

TRIBAL MEMBER NEWS

Helen "Nellie" Orton – 1913-2001

Helen "Nellie" Jane Orton of Siletz, Ore., died at Newport Rehabilitation & Specialty Care Center on Aug. 11, 2001.

She was born in Siletz on March 6, 1913, to William and Ellen (Simpson) Metcalf.

She married Charles James Orton in Vancouver, Wash., on July 29, 1935. They lived in Siletz until 1951, when they moved to Toledo, Ore. Charles preceded her in death in April 1989.

Nellie was an honored elder and full-blooded member of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians. She was involved in Siletz Indian culture, assisted in the enrollment and corrected blood quantum on tribal members, taught the old Siletz language, and identified vintage Indian photos. She was instrumental in bringing back the traditional feather dance and regalia of the Siletz, and taught many to bead aprons, buckskins, and all regalia and basketry.

She enjoyed sewing, crocheting and cooking.

Survivors include her children Arneva Pyle of Ferndale, Wash.; Willa Daugherty of Siletz; and Charles "Sonny" Orton of Bellingham, Wash.; eight grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Services were held on Aug. 17 at Bateman Funeral Home in Newport, Ore.



Rose Starr dances at the Lincoln County Fair.



Above: Brenda Bremner (l) presents a \$45,000 check to Siletz Valley Partnership/Youth Skatepark Committee members Andrew Whetstone, Matt Williams, Robbie Engersol, and Wesly Tyler. Construction of the skatepark began in August. Above left: Greg Depoe works at the Bureau of Indian Affairs this summer (see letter to the editor on page 2).



Lisa Brown and Marlene Stuart took Siletz youth to the Ocean Spray Housing Authority to teach Korean exchange students to make four directions bracelets and share their culture. Ashley Taylor (l), Heidi Hibdon, Tasha Rilatos, Lynette Hibdon, and Tiffany Stuart encourage the Korean students' chaparone in the feather dance.



Cecillie Butler (l), Bobby Butler, Logan Butler, and Isaac Butler join Vicki Butler (2nd from right) in a dance at the Lincoln County Fair.



Siletz Tribal Dancers draw a crowd at the Lincoln County Fair.