

Hello Tribal Members:

My name is Kurtis Barker and I'm running for Tribal Council. I am 25 years old, was born in Corvallis, was raised in Siletz, Ore., as well as attended school in both Siletz and Toledo. My parents are Don and Melody Barker of Siletz, though I am biologically related to the Washingtons and Kenttas as well.

I have worked for the Tribe the last three-and-a-half years. During these three years, I've worked in the 477 Self-Sufficiency Program, a program that benefits many Tribal families and adults.

Most of this past year, I've served as acting director of the program. While serving in this position, I have overseen an annual budget of roughly \$2.3 million, one of the largest yearly grants the Tribe receives.

Also, while serving in this position, I've been able to secure additional funds for the program. We were just awarded roughly \$63,000 to assist those families on our TANF Program and \$1,380 to assist our Summer Youth Program. These funds were awarded from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). For these reasons, I was awarded twice the "Employee of the Quarter" and once for "Outstanding Performance."

The last three years, I also served on the Election Board. This last year I served as Election Board vice chairman.

My passion in life is working with those individuals who are in the most need. It is my desire to be elected to Tribal Council so that I may see the things I hold so dearly come to light.

During elections, many campaign promises are made, but my priorities will include: working to improve the programs that provide direct services to Tribal members (specifically our social services), improve youth programs, work to create more economic development opportunities and look at more ways to provide services to those Tribal members living outside the 11-county service area.

Another one of my priorities is to create more opportunities for our youth to get involved with Tribal government. I would really like to see a youth council created. This could open the doors for so many youth who want to get involved and have a voice.

I want to thank the current Tribal Council, as well as the Tribal members that they represent, for giving me the opportunity to serve the Tribe in the capacity that I have.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. It is my hope to receive your vote for the 2010 Tribal election. If you have any questions, please e-mail me at kurtisbarker@hotmail.com.

Kurtis Barker

Happy Birthday to my baby brother, Jordan Hoover, and my baby sister, Nellie Carey! I love both of you guys very much!
Love, Sissy A.K.A. Sister Suzy

Happy Birthday to our cousins, Chayson Metcalf and Alicia Keene. Have a fun day!

Love, D-Money, Mia Moon, Cry-ee and Loren

Karli - Happy 22nd Birthday on Nov. 21. Hope you get everything you want. Have a wonderful B-day.

Luv ya, Mommy and Roger XXX & OOOs

Sister Karli - We love you and wish you the bestest birthday ever. You deserve it.
Love you, Robbie and Brynna

Happy Birthday to our favorite cuzzy, Clarinda Rose Black, on Nov. 21. We love you so much. Thank you for everything you do for us.

Love, Aurora and CJ

Happy Birthday to my babes, Clarinda! I love you as if u were my own! I hope you have a wonderful birthday. Thank you for everything you do for me and the babies. We love you so much.

Felicia and Carlos

Happy Birthday to Karlita Maelita Jaylita on Nov. 21. I miss you, friend. Hope your day is great!

Love, Felicia and family

Happy 2nd Birthday to our third Musketeer, Aaidyn Mohama Bakuro, on Nov. 21. We love you lots.

Aurora & CJ

Happy 2nd Birthday, Aaidyn Mohama! Ur growing up so fast.

Love you bunches n bunches, Felicia and Carlos

Happy 6th Birthday to Brianna Marzan.
Love, Mom, Dad and Pompa Kelly

Congrats to Delina on passing your tests! You're on the path to becoming a great counselor and advocate for your Tribe! We girls are proud of you and proud to say that you're the best counselor in the world!

From The Rehab Girls

Happy Thanksgiving to all our family and friends. We wish you nothing but love and happiness on this holiday!

Elaine and Tre Jackson

Happy 17th Birthday, Erica. We think you are the greatest answer to our prayers! Happy Birthday on Oct. 15.

Dad and Mom Wilson, grandmother Arliss Chatterson, birth father Jason Simmons and little brother Kaden Simmons

Teresa Carpenter - We hope you have a nice day on Nov. 1. We love U.

Randy and Nora W.

Oh happy days to Chrissy Rodriguez on the 13th and to Cheyenne Moore and Charmaine Hammett on the 14th.

We love you all - Randy, Nora, Tylan, Billy Dee and Donna

Ab (Gordon) Williams - We just wanted to wish you a happy day on Nov. 29. We love U, Randy.

Nora, Tylan, Billy Dee and Donna

Darlene Wood - We hope you have a wonderful day on Nov. 29. We love you, Darlene.

Nora and family

Happy Birthday to my partner in crime as teen-agers, Roberta Patten. I love you and miss you lots, Cuz.

Selina

See more Passages on page 24

To the editor:

I wish to express my gratitude for all community/Tribal members, staff/government officials who contribute to programs/events that enhance efforts for unity/healing. I'm proud to say I attended/assisted with the first Run to the Rogue. I cherish those memories/people I worked (Tribal Alcohol and Drug program staff, Frank Petersen and many others). To think it has been 15 years! I see commemorative list of all folks who attended and a blog for comments on impact/experience (for themselves/their family/community), combined with the newest resource, White Bison, could be a major factor in helping our Tribe/community to move toward a reality truly based in tradition/culture.

The four gifts in Sacred Hoop (cornerstone of White Bison.org) ring loud and clear:

**Hope, Healing, Unity,
Forgive the Unforgivable.**

I thank members/individuals who conveyed to me support/prayers during my process to challenge the expulsion action and moving on to Appellate Court. Also to all folks who helped me, especially in learning how to create/make audio/digital CDs of court proceedings available to/for members for court proceedings. I'm a firm believer of providing direct/quick/timely access to court cases/government decisions (541-444-1290 or lisab97380@live.com).

Immense gratitude to Robert G. Dickinson, Edmund Clay Goodman, George B. Stevenson, Appellate judges (Aug. 31), who reviewed details of the expulsion action. Unfortunately, they denied

my request to create digital recordings of proceedings. Court reason: digital recordings can be "fixed" (altered) and cost to transfer digital media (too expensive/they send it "out"). I disagree. Denial imposes hardship on members (timely access). Technology is outdated (most folks don't own cassette devices).

Some questions asked by judges I viewed as accrediting contentions I put forth demonstrating need for more specificity/detailed description/definition for the CTSI/TC Ethics Ordinance and conflict of interest/bias. My decision to bring this case forward may lead to setting precedents related to equal protection/due process and ICRA. A similar case presents an example: "... Judge James L. Robart said the Tribe violated the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968 ..." http://lawlib.lclark.edu/blog/native_america/?p=2395.

I hope for a more traditional way/process in the future instead of seeking punitive measures in court. I'm not a vindictive person. I love my Tribe and I continue working to serve the people for little or nothing. Money isn't important, but that doesn't mean it should be wasted. Our people deserve to know. Secrecy is not respectful when it's related to assets that are owned by all members. I welcome feedback and I assure you I'll continue to keep members informed. If the decision by the Appellate judges is not in my favor, I'll proceed to bring this matter to be heard in federal court. There are a number of cases, with similar concerns/criteria viewable at westlaw.com, www.narf.org/nill/bulletins/ilb.htm. For a detailed list, visit www.siletz.net.

Yours truly,

Lisa Brown, CPS

Tribal Members:

I would like to discuss the Constitutional Reform movement in Indian Country.

In 1994, the Tribal Council of the Goshute Tribe of Utah recalled Chairman Leon Bear for secretly negotiating a deal to store nuclear waste on the Tribe's reservation. Although Tribal members had officially replaced Bear and his officers through a Tribal election, BIA officials reinstated Bear, ruling that it was up to him whether or not to call elections. Bear remained in power, continued to negotiate the nuclear waste deal and was promptly seen around town in a brand new truck.

This is only one example of the danger of secrecy in Tribal government. Experiencing similar secrecy and corruption, dozens of Tribes have successfully engaged in Constitutional Reform, meaning they have re-written their Tribal Constitutions.

The constitutional form of Tribal government is widely seen as just the latest in a long series of failed policies forced on Indian Tribes by a U.S. Congress incapable of allowing Indian people to live according to their traditional ways. After 1934, Tribes that agreed to write constitutions were awarded federal recognition and access to long-term (revolving)

government funding. Tribes that chose not to write constitutions were given nothing. In fact, during the voting period, Tribal members who did not vote either for or against constitutions were automatically counted as yes votes by the BIA.

One thing all reform Tribes have in common is a "crisis" in Tribal government that becomes unbearable to the people. I have recently requested in writing that the Siletz Tribal Council prepare a referendum to appoint Constitutional and Judicial Reform committees. I have asked for this proposal to be voted on by the General Council at the next Tribal election.

One big problem that I see with the Siletz Constitution is the amendment process. Under our current structure, if the Tribal membership proposes an amendment to the Constitution, the council has the power to veto or deny it. I would like to see term limits for council members, but it is ultimately up to the same individuals who would be affected by term limits to decide the issue!

To read the rest of this article, you can find it posted on Siletz.net. I've been limited to 450 words here by Siletz News policy. The editor-in-chief considers this article to be my "opinion." I consider it factual.

Delores M. Riding In