

Letters to the Editor_____

PORTLAND AREA INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

Howard:

Just a note of thanks to you and the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians of Oregon for sponsoring Ms Estes, and in the past, other members of other Tribes. Your timely and enthusiastic response over the years has made it easier for the Indian Health Service to provide sanitation facility assistance to members of all Tribes in your service area, helping us to help improve the health of Native Americans. We appreciate your assistance.

Thank you much from all of us here in the Division of Sanitation Facilities Construction - John, Kelly, Rich, Mike et al.

Sincerely,

Dave Hunt
Engineering Tech.
Sanitation Facilities
Construction

THANK YOU:

This is to say a special "thank you" to all the staff in the Portland Area Tribal Office for all their assistance and support to Tribal members in the Portland Area. All of you do an excellent job and it is greatly appreciated. God Bless All of You!

Tony Martin, Crystal Baker & Family, and Adolph Tronson.

HAPPY 1st BIRTHDAY!!!!!!

Keith Michael Hutton.
Son, we love you with all our hearts.

Mama and Dada

From the Editor:

In May's Newsletter we listed incorrectly the names of two players on the NAYA Wolverine team. My apologies to Richard Loy and Kenji Loy for the misprint.

Dear Tribal Members:

My name is Erin O'Haver, and I am a new member of this community. Along with my husband, we have become involved in community projects, such as Siletz Valley Partnership. Also, my husband works for the Tribe as Director of the A & D Program, and both of us are committed to helping all people live clean and sober lives.

I want to thank the Tribal Council for all their support and generosity in helping the various social functions that we have been involved in. While I can't speak for other events, the two that have been important to me, the Honor Party we have every quarter for our middle school and high school students, and the Easter Egg Hunt were supported very heavily by the Tribe. I am so pleased at the level of commitment and the generosity shown by the Council. Our children have greatly benefited from this commitment, and while it has sometimes been daunting in getting other businesses to get involved, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz have been wonderful. When anything has been provided for our activities, it is always done with panache and grace, very rare attributes in this crumbling society.

I am so proud that once again it is the first Americans who show us the way to making a better future for all our children, of all races in this community. I hope that you are aware of how empowering these activities have been for the community, and also in encouraging sobriety and recovery. I am non-Indian, but certainly know that suffering and addiction cross all racial and cultural barriers. We must all continue to work together to help each other and improve our community.

Sincerely,
Erin O'Haver

Dear Editor,

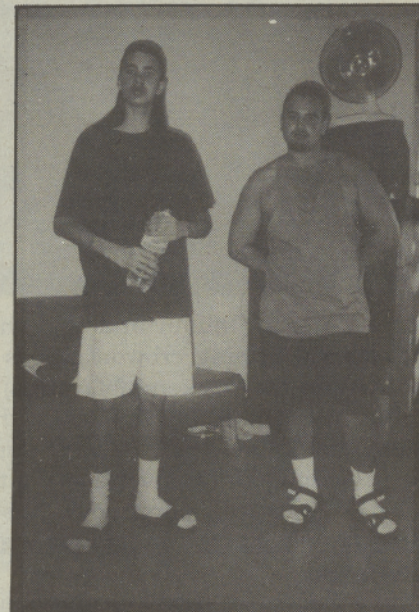
I am writing this letter is reference to someone who spoke at the Tribal Council Meeting in Salem on May 4th. Don Hudson got up and addressed the subject of hiring Tribal Members for certain jobs with the Tribe and at Chinook Winds. Actually, NOT hiring them! I was under the impression that Tribal Members were to be chosen above non-Tribal Members. I don't know the figures but it seems like more and more I'm hearing that there are more non-Tribal Members being hired.

I've also heard that this seems to be happening because there is a high rate of "problems" in the lives of Tribal Members. I would be the first one to agree that if someone has a drug and/or alcohol problem they should get help before getting hired. However when someone shows that they are trying to help themselves, then they should be able to count on the Tribe to help them also.

I think it took a lot of courage for Don Hudson to go before the Council and all the spectators and let the first words from his mouth be that he IS an alcoholic. Anyone with any knowledge of the alcoholic or a 12-Step Program knows that it takes A LOT to even admit there is a problem and to know that problem will not be cured but can be handled one day at a time. Without going into detail, I personally know that Don Hudson has taken some major steps recently to deal with his "personal" problems. I admire that. It's not for us to sit back and judge whether or not people are "clean and sober" or whatever else their problems are. It's just for us to stand together and help one another. And SUPPORT one another. Let's not play "psychologist", let's just give people a chance. If they succeed, then great.

If they don't then at least they know they were given the chance by the Tribe.

Cindy L. Hill



To The People:

Thank you to all the ones who believe in our boys. I am very proud of both of them. Paul and Rusty will graduate this month. They have worked very hard for this honor. Rusty is 17 years old now, Paul is 16 and plans to take some college courses in Forestry.

Let your children know that you love them, believe in them and stand by them. This is so important to them as they grow. Give them a hug or a kiss on the cheek, or just tell them, "I love you, I am proud of you, keep up the great work."

I give thanks to the Pipe Carriers for our Lodge Sweat, with many prayers. There are so many people to thank: our Tribe for being there for the boys when they needed wood; the Lakota Club for their strength and prayers; Grandpa, aunts and uncles who are always there to share their love and kindness.

We Love You All
Sylvia, JR (Paul),
Jacob & Sarah

Congratulations Shu Shul

Love,
BJ, Chelsea & Aaron