

Parent Committee Seeks Members

The Lincoln County School District, Title IX Indian Education Program serves all Native American students in grades K-12 enrolled in Lincoln County's 19 schools. Our program is designed to "meet the special educational and culturally related academic needs of our Indian students." Currently, we have three paid staff and approximately 600 students registered with the Title IX Program.

Once a year, we have elections for the Title IX Parent Committee. Parents/guardians of Indian students, administrators, teachers in the Lincoln County School District, and Title IX high school students are eligible to serve on this board and vote in the election. The Parent Committee is a strong voice for our Native students to the schools. We encourage our Native community to become more involved with the Title IX Parent Committee.

We are looking for Native American people who will:

- Commit to meet monthly during this 2001-2002 school year

- Help decide how to spend Title IX funds
- Help make decisions on issues that may arise regarding our Native students
- Offer support to all LCSD schools regarding our students
- Volunteer to help with tribal history and cultural classes
- Share their knowledge of Indian education, or are willing to commit time to attend conferences and training on the subject

We currently are taking nominations for elections on Nov. 19. All ballots must be in by 5 p.m. on Nov. 19, 2001, at Siletz School. If you are interested in running or know someone who you think will serve on this committee, please contact one of the Title IX representatives in your area:

Fred Rider, Title IX Coordinator,
Toledo High, 541-336-5104

Patty Savage-Socha, Siletz School,
541-444-1134

Juanita Whitebear, Taft High,
541-996-2115

Chemawa Cemetery Update

by Rosemary Breon Landis

Once again, I bring Chemawa Indian School to your attention. In the past, it has been efforts to turn 70 acres of school land over to just the Grand Ronde Tribe, the ongoing search for new school board members, and now it is the Chemawa Cemetery that needs each and every one of us to come to its aid.

At the last ATNI education meeting, we were informed of a plan to identify children who are buried at Chemawa Cemetery. A volunteer is trying to map the area and identify the children by tribe. We were given the names of about 200 children. This list is available at the Siletz office.

We also were told that the cemetery itself is in a state of disrepair. One can no longer go to the cemetery unless they want to walk in poison oak, trip over garbage that people have dumped inside the gate, or walk in grass that may get mowed only once a year. It only gets mowed because of the kindness of one of our tribal members.

When we opposed attempts to acquire the 70 acres for just one tribe's benefit, we were informed that the land was under the control of the bureau in Portland and not the Office of Indian Education Programs. In my opinion, Plant Management should be responsible for the care and maintenance of the cemetery.

Superintendent King could contact the Portland office and ask that they maintain the cemetery on a regular basis or assign one of his maintenance employees to mow the grounds.

Several years ago, Bill Wilson, who lives in Salem, managed to get the 80 acres for the cemetery designated as a National Historic Site. That protects the land and should make it available for special funding. No one has followed up since then, however.

Since Chemawa is important to all of us, I urge you to visit the cemetery. If you can assist with the tribal identification of anyone on the list, contact the cemetery volunteer. Do you think we could get together a cemetery work party like we do for the tribe around Memorial Day? Do you think the other tribes would help us if we organized a workday?

Happy Thanksgiving



Stories Sought on Logging Camp and Railroad

Do you have a story to tell about how you or a relative may have worked with the railroad?

The Yaquina Pacific Railroad Historical Society of Toledo, Ore., is looking for information, photos, and artifacts that might have historical relevance to Logging Camp #5, the railroad line that came over from Toledo, and the spur that went up along the river from Siletz toward what was once the town of Valsetz.

If you or a relative worked in the local timber business until the railroad line became dormant in the mid-'60s, YPRHS is interested in any photographs, anecdotes, railroad equipment, and artifacts that tell about the railroad and how it related to the lives of the people of the Siletz Valley. Of special interest is the fire that destroyed the Camp #5 engine house and maintenance shops and several pieces of rolling stock.

As an ongoing part of the mission to accurately interpret the impact of logging and the railroad on the Lincoln

County area, YPRHS also is interested in doing audio and video interviews with area residents.

All photographs will be carefully handled and returned to the owner. They will be copied to become part of the archives and interpretive collection for later display in the YPRHS Railroad Heritage Center in Toledo.

All audio and videotapes will be used as archived records only after they have been approved by those interviewed. Railroad artifacts, tools, and equipment will be researched for authenticity and cataloged. If they are not donated to YPRHS, they may be considered for display under permanent or conditional loan.

If you have photos, stories, or artifacts that you would be willing to share as part of the complete story of railroad and logging in the Siletz Valley, please contact Lynne Chandler, program coordinator for YPRHS, at 541-336-5256.

Election Board Application

Tribal members interested in serving on the 2001-2002 Election Board must fill out the following form and return it to the address below **prior to Nov. 15, 2001**, to be considered for appointment. Please send or fax your application to:

Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
Attn: Executive Secretary to Tribal Council
P.O. Box 549
Siletz, OR 97380

Fax: 541-444-8325

Name: _____ Roll No.: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone: Day () _____ Evening () _____

If you would like a copy of the Election Ordinance that details Election Board duties, please call the executive secretary to Tribal Council to request a copy.