

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To Tribal Members:

I was really disappointed and hurt after reading the minutes of the April 21 council meeting regarding my participation with Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) and the Commission on Indian Services.

ATNI membership is comprised of representatives from the tribal governing bodies or their designees of almost all the tribes in the Pacific Northwest. Article 5, Section 4 (Basic Qualifications of Officers) of the Constitution of ATNI states: "A. Persons who are elected President or Vice-President must be members of their respective Tribal governing bodies. B. The Treasurer, Secretary, and Assistant Secretary need not be members of their Tribal governing bodies, but shall have their sanction. C. Tribal governing bodies are expected to pay the expenses of such officers attending meetings and conventions of this organization." In August, I was elected Secretary of ATNI by a majority of the delegates for a two-year term. At the very next Council meeting I announced my election and was congratulated by the members of the Council.

When I lost my re-election campaign for Council, I immediately wrote to the Council (February 5, 1990) and requested that they consider continuation of funding support for travel to ATNI meetings. I was fully aware that the travel budget was constrained, but I assumed that I would receive a letter in response. My intention was to bring this matter before my employer as well as the ATNI Executive Board to request assistance. However, I did not receive a letter in reply to my initial request to the Council. On April 11, I again wrote to Delores Pigsley "urging the Council to respond in writing to my request for travel while on ATNI business." When I finally received a response one week after the General Council meeting on May, I was able to discuss my situation with my employer and have been reimbursed for travel for an Executive Board meeting just last week in Toppenish. From February through May, I have had to pay all my expenses, but had I received an answer from the Council in a timely manner, I am sure my employer would

have been generous enough to pay my expenses during this time period.

I Fully intend to fulfill my commitment of the two-year term for which I was elected. Even if my employer did not stand behind me in my work with ATNI, I am personally committed to devoting as much time and energy as possible to fulfill my duties. Those of you who were aware of the work I had done while on the Council and as a STEDCO Commissioner know that I don't take my commitments lightly.

As for the Commission on Indian Services, I was recommended by the Tribal Council and appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House for a term of two years. I had assumed that the Council would recommend another representative to replace me, which they did. As a matter of fact, in my letter of February 5 to the Council, I stated, "If the representative who replaces me wishes some background information, please have him/her contact me." In response to the letter from the Tribal Council indicating the change, the Commission on Indian Services received a letter dated March 12 and signed jointly by John Kitzhaber, President of the Senate, and Vera Katz, Speaker of the House, which stated that "we do intend to maintain the statutory requirement for a two year term, however, whenever possible." After reviewing a copy of the letter, I wrote to the Tribal Council to inform them that I felt obligated to continue serving my term, which expires December 31, 1990. Initially, however, I did not ask "To remain on the Commission on Indian Affairs (Services)" as stated in the minutes.

Incidentally, the travel for the Commission meetings is paid by the State of Oregon, so, again, this is a misstatement in the Council meeting records, "Council agreed that when elected to a position on ATNI or the Commission on Indian Affairs (Services) you are committing the Council to fund your travel..."

I hope I've clarified the situation, but if any Tribal members would like more information about ATNI or the Commission on Indian Services, please call me at (503) 238-0667 or write to me at 975 S.E. Sandy, Suite 202, Portland, Oregon 97214.

Sincerely,
Pat Morrell

An Open Letter to Tribal Members:

I just received word that the case of the fired tribal newsletter editor will get a hearing before Tribal Court. The date is July 30, 1990 (a Monday) and the hearing will start at 1:00 p.m.

It promises to be both informative and fun. Did Tribal Council meet in an illegal session for the purpose of censoring the newsletter? Do tribal members give up their right to freedom of speech when they accept employment with the Tribe? Did the General Manager issue illegal orders to the editor? Can probationary employees be fired for no reason (say having the wrong hair style)? Has the General Manager and the Tribal Council Chairman lied about the circumstances surrounding my firing?

These are just a few of the questions raised in the case. If you're interested in hearing the answers, be there on July 30th. Proceedings in Tribal Court are open to the public. You all have my personal invitation to attend the hearing.

Andy Viles

To My Dearest Brother:

We hope you had a Wonderful Birthday! May you have many more to come.

Love Ya,
Angella, Robby, Dale
and William

BABY CROUCHER

Bret and Bekki Croucher are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Rachael Lanae. Rachael was born in Eugene on Mothers Day, May 13, at 4:50 a.m. At birth she was 20 inches long and weighed 7lbs, 7oz.

Her Grandparents are Dan and Rita Lundy of Eugene and Frank and Joan Croucher of Libby, Montana.

Rachael joins a brother, 4 1/2 year old Bret Jr.

BABY MARZAN

Proud parents Robert Anthony and Maggie Marzan would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Ashley Pearl Smith Marzan. Ashley was born June 12 at 7:00 a.m.

Ashley's Great Grandmother is Pearl Rilatos and her Grandmother is Mary Marzan. John Marzan Sr. is her Grandfather.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

Donna Kessinger, We would like to wish you a very Hippy, Hippy Birthday and lots more!

Forever & Always,
Your Favorite Cousin, Wanda Belgarde; Your Friend, Sharon Butler; and Your Daughters, Lodynn Mackaravitz & Terri Burke

CONGRATULATIONS!

Alex Flores, I'm proud of you for graduating from 8th Grade at Mountain Empire Junior High.

Eddie Flores...fantastic job....student of the month and perfect attendance at Clover Flats Elementary, Boulevard, California.

Proud of You,

Mom

"THANKS" FROM RANDALL BUTLER

Hello, I am Randall Butler. I am proud to be the son of Alton N. Butler, Siletz Tribal member and Lois Butler, Grand Ronde Tribal member. I graduated during school year 1989/90 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Psychology from Western Oregon State College in Monmouth, Oregon.

I would like to thank the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians for giving me support the past five years, and a special thanks to the Salem Area Office personnel for giving guidance, emotional support and friendship.

Education has given me opportunities of looking at many different roads of life. One road is to learn more about my people, the Indian Nation as a whole. We are beautiful and unique people.

May the great Spirit bless us all.

Thank You,

Randy Butler

Note from the Siletz Salem Area Office: At this time, Randy is employed by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde as their Outpatient Counselor for their Drug and Alcohol Program. Congratulations Randy!!