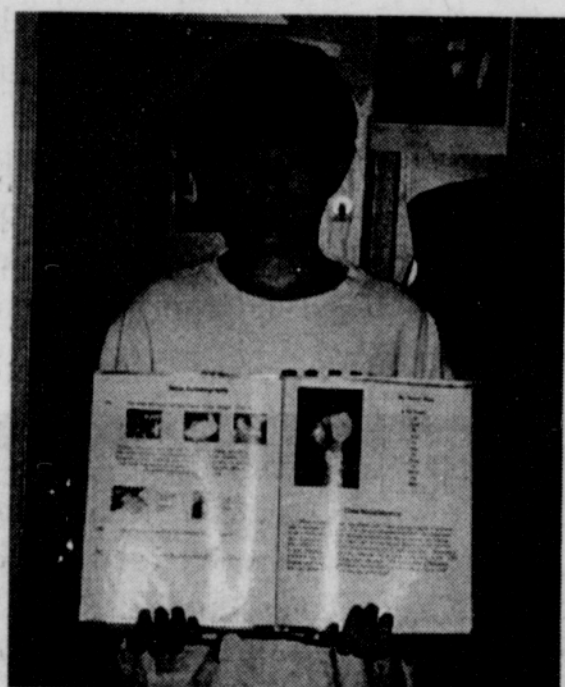


TRIBAL PROGRAM NEWS

JOM/Supplemental Education News

Submitted by Kelly Ball

Gyrrad Hibdon, 12 year old Siletz Tribal Member, is a 7th grader at Toledo Middle School. Gyrrad is the featured student this month for the "Who am I" biographical project that he completed for his Language Arts class. There were 15 requirements to get an "A" and, from what I saw from his project, this was definitely "A+" work.



In asking Gyrrad what he liked best about this project, he commented, "I liked pictures of myself at the Siletz Pow-Wow, pictures of my family on vacation, and I had pictures of Mo the Duck, he was cool."

In reviewing Gyrrad's project, this 7th grader is doing college level work. Yes, college level work! This project required scanning pictures and following an instructional format. Good work Gyrrad!!

Gyrrad is the son of Larry and Valerie Hibdon; grandson of the late Robert Rilatos, Sr. and Maxine Rilatos; great-grandson of the late Pearl Rilatos and the late Archie Ben and late Victoria Ben. A proud heritage.

If you know of any student like this who is doing exceptional work, please call Kelly Ball at 1-800-922-1399, ext. 237.

EAGLE FEATHER CEREMONY

High school graduations are just around the corner, and that means celebrations galore. One special ceremony that has been happening now in Siletz for the past 15 years is the Eagle Feather Ceremony. Pat Darcy and the late Robert Rilatos, Sr., first brought this ceremony to Siletz to honor Indian students in the Lincoln County School District who received their high school diploma. Pat retired last year and passed this ceremony on to Selene Rilatos.

Selene has asked Kelly Ball and Craig Whitehead to assist her with this ceremony. They have been meeting with students in preparation for this ceremony. The ceremony will be May 19th at the Siletz Tribal Community Center at 7:00 p.m.

HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS

Well, it's definitely that time of year and if you are considering attending college this fall, there is still time to prepare. The deadline for college students to be considered for fall term funding is June 30, 1999 (postmarked, date stamped June 30, 1999, or in the nearest Area Office).

For new students, this whole process can be overwhelming and time consuming. But once you master this initial process of paperwork and first time applications, the process becomes easier and smoother.

Things to consider for first time applicants: All students who apply for Higher Education and Adult Vocational funds through the tribe need to file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid. These can be obtained from any university or community college. I, also, have these available in my office. I am in the process of building a scholarship resource area. A computer is available to research educational scholarships on the internet.

If you live in Tillamook or Lincoln Counties, live outside the Tribe's 11-county service area, please contact Kelly Bell at 1-800-922-1399, ext. 237. I can help in explaining the financial aid process as well as the tribal education process.

Counseling for Victims of Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence Counseling Services are now available for Indian women who are Siletz Tribal members, members of other tribes, eligible for direct care, or the Oregon Health Care Plan. This service is available at the Siletz Tribal Administration Building and the Clinic in Siletz. To schedule an appointment, please call Wendi Schamp at (541) 444-8278 or (800) 922-1399, ext. 278.

Volunteers Needed

The STOP Violence Against Indian Women Project is creating a Women's Advisory Committee. The Committee will be made up of women of the who are Siletz Tribal Members, and will advise the Tribes' coordinated community response work group in developing and enhancing the Tribes' response to Native women who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Committee members will serve as volunteers, but will be reimbursed for expenses. Please contact Nicole Miani at (541) 444-8389 or 1-800-922-1399 Ext. 389 if you are interested in volunteering.

STOP Violence Against Indian Women Program

The Implementation Team is reviewing comments received by community members on the

draft Domestic and Family Violence Ordinance. Thanks to everyone who attended the community meetings!

The ordinance will be completed this month, and will be submitted to Tribal Council for a vote in April.

The following is a summary of each of the ordinance's major parts. A complete copy of the full draft ordinance is available for review at each Area Office.

Part 1: General Provisions

The purpose of the Code is to recognize that Domestic Violence is a serious crime, and to protect victims to the maximum extent possible. The Code will be construed to protect victims and prevent future violence. Domestic Violence is broadly defined to include causing any type of physical injury, intimidation, or emotional distress to a family or household member. The term "family or household member" is also broadly defined to include persons in the nuclear family, people who are dating or have dated, and people in other types of past or current intimate relationships.

Part 2: Criminal Penalties and Procedures

The crime of domestic violence includes causing injury, fear of injury or emotional distress, or committing other specific crimes against a family member. Violating an Order for Protection is also an offense. Tribal Police, Prosecution, Court procedures and penalties in cases of domestic violence are defined.

Part 3: Civil Orders for Protection

Orders for Protection are available to persons who are or have been victims of domestic violence. The Tribal Court will provide forms and assistance to individuals seeking Orders for Protection. Court procedures and the available relief are defined.

Part 4: Family and Children

In Tribal Court custody cases where domestic violence is involved, the Court will presume that it is not in the best interests of the child to be placed in the perpetrator's custody. The ordinance lists the factors that the Tribal Court will consider in determining custody, visitation, and conditions on visitation in these cases. The duties of the Indian Child Welfare Department in screening for domestic violence are also defined.

Part 5: Stalking

The crime of stalking is broadly defined to prohibit repeated and unwanted contact with the victim. This section includes procedures for filing stalking complaints, issuing citations, and seeking Stalking Orders for Protection.