass legislation that allowed courts to take judicial notice of the law, regulations and rules of any federally recognized Tribal government. I also voted to designate Tribal Councils of federally recognized Tribes as the local public health authority for management of parent and child health services.

My commitment to "land into trust" agreements was validated when I voted to transfer into federal trust specific lands acquired by the Burns Paiute Tribe. The law pertained to the Logan Valley Mitigation lands and the Malheur Wildlife Mitigation property, which the Burns Paiute Tribe was dispossessed of by the federal government in the 19th century. Passage of the bill made the lands inalienable without compensation and advanced Tribal sovereignty by recognizing the right of the Tribal government to exercise self-governance. I will also continue to support efforts between Oregon's Tribes and the Bureau of Indian Affairs to help Tribes reacquire lands in

I hope that Chrissy (Nov. 13), Charmaine (Nov. 14), Cheyenne (Nov. 14) and Ab (Nov. 29) all have a wonderful day on their special day.

Love, Nora Williams

Happy Birthday on Nov. 24 to Loraine Butler, the best grandma in the world!

We love you bunches – Vonna Voo, Joe Joe and Dean Bean

Happy 41st Birthday to my favorite cousin in Alaska, Roberta Patton.

Love ya, cuz.

Dear Tribe,

Thank you for the money, I have shoes! My mom says thank you. Now that I have new shoes I can run fast. I love my shoes!

Signed
Brendan Lal

trust, on and near reservations, for viable economic development and restoration of natural resources.

I believe accessible and affordable health care will end the devastating health care disparities in American Indian communities. Even though there is a higher incidence of illness among American Indians, per capita health spending by the federal government has been unjustly lower than in other communities. I will not stand for that inequality, which is why I will support reauthorizing the federal Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCIA), which will modernize health care services and deliveries, address behavioral and mental health, and allow for in-home care for the American Indian elderly population. I have always believed that competent health care services need to be comprehensive, which is why I voted to allow the Mental Health and Developmental Disability Services Division to contract with Tribes for establishment and operation of community mental health and disabilities programs.

As I look into the future, I want to further cultivate a strong relationship with Oregon's Tribes, characterized by dialogue and partnership. There are various areas where significant action needs to be taken by the federal government to provide a prosperous future to American Indians, such as education and economic opportunity, and together we can develop a roadmap for success.

For Oregon,
Jeff Merkley
Oregon House Speaker
Democratic Candidate for U.S. Senate

I would like to wish my wonderful daughter and son-in-law very happy birthdays. Mandi – Nov. 13 and Darrin – Nov. 23. Happy Birthday, kids.

Love, Mom

The best brother, Darrin Smith – Happy Birthday on Nov. 23, 2008. Hope you have a great one. I love you!

Happy Birthday on Nov. 13 to the best sister-in-law anyone could ask for – Mandi Smith! I love you, sis!

Happy Late Birthday to my cuz, Angela Martin! I love you.

Happy Birthday to Aunt Teresa Carpenter and Uncle Mike Tryon on Nov. 1. We love you both and hope your birthdays are wonderful.

Love, Felicia, Carlos, Aurora and CJ

Happy Birthday to Clarinda "Babes" Black on Nov. 21. We love you, sweetheart, and hope you get everything you want on your special day.

Love, Felicia, Carlos, Aurora and CJ

Happy Birthday to Karli Jay and Aaidyn Bakuro on Nov. 21.

Love, Felicia, Carlos, Aurora and CJ

Happy 1st Birthday to my husband, Aaidyn! Love, Aurora

Happy Birthday wishes out to my son, Coby, on Nov. 6. OMG! 20 years old!

To Tina Retasket – Happy Birthday on Nov. 27, 2008, Mom!

From your favorite daughter and Brendan and Sunny. Miguel sends his love too

Happy Birthday to my husband, "Heavydrop," a big 62 years old. Wow, does time fly. I love you.

Margo

Happy Birthday to my wonderful grandson, Josh Rilatos; my crazy sister, Tina Retasket; and my handsome nephew, John Pullam.

Love – Grandma, Sister and Auntie Margo

Happy Birthday to our greatest grandpa in the world.

Love, Trevor and Madison

Happy Birthday to Don Hudson on Nov. 17.

Love, your kids and grandkids

Happy Birthday to Joshie Rilatos on Nov. 3. Love, Auntie Maggie, Trevor and Madison

Happy Birthday to Tina Retasket on Nov. 27. Love from your favorite niece Maggie, Trevor and Madison

Happy Birthday to John Pullam on Nov. 28. Love, your cousins Maggie, Trevor and Madison

The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians urges all registered voters to be sure to cast your ballot on Nov. 4.

Make your voice heard.

Don't let this opportunity to speak your mind pass you by.