

To the Editor,

I am writing this letter to hit on some highlights regarding what I have read in our newsletter recently in the "Letters to the Editor" section.

First of all, why does the Editor have to run these "hot" letters? This paper would be much more interesting if we didn't have to read various tribal members' defenses, personal opinions of controversial subjects, offenses, ways and means of discrediting the Council, subjects of conspiracy to influence tribal members against Council seats, and, last but not least, poisoning minds against people they don't even know. Tribal members also use this section for a big cover-up refuge for things they have said, done, or felt in contradictory behaviors they have had. This section of our newsletter has set many fires throughout tribal members with the negativity it contains. I can't really remember one time I have read a letter of someone complimenting our Council or Tribe.

As tribal members, we should respect Tribal Council members. They are an authoritative body who represent who we are. They represent our tribe to the Government of the United States, to the States and Communities in which we live. It is us, the tribal members who elect our Council. It is up to us to give them support, trust and respect. If we do not back them up and support them, we will eventually destroy everything our tribe has worked for since restoration. The negativity I read in our newsletters are all letters of condemnation with personal theories as to why our tribe is not mature as it should be. People should quit being nit picky and realize that this type of communication does not solve the issues. Voicing out as a critic continually only stirs up trouble. Council has been through turmoil lately, and when they have to focus on trouble and turmoil, it robs their time spent that could have been applied on something constructive. All this turmoil cheats Council's time together which could be spent for the good of the future of our tribal growth.

Our Tribal Council members need to start respecting each other so that their relationships as Council members do not hinder tribal progress.

Every Council election time, people start in with their "Letters to the Editor" for the major purpose of discrediting Council members they wish not to see re-elected. I know that many of you know what newly elected Council members go through, but for those who don't know, I would like to tell them some of the things that newly elected Council members go through. First of all, they have lots of reading and absorption of tribal business in every

aspect. If a Council member participates on a specific committee, he or she may need additional training (training the tribe pays for). Council members sacrifice lots of time and effort to give all they can for the purpose of the Siletz Indians. To become a Council member is far easier at the polls than that of giving of one's self continually.

I hope every tribal member who is able to vote, gets out and votes for the people of their choice. Personally, I feel that every Council member who is going up for re-election, gets re-elected. We need them and their experience in spite of what people make them appear to be. They are a good Council and I am proud of every one of them. They need a chance to grow stronger in their relationship as the legislative body who governs and represents us. Let's give them that chance at the election polls.

Pam Thompson



Baby News

Kyle Arthur Downey was born Sept. 14, 1985, in Salem, Oregon. He weighed 8 lbs., 15 ozs., and was 21" long.

Kyle is the second son of Patrick and Janette Downey. He has an older brother named Adam Patrick, now 2½ years old.

The proud grandparents are Roy and Charlene Downey of Salem, and Mary Downey of Redmond.

Kyle is lucky to have 28 cousins. Eleven in the immediate area and 17 in the Salt Lake City, Utah and surrounding cities.

Thank you!

I'd like to add that we read the "News" and feel you cover a variety of interesting subjects. We hope to see you on Nov. 17th at the celebration.

Sincerely,
Jeanette Downey

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

The Oregon Indian Education Association annual conference will be held on April 17-19, at the Newport Hilton. The OIEA local planning committee is seeking volunteers to work on various committees. These committees include: Steering Committee, Registration Committee, Agenda Committee, Publicity Committee, Entertainment Committee, Facilities Committee. Clerical and general help will be needed also. If you are interested in working on the OIEA Conference please contact Pat Darcy at 444-2526, Tina Jones at 444-2532, or Dean Azule at 393-3903.

ELECTION TIME AGAIN!!

ABSENTEE BALLOTING

Tribal members wishing to vote absentee must apply for an absentee ballot. Applicants must sign the request for absentee ballot and return it to the Election Board (this signature will be compared with the signature on the outer envelope when returned). Tribal voters' printed name and signature must be the same as on the official tribal rolls. Requests for absentee ballots must be received by the Election Board in sufficient time for absentee ballots to be mailed to the voter to complete them, and return them to the Election Board no later than 4:00 p.m. February 1, 1986.

APPLICATION FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT

I, _____, am an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, 18 years of age or older on February 1, 1986, and wish to have an ABSENTEE BALLOT sent to me at the following address:

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Signature _____

Roll Number _____ Date _____

Requests by mail should be sent to the address below as soon as possible:

Confederated Tribes of Siletz
ATTENTION: ELECTION BOARD
P.O. Box 549
Siletz, OR 97380

Candidates For Tribal Council

1. Mary A. Fisher
2. William Towner Jr.
3. Marcella Faye Butler
4. Jane I. John
5. Alta L. Courville
6. Arthur S. Bensell
7. Marita Selene Brandt
8. William DePoe
9. Delores Pigsley
10. Mike Berry
11. Edward L. Case
12. Sharon Butler
13. Joan M. Washington



In the past, travel distance and weather conditions has had limited participation in tribal elections. This year the Tribal Council amended the Election Ordinance, adding polling sites in the Salem, Springfield, and Portland areas. Tribal members can vote as follows:

— In the Portland Area on Tuesday, January 28, 1986 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Saint Ignatius Church, 3400 S.E. 43rd Avenue.

— In the Springfield Area on Wednesday, January 29, 1986 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Springfield Area Office, 1293 N. 18th Suite B.

— In the Salem Area on Thursday, January 30, 1986 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Salem Area Office, 4821 River Road North.

— In the Siletz Area on Saturday, February 1, 1986 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Siletz Central Office, Government Hill.

To be eligible to vote you must be an enrolled tribal member and at least 18 years old on the date of any scheduled election. In mid-December, the Election Board will mail an Election Newsletter to each eligible voter. This issue will include photos and information submitted by Council candidates.



Voting Pitfalls

The goal of the Election Board is to encourage each and every tribal member to exercise their right to vote. The following are a few of the pitfalls that keep tribal members from reaching that goal:

1. Missing Deadlines — Some ballots are handed in to the area offices or mailed too late to reach the Siletz tribal office by 4:00 p.m. on the election date. Remember, only one delivery of mail comes to Siletz each day and all absentee ballots must be received by 4:00 p.m., February 1, 1986.
2. Not knowing where to pick up absentee ballots — Applications are available at the Siletz, Salem, and Springfield tribal offices or by mail from the Election Board during regular working hours until 5:00 p.m., January 31, 1986 (the last working day prior to the election).
3. Not Matching Signatures — Many people either forget how their name appears on the tribal rolls or sign the outer envelope one way and the absentee ballot application another. If you are unsure of how your name appears on the tribal rolls, contact your area office.
4. People wanting to pick up absentee ballots for elders or handicapped persons at home on the day of the election — Remember, 5:00 p.m., January 31, 1986 is the last day to pick up absentee ballots.
5. Forgetting to enroll as a tribal member — Anyone 18 years of age on the date of any scheduled election is encouraged to vote, but their name must appear on the tribal rolls.
6. Getting the envelopes confused — In spite of specific instructions and diagrams, many ballots come in incorrectly. Please read the instructions carefully. If you have any questions contact your area office or the Election Board.
7. Voting for too many candidates — Ballots have to be rejected if too many votes appear on the ballot.

