

Letters To The Editor

Council, 10-25-97

I commend and thank Joe Ann Miller for her concern over my mother's situation. At the Salem(9-27-97) meeting (lobby) she asked how's Gladys handling her ordeal? She takes her position serious and works hard at it. JoAnn and her type I would gladly follow BLINDFOLDED. Some of you I have serious doubts about. I will get to the point and I will be nice about it. I PROMISE I won't put anything on you that isn't already there. You brought this onto your self.

On 5-27-97 I went to the home of Reggie Butler with my concern. His reply was, I don't know any thing about it, go up and see Lillie, she'll help you. He obviously knows nothing of my concern. Lillie Butler reply (sameday) was, that's not my dept. go down stairs and see Mike Kennedy. I'd like Lillie Butler to know that all tribal memberships concerns, big or small, ARE HER DEPT. On 9-29-97 I personally drove Clifford Case to the property in question, highly stressing my concern. His reply was, were going to show this — how to play hard ball. I ask you Council, just how many hardball lessons does Joe Trask have to give you? #1. Be there on game day or lose.....you lost(lost prop)

#2. Be a good loser.....you are not.

Joe Trask obviously worries more about my mother's situation more than you do. What a blessing. He makes trade offer (you request) he wants the SMALLEST, DEADDEST, most TOXIC peace of property we have..... He is willing to trade perfectly good property (slightly smaller) for this little piece of poison. you say.....Absolutely not. Our forefathers would of made the trade in a blink of an eye. The elder in question would never know, not for a second, that a situation was at hand. Shame on you Council for ignoring and abusing our finest tradition. I remind you In Indian country, we love, honor, cherish and above all we protect our young and old. SHAME, SHAME. Please reconsider the Joe Trask offer? He still wants to work with you. Please.

To further distress my 81 year old mother's frightening and traumatized situation constitutes recall. Action that will be too good for you. Banishment and dis-enrollment should be considered.

A very special thanks goes to Terry Fisher and his lifetime estate work. Without you, all would have been lost from my heart....I thank you.

I've never ever been in trouble for being honest and truthful and don't expect to. I love you Mom, and hope the coming Holidays bring you much joy and happiness. Pressed for time and space here. The little lady and I have a concert to go to. Thank you Council and GM for ticket pool. A plea to ball players, especially hardballers, your vote is needed. We need to get back into the growth mode. All calls welcome, all calls recorded. Happy holidays to each and all. Woody Muschamp

Dear Tribal Members.

On October 19, 1997 during a tribal council meeting, Bristo Bayya a tribal member and a tribal employee screamed and cussed at Reggie Butler and Geneva Johnson. Reggie and Geneva are elders, I guess the days of showing respect to our

elders is long gone for some. I have been to Tribal Council meetings for years and have heard lots of heated disagreements but never this kind of hatred. In the audience were Mr. Bayya's wife, Kristi Bayya, and her cousin, Bonnie Peterson. Both sat laughing at the remarks of Mr. Bayya. Bonnie Peterson plans to run for council. Because of this incident I would like to comment on a few of the remarks made by Bonnie Peterson and others in our Tribal Newsletter. The Tribal Newsletter Editor, Ray Blacketer is grossly misinformed or grossly one-sided. He is using the Tribal Newsletter as a personal vehicle to express his personal and political views. If he wants to write his own newsletter then he should do so on his own time and with his own money. I would suggest Ray's Rag Tabloid special. The allegations from that several of the Tribal Council members do not believe in integrity, dignity of the tribe or the preference of hiring tribal members are seriously mistaken. Bonnie Peterson's article talks in length about employing tribal members, although her husband is not a tribal member and has enjoyed employment with the tribe for many years. Dolly Fisher recently wrote a letter talking about the \$ 50,000 dollars worth of training her son received that was wasted. It is my understanding that he is doing a very good job. Many tribal employees cannot receive \$100 dollars worth of training. And as for the letter from Frank Simmons presuming to speak of "traditional values" of the tribe, Frank, are you of the tradition values? I'm afraid that the stories of the glorious old days are just that: stories. The tribe has been given a lot by the Government. The truth is that gross mismanagement has been going on for a long time. Often I am asked about per capita. A few years back the tribe had over 7 million dollars worth of stock and bonds mostly from the sale of our timber. Many of the recently elected Council members wanted to distribute that money to tribal members. What they were told was that most of the money had vanished into "gaming". The stocks and bonds were tribal members asset's. Why were we not informed? Change is difficult but necessary. If not for change, our money would still be vanishing without anybody held accountable.

Tribal Member Kevin Johnson.

Tribal Members,

As I was scanning through the tribal newsletter, I saw where Phil Rilatos interviewed for the position as General Manager for the Siletz Tribe and didn't get the job. I understand that he is requesting a hearing in Tribal Court. He is trying to overturn the decision on the applicant that was hired. Why is Phil doing this? I think Phil should go out and find himself a job and get on with his life. "I DID."

I will take you back a few years to explain what I mean. A forestry position became available and I applied for the position and through the interview process, I was chosen for the position. Phil Rilatos was General Manager at that time, and I had no contact with Phil other than a casual greeting, and him not knowing me or

my skills. But, Phil decided to override that interview committee and hired a member of his family for the position.

I think Phil set a precedent within the hiring procedures a long time ago and now he wants to go to Tribal Court.

Lee Butler, A Proud Tribal member

Upcoming Election, sent in by Barbara Watson

Politics is extremely vague and yet overwhelmingly powerful and whether we want to admit it or not, we—the voting body—get exactly what we asked for.

I'm now forty, and all the years I've voted in Tribal Elections there has been a phenomena referred to as "block voting." If I understand it correctly, a group of individuals come together and agree to throw all individuality out the window and act as one entity. This group decides who they would like to have on the council and ultimately who has the best chance of winning all three seats. The next step is to go out and convince the membership to vote for their chosen block.

As tribal members, our choice is whether to throw away our individuality, or hold out and vote for someone that we feel will represent the membership's best interest (not the block's best interest) for the next three years.

Currently, I'm aware of one individual running independently. In past elections Jessie Davis has been asked to be part of a block, in the current election Jessie has been told she will not be allowed to be part of a block (I guess Jessie didn't go along with the group). This leaves Jessie out there running on her own. I like that.

It's difficult to make an informed decision about those running for Council—we lack a broad base of knowledge regarding each one. We're left to rely on what they say or what others say about them. I'd like to speak now on behalf of Jessie Davis. I know Jessie personally because she is my cousin. I know Jessie professionally because it was her I worked with when the Chinook Winds Bulletin was published. It is my professional opinion that the Bulletin is not currently published because Jessie is not allowed to be involved in any aspect of gaming.

It is here that we need to step back. It is never wise for one individual to become so embedded as Jessie was with the gaming enterprise. But that came about gradually and because of the immense resources Jessie has to offer. She is smart and has an amazing ability to take in technical information and process it to put together a big picture. She is stubborn, which makes her fiercely loyal. I believe in my heart that Jessie will fight harder for this tribe than any one.

She is not intimidated by the press, by the law, or by government officials. She is professional and speaks their language.

With Jessie being thrown out of the block system, she may be our best vote this year.