

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Study of Siletz History a High Tribal Priority

Judging from the many comments we have received, readers of Siletz News have been following with interest the excellent articles about the history of the Siletz Tribe written by our tribal historian, Robert Kentta.

Robert's articles not only have proved to be of general interest, but also to be of special importance because they represent his extensive, in-depth historical research during the past couple of years.

Recently, issues have arisen in which tribes have asserted aboriginal claims based on erroneous information that is, or may be, in conflict with each other.

Robert's comprehensive, objective research, verified by reputable historians, is bearing out the fact that historical accounts of our tribe as depicted in newspapers, magazines, and even history books have been, in many important respects, inaccurate.

The Siletz Tribe has been strongly supportive of all Oregon tribes in their efforts to achieve self-determination and acquire adequate reservation lands. After all, all Oregon tribes suffered the consequences of broken treaties and promises and the erosion of their aboriginal lands. It's essential that all tribes continue to respect each other's



Chairman Delores Pigsley

sovereignty and focus, as the Siletz Tribe has been doing, on lands that are within our own boundaries.

The Siletz Tribal Council believes the investment of funds for the continuing research of our tribal history is a high tribal priority, which we believe is basic to the protection and promotion of our tribal self-determination and sovereignty.

De La Cruz Memorial

On July 14, from noon to midnight, Rosemary Landis and I attended the memorial for Joe De La Cruz, sponsored by Joe's family and the Quinault Tribe.

Reflecting the high respect in which Joe was held, the memorial was attended by hundreds of friends and officials from across the country.

On behalf of the Siletz Tribe, Rosemary and I presented to the De La Cruz family a Siletz Pendleton blanket to show our appreciation of Joe's many years of friendship and assistance to the Siletz Tribe.

As most of you know, Joe wasn't just the chairman of the Quinault Tribe. He served as a leader of regional and national intertribal organizations, including the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians and the National Congress of American Indians.

He played an important role in shaping the Indian Self-Determination Act of the '70s and spearheaded the concept of self-governance, which led to its legislation as full-fledged Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian Health Service programs. He helped build self-governance from a demonstration project of only 10 tribes to an established BIA and IHS program of more than 300 tribes today!

Joe encouraged and helped Siletz become one of the first 20 tribes to be a demonstration self-governance tribe. To show how important Joe was to the creation of self-governance, Bill Lavelle, the first BIA director of

Self-Governance, also attended the memorial to pay his respects to Joe.

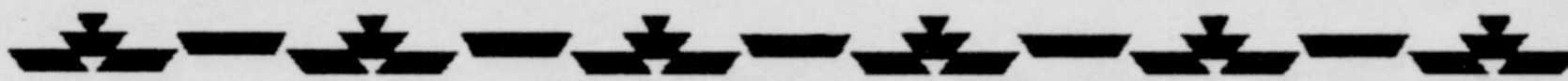
Joe was an activist from the time he got involved in Indian affairs and is living proof that "it's never too late to go to school." He strongly believed in educating ourselves and our children. From his vigorous stands on fishing rights, tribal sovereignty, adequate federal funding to meet the needs of Indian people, to his strong opposition to per capita, which he considered "deadly," Joe was a dynamic and dedicated tribal leader.

His counsel and friendship are sorely missed, but what he accomplished and the principles by which he lived remain as an inspiration for us all.

Warm Springs Honors Atiyeh

During Pi-Ume-Sha Treaty Days, I was invited to attend a special dinner that the Warm Springs Tribe held in appreciation of the many contributions by former Gov. Vic Atiyeh. He was honored with an Indian name a year ago and in return, the tribe offered him the opportunity of having a giveaway.

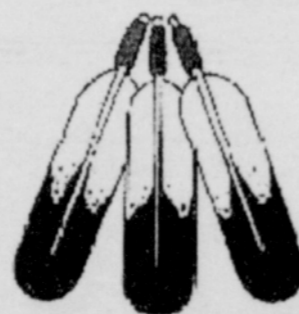
I received a gift in appreciation of the friendship and support of our tribe. The Warm Springs Tribal Council is to be commended for the very nice dinner and celebration that it hosted.



Pow-Wow, con't from page 1

The Nesika Illahee Pow-Wow is a drug- and alcohol-free event. Listen carefully to the pow-wow master of ceremonies, who will tell you when you can and when you should not take photos. The emcee also will explain the significance of the events taking place in the arena throughout the pow-wow.

Join the descendants of the indigenous peoples of Western Oregon as they celebrate life and friendship. Participate in the round dance and become part of the Circle of Friendship during this annual celebration, the Nesika Illahee (our land) Pow-Wow.



Survey, con't from page 13

Significant numbers of Oregon students also continue to use marijuana in 2000. Almost 18 percent of 11th-graders, 8.6 percent of eighth-graders, and 0.9 percent of sixth-graders reported using the drug in the 30 days prior to the survey.

Survey results are available for some counties. For more information, call Mac Prichard at 503-947-5106. The full text of the "Public School Drug Use Survey 2000" is at www.oadap.hr.state.or.us.

Ordinances, con't from page 1

The Traffic Ordinance would allow the tribe to enforce its own civil traffic law on reservation property. The proposed ordinance is designed to protect tribal members and others from danger due to unsafe traffic practices.

Those found violating the ordinance would be cited to Tribal Court to pay a fine either at one time or in installments. Under the ordinance, money collected from the fines will be divided between the police and the court.

Please contact Kelley Ellis, executive secretary to Tribal Council, at P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR, 97380, or call 541-444-8203 or 1-800-922-1399, ext. 203, to request copies of the proposed ordinance. Please send all comments to the same address, attention: Tribal Council.

Be Sure to Attend Upcoming Community Meetings

Community meetings for the Siletz Community Law Court and a tax ordinance will be held from 5:30-7 p.m. in Siletz and the area offices:

Siletz: Aug. 16, 2001 (at the Housing Residents mtg.)
Portland: Aug. 28, 2001
Eugene: Aug. 29, 2001
Salem: Aug. 30, 2001

Questions? Call 541-444-8212 or 1-800-922-1399, ext. 212.