

Letters to the Editor

Constitutional rights a concern

I recently received a letter from Tribal Chairperson, Pat Duncan. She says that she is looking out for the interest of all tribal members. Apparently the tribal members, who in good faith, signed the recall petitions failed to get her attention. This should have gotten her attention, right? There needed to be at least two-thirds of the voting membership sign these petitions and they did. This is more than vote each year in the regular elections. Tribal members felt that these five councilpeople have done a bad job and need to be removed before it is too late. I feel that my rights under the Constitution have been taken away. If this Chairperson is truly looking out for the interest of all tribal members then let us exercise our Constitutional rights and let the recall votes be counted. Maybe there is a doubt that these five councilpeople will remain on council if the votes are counted?

And, since when is it okay for council to hire a tribal attorney, that is personally representing these individual council recall people? As tribal members, if we are in a Tribal Court case, we have to hire our own representative and pay for the cost ourselves. The Tribe's timber monies cannot pay for us. This recall is for only five council persons not the entire council. Should they not pay the cost themselves?

This attorney firm is costing us a lot of timber dollars. How long can we continue to pay over \$40,000 per month for these attorneys?

I understand that some of these councilpeople are claiming exces-

sive hours - up to 150 hours in a two-week period? It will be interesting to see these time sheets in the newsletter.

Why hasn't Chairperson Pat Duncan addressed the recent physical attack on a Tribal member at a council meeting at Chinook Winds? This action reflects on this Tribe in the community and Indian Country. Does she not believe this happened? It is on video tape. You would think an incident as serious as this the Council would have addressed it as soon as possible.

Carlotta Edenfield
Tribal member

TANF Success Story

My name is Yolanda Simmons and I was on TANF as of two months ago.

Ready for the challenge?

ROSE KUNKEL
Community Health Advocate
Salem Area Office

In addition to burning calories, there are other benefits to be gained from exercising. Muscles which may have been weak and sagging become strong and firm. Feelings of listlessness and fatigue are replaced with sensations of alertness and energy. Sleep is better and more restful. And, contrary to popular opinion, moderate exercise does not increase the appetite.

Start with something simple, like walking, and remind yourself that exercise is one way to be really good to yourself. Write down some phrases such as "Exercise is fun and enjoyable" or

While I was on TANF, I started working through the WEX Program which is designed to start people out in the working field and give them some experience.

A little over a month ago, a position became available in the department that I'm working in which is Accounting, and I was given the chance to take the position as a temp.

I thank the Work Experience Program, my co-workers, and especially, my supervisor, Naomi, for all the patience and encouragement they had and gave to me while I was, and still am, in training for this position.

I encourage anyone eligible to work who is getting assistance to try either the WEX Program, or to get some kind of education, because after that five-year limitation runs out, you will be stuck without that small amount

"I'm slim, trim and healthy" and repeat them often to yourself. Let your mind work for you.

In the years past, there has been an Exercise Challenge Course sponsored by the area offices' Health Programs. This year's exercise challenge will be conducted from June 15 through August 28. For those of you who wish to take up the challenge, please call my office at 390-9494, or the other area offices. You can pick up time/tally sheets at the area offices. There will be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd-place gift certificates for adult categories and teen categories. Please submit your time sheets before September 11 to be tallied.



that some of us have chosen to survive on. And to those who want something more than what they have now but won't have for much longer: here is your opportunity to start a new way of living. Take advantage of it. I have.

Yolanda Simmons

Siletz dental clinic hosts tooth-sealant project

LINDA KREUTZER
Siletz Clinic Dental Hygienist

April 20, 21 and 22 were busy days at Siletz Clinic. Lucky students from Siletz School received FREE dental screenings and SEALANTS.

A sealant is a white protective resin coating used to prevent decay in permanent back teeth. It is 'painted' onto the teeth, and can last up to 10 years!

Young children can benefit from sealants. This year, students selected to get sealants at Siletz School were first-, second-, fifth- and sixth-graders.

It is important that the child is first screened by a dentist to make sure each molar is free from decay. If the tooth has no decay or a filling, it can have a sealant placed. Some students received up to 10 to 12 sealants, others received only one or two. One sealed tooth is still better than a tooth that may need a filling in a year or so.

The students were bused to the clinic in groups of five or six. Lynn Whitlow (Siletz School employee) was in charge of shuttling the students back and forth from the school to the clinic and did a FABULOUS job!

All dental staff from the clinic were involved, including Dr. Bailey and Dr. Pierson, hygienist Linda Kreutzer and hygiene student Julie Hardzinski (from OHSU), Assistants Stephanie Miller, Kelli Watcherson and Angiline Easter. Receptionist Tamara Morrow helped keep the flow smooth.

This is the second year that the Siletz Clinic has offered this wonderful preventive service to children of this community!

Letters to the Editor:

All letters received will be printed except those which are known to be slanderous or racist. Please type or write legibly, no profane language will be printed. The Siletz News and Tribal Government accept no responsibility for statements made in the Letters to the Editor. The opinions expressed are those of the individual writing in. Letters that exceed 450 words will be edited for length as approved by Tribal Council Resolution #96-142. All letters must include your name, address, and signature.

Send your letters to:



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PLEASE NOTE: The General Manager of the Siletz Tribe is the Chief Editor of the Siletz News.