

Phil Rilatos' Council Member's Report

By now you know about the Tribe's entry into gaming. That has not come about easily. Several years of negotiations, lobbying, hundreds of meetings, and the dedicated efforts of the Gaming Committee led by the Tribal Chairman Delores Pigsley and Vice Chairman Jessie Davis. As a result of all of their efforts, the Tribe is on the brink of seeing a 140,000 square foot convention and gaming center become a reality.

What does all that mean? It means, for the first time ever, the Tribe can have the money to pay for the much needed health and human services for ALL Tribal Members; to finally afford to provide the services to our people that we have always talked and dreamed about; homes for our homeless; food and medical care for our poor; education, health an comfort for our Elders and the handicapped; jobs; and the list can go on and on.

This is not just going to pop out of the ground. There is still much to accomplish first. The Tribe has survived several crucial efforts: getting a bill passed in Congress; getting a compact signed by the Governor; getting funds to pay for it all, to name a few.

The Tribe is in the middle of some extremely important negotiations right now and tribal government continuity is a must. The current Tribal Council are all working together and are all "in tune" with current and future developments. It is important that the current Tribal Council remain in tact. If you read the newspapers you will see that the Siletz Tribe must maintain a strong, united organization. Dee, Dolly, and Jessie are major players in the economic development efforts of the Tribe. To replace them now with three new members, with all the important negotiations that are taking place and scheduled to take place could result in disaster.

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to know that if any organization/corporation loses it's three top officers, that organization will be in trouble and will digress because it takes time to rebuild, time that the Siletz Tribe doesn't

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have right now.

Don't let anyone blow smoke at you, Dee, Dolly and Jessie (the incumbents) are top performers for the Tribe, they always have been and always will be, because that's the kind of people they are. I have worked with them for over eight years. I know what they have done and what they can do. They are dedicated to the future and the betterment of our Tribe. They have spent thousands of hours of their own time on Tribal business and have spent a lot of their own money performing tribal business.

So, to my friends and relatives and the ones that supported me, that trust my word that I will always do what I say I will do, I urge you to vote for and reelect Delores Pigsley, Mary Fisher and Jessie Davis. The Tribe needs their leadership. You may not like them individually for one reason or another, but I can assure you they have the betterment of the Tribe and all of it's people as their number #1 priority.

Phil Rilatos, Sr.

Rosemary Breon Landis Council Member's Report

One of our duties for the year was to keep General Council informed of our activities by writing a monthly report for the newspaper in addition to our time sheets. For the January issue, I would like to depart from the regular format (I'm trying to forget the airplane ride to Albuquerque for the National Indian Health Board meeting even though it was an excellent flight). I try to put aside my own fears for the benefit of the Tribe.

Due to our Council meeting, I missed the Portland area Christmas party, but I heard glowing reports about the excellent job Tami Hickel and crew did organizing the party. I was able to attend both Salem and Springfield's parties and would like to commend both office's staff for their fine planning and spirit of giving. I hope that each of you had a happy holiday and that you are looking forward to the opportunities and challenges that are ahead in the new year. Whatever is ahead allows us two choices, we can become better people

or we can become bitter people. It is my prayer that as a tribal community, we will choose to become better and better. Each and every one of us regardless of age is important and by working together, each one of us supplies a needed component to our Tribe becoming whole and prosperous. Happiness doesn't depend upon money although some say that it helps!

More economic development will occur in 1995. Lincoln County will prosper along with us once the Chinook Winds Gaming Center opens.

When I went through the ONABEN Business classes, provided by

the tribe, I chose the mission statement "Promoting Our People to Prominence". Carrying this same philosophy as a Council Member helps me remember that our continuation as a people and our Governmental Sovereignty must remain as my priorities. I encourage you to talk to me if you think I'm beginning to miss the "good path". My motto is, "only our Creator is perfect."

Another observation--your elected Council needs General Council input. If you have not taken part in a quarterly General Council meeting, February 1995 would be your first opportunity to do so.

Attending the regularly scheduled Council meetings on the 3rd Saturday of each month also affords General Council members the ability to obtain a more complete picture of Council business than the approved minutes can provide. However, only a few tribal members have visited our meetings which usually last over nine(9) hours. The agenda is always posted at the area offices five days before the meeting, giving you the option of only attending the discussion which interest you.

My last area of encouragement for a better year is the 1995 February election. Now is the time to get registered and have your signature card on file. You should have received a voters pamphlet with a listing of all the candidates. If not, call 1-800-922-1399 and ask for your copy. There are eight fellow tribal members who want to give of their time and energy to serve the Siletz Nation -- only three (3) will be duly elected. An informed electorate is where the real power resides within our Tribe. Read the voters pamphlet, ask questions, and please vote.

Have a prosperous and Happy New Year!