

TRIBAL PROGRAM NEWS

The Housing Improvement Program

by Howard Roy, Program Coordinator

You must fill out a new housing application every year in order to be eligible for service. The deadline for the year 2000 Housing Improvement Program applications is Dec. 1, 1999. Applications turned in after this date will not be accepted for funding in 2000 but will be placed on the list for 2001.

Raising Money for the Elder s Emergency Repair Fund

We have begun our fund-raising efforts. We have one men s 12-speed, one women s 10-speed and one small boy s bicycle that will be raffled off individually. Raffle tickets can be purchased in Siletz from Tammy Wagner or Caroline Easter. The HIP Committee also will have tickets to sell. Committee members are Mike Darcy, June Austin, Nancy McCrary, and Reggie Butler. You can also buy tickets at the area offices. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. The money will be used to provide minor emergency repairs for low-income elders.

The Pow-Wow is getting closer and closer. Tammy Wagner has been working on getting supplies, a vendor s trailer, and volunteers for the booth. Foster Farms Chicken of Oregon says they will do their best to provide chicken and other items for the food booth. Now all we need are volunteers! We have a

few volunteers but need a lot more. We would like people to volunteer for a couple hours at a time. Everyone is encouraged to help us help the elders. Contact Tammy Wagner at 1-800-922-1399, ext. 261, or 541-444-8261 if you are interested in volunteering. Please leave a message if she is unavailable.

The Elder s Emergency Repairs sheet is now on the board at JC Sentry in Toledo. If you went in and couldn t find it, I apologize. It s up now and ready for you to put your Community Service Stamps on it.

JC Sentry in Toledo has joined other Sentry stores in donating money to non-profit organizations. For every \$5 of groceries you purchase, you receive a Smart Shopper Stamp. You then redeem them for discounts on certain items. If you place an extra stamp on each card, they give you a Community Service Stamp, which you can place on a Community Service Project Sheet located at the store. When that sheet is full, JC Sentry donates \$20 to your organization. We have placed the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians Elder s Emergency Repairs program on the board. So if you shop there, remember to put an extra stamp on your card and get a community service stamp and put it on our sheet. It may not be much, but every little bit helps.

What We re Doing and What We ve Done

Tammy attended the NAHASDA and HIP conferences at Albuquerque, N.M. She brought back a lot of useful information.

Several of us are doing well in the building codes training. We have completed all classes and taken the National Certification for Building Codes Inspectors. I currently have state certification but am working to be nationally certified. Thomas Siniscal, Kenneth Charlie Black, Robert Bayya and I have completed the training. We will take the National Inspector s Building Codes exam in July.

The plumbing codes inspectors training began July 12, 1999. Robert Bayya, Thomas Siniscal, Kenneth Charlie Black, Jack McCord, Jeremy Whitehead, and I are taking this course.

We are working on the last two 1998 projects and have started on the 1999 HIP clients. All HIP clients will be started by Dec. 31, 1999. We have 19 clients to service for 1999, so please be patient with us while we do our best to get everyone s projects completed. I know it seems like an awfully long time to wait, but there are only two of us currently working in the HIP office and I spend a lot of time on the road getting all the inspections done. We also oversee all Indian Health Services water and septic projects. Several of them are going on all the time all year long.

Housing Report, con t from page 4

The Housing Authority board of commissioners has overall responsibility for seeing that the block grant program is carried out according to the Tribal Housing Plan, which was adopted by Tribal Council with NAHASDA requirements. A tribal committee, made up of Tribal Council representatives and tribal staff, monitors the activities.

I appreciate the cooperation of all staff in the area offices and the administration building at Siletz who have helped us carry out these housing programs that benefit many tribal members.

Information on all Housing Authority programs is available at Housing Authority offices in Salem and Siletz. The Salem number is 1-888-870-9051. The Siletz number is 1-800-922-1399, ext. 310, 311, 312, or 314.

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We welcome Laura Bremner as the new chairman of the Housing Authority board

of commissioners and Sheryl Simmons as the new housing commissioner.

Sheryl replaces Shannon Case, who completed her term on the Housing board on June 15. Shannon began serving on the board in 1992 and was chairman these past two years. She served the longest of any commissioner in the 8 1/2 years that I have been with the Housing Authority. Shannon is a resident of our Mutual Help housing. She devoted many hours of volunteer service to expand housing programs for tribal members. She was not afraid to speak her mind and I appreciated her support and guidance.

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We have opened bids for constructing homes on the Dickenson property in Siletz and for expanding our office building. A number of smaller projects also are slated for construction during the coming year. Tribal member contractors who are interested in participating in these jobs should contact our office.

Rental Rehabilitation and Indian Health Services Water and Septic

We still have funding for home improvements on rental property that is privately owned or tribally owned in the Siletz area. The property, however, must be rented to low-income tribal members with an agreement not to raise the rent for five years.

Please do not wait until the last minute to apply for HIP or NAHASDA services. Home Improvement Program and Indian Health Services water and septic applications can be obtained at all area offices or by contacting Tammy Wagner at 541- 444-8261 or 1-800-922-1399, ext. 261.

We would like to wish June Austin a happy belated birthday.