

# Siletz Business Information Center (SBIC) news

LISA BROWN

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Did you know that credit unions are a prime resource for low-interest loans? Credit unions provide customers with a very invaluable resource, for networking as well as loan services. For example, U-Lane-O Credit Union, located in the Eugene-Springfield area, offers membership to family members of their current members. This means if you have a brother, sister or parent who is a member, you are eligible to apply for membership. If you think you are eligible, or know someone who might be eligible, have them contact U-Lane-O at 1-800-365-1111 to inquire about the application process.

The Internet provides a wealth of information, and Internet access is available to SBIC clients. Please call to arrange a time to search the Internet. Some examples of information are listed below.

American Engine Rebuilders Association (AERA) has a website, <http://www.aera.org>. Updates or technical information is available. For example: "Oil Consumption on 1984-93 Honda 1.5L Engines." A detailed technical reference about cylinder-head removal process, which proves to be beneficial to counter excessive oil loss, and problems with cold starts of the engine.

This website also has a classified section, listing parts, tools, employment, and business opportunities for machinists and mechanics. Examples: "Brake Lathe: Van Norman 204, 3 mandrels with tooling, excellent condition \$3,000.00." "Valve Grinder: Sioux, good condition \$800.00." Business for sale: Complete Diesel & Automotive Machine Shop.

The "Online Women's Business Center" is a free, interactive, web site for beginning and established women business owners. Log onto their web site, at <http://www.onlinewbc.org>. The following is an example of the data available:

**Senate Action on the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program.** On Friday, March 6, the Senate voted 58 to 37 not to dismantle the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program as part of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1997. The Senate has not yet completed work on the bill.

The DBE program was created as part of the Surface Transportation Act of 1982 (PL 97-424) in order to increase the share of qualified "socially and economically disadvantaged" firms in transportation construction industries by establishing a minimum goal of 10% for DBEs. Qualified women business enterprises were included in this program in 1987 (PL 100-17).

During fiscal year '96, Women Business Enterprises (WBEs), within the DBE program, received almost 7% of the \$14 billion on contracts awarded in federal highway dollars to states for transportation and infrastructure projects.\*\*

\*\* For more information contact the SBIC office. We have forms to apply for inclusion in this program. Please note that the DBE program is not solely limited to women, it also applies to the following categories:

◆ **Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)** - This program is regulated by Federal eligibility requirements and applies to ethnic minority (male or female) and woman-owned businesses who wish to seek contracting opportunities with: Department of Transportation, transit authorities, or airport authorities within the State of Oregon.

◆ **Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)** - This program is regulated by State eligibility requirements and applies to ethnic minority (male or female) owned businesses who wish to seek contracting opportunities with: city, county, state, and private industry within the State of Oregon.

◆ **Woman Business Enterprise (WBE)** - This program is regulated by State eligibility requirements and applies to woman-owned businesses who wish to seek contracting opportunities with: city, county, state, and private industry within the State of Oregon.

◆ **Emerging Small Business (ESB)** - This race and gender neutral program is regulated by State eligibility requirements and applies to all small businesses located within Oregon who are seeking contracting opportunities with: city, county, state, and private industry within the

## "You and Your Business Idea" workshop

The Siletz Business Information Center (SBIC) will be presenting a workshop titled "You and Your Business Idea," from 6-9 P.M., Monday and Tuesday, June 15 & 16, at the Siletz Community Tribal Center on Government Hill, in Siletz.

Cost for the seminar is \$10 which will pay for course materials, one individual business counseling session, and an analysis of responses to an entrepreneurial style and success questionnaire. Scholarships are available upon request.

Audrey Campbell, Oregon Operations Coordinator for the Oregon Native American Business and Entrepreneurial Network (ONABEN), will be the presenter.

The two-part class focuses on understanding the requirements for business success. Participants will learn the benefits and obligations of business ownership and examine personal goals.

This class lays a foundation for a class called "Starting a Successful Business," which will be offered later in the year.

For more information, or to reserve a spot at the workshop, contact Lisa Brown, SBIC business counselor, at 1-800-922-1399, ext. 255, or dial direct at 541-444-8255.

State of Oregon.

Please contact the SBIC, if you have questions about the program and the services we provide. Also, feel free to make suggestions or corrections, for newsletter articles. Information and education are the primary keys to our success, and success is the goal of the SBIC.



*In loving memory of*

## WILLIAM TOWNER, JR.

March 21, 1925 - Siletz, Oregon

May 2, 1998 - Portland, Oregon

William "Bill" Towner, Jr. was a member of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Tutootnie, from the Rogue River. Bill served in the US Army from 1943-1946, serving in WWII in the 807 MP Co. in the British West Indies. From the mid-1940s to the early 1950s, Bill worked as a logger in Siletz, Molalla, Dallas, and Tillamook. Bill left the Siletz Reservation in 1938, at the age of 13. Although he traveled to many places, he always called Siletz "home."

Bill served as a Siletz Tribal Council Member; a Tribal Judge; he was a delegate for STOWW; served on the Pow-Wow Committee for 15 years; Hunting and Fishing Committee; Election Board; and was a Bingo Commissioner. In more recent years, Bill was involved in the Interagency Policy Council for American Indians Veterans; the American Veteran's Council in Portland and Vancouver; and was involved with Northwest Indian Veterans Assn. Bill also volunteered at the VA hospitals in Portland Vancouver.

Bill Towner lived in Vancouver, Washington, for the past thirty years with his family. He and his wife, Dianna, have been married for thirty years. They have two daughters: Michelle and Stacey of Vancouver. Bill also had four other children from a previous marriage: Larry, Barbara, Roberta, and Janet, who reside in Salem, Oregon. Grandchildren include: Zachary Towqner-Fordyce, Amber Towner, William Dakota Towner, Ed Goodell, and Kelli Cunningham, as well as numerous grandchildren from his previous marriage. "Mr. Bill" will be remembered by many and greatly missed.