

## The Siletz Reservation 20 Years Later

by Dale Hile, Tribal Planner

In April 1982, about 20 years ago, the Siletz Tribe hired me as the development director to serve as owner's representative for the construction of the Government Hill Community Center Project. The project cost \$750,000, with a \$250,000 grant from HUD and a \$500,000 loan from the Farmers Home Administration. Construction began in the fall of 1982 and was completed the



### Congratulations!

Mona Fisher is named Employee of the Year at the annual employee holiday party on Dec. 14. A list of other award winners will appear in the February issue of Siletz News.

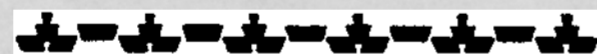
following summer. The tribe paid off the loan to FHA this year.

During the construction period, I recall preparing the pow-wow grounds for the upcoming 1983 Nesika Illahee Pow-Wow. We had only \$1,800 in savings for the construction budget and Tribal Council agreed to put sod on the pow-wow dance area west of the new center.

I ordered a load of sod and arranged for the Tribal Youth Program to provide the labor for one day. We had the contractor grade the field and prepare it for laying the 10,400 square feet of grass. Dan Rilatos and I then rented a ditching machine and purchased enough PVC pipe to run a water line to the area so we could water the new grass.

Last month, I drove up the Government Hill road for the first time in 20 years and it was breathtaking. What a beautiful place! The tribe really should be proud of its progress since 1982. Some of the great accomplishments that I can see are:

- \* In 1982, the tribe had 1,083 enrolled tribal members, but today, there are more than 3,600 members.
- \* In 1982, the tribal government operating budget was less than \$600,000/year, with only about 34 employees.
- \* The annual administration budget today is about \$13.4 million, with 244 employees.



The easy-to-read, 56-page brochure is endorsed by two of the most trustworthy entities for parents – the National PTA and the American Academy of Pediatrics. It covers challenges parents face, how parents can influence their kids, opportunities for starting a discussion, and what parents can do and say to keep their children drug free. It also provides a list of resources and ways for parents to get involved in community activities.

The brochure is being distributed through parent organizations, including the National Parenting Association, National Families in Action, and the National Fatherhood Initiative, as well as through community/civic organizations and drug/alcohol prevention organizations throughout the country.

Free copies of the brochure are available via phone at 1-800-788-2800; request document #PHD884. To view the brochure, go to [www.theantidrug.com/pdfs/version3General.pdf](http://www.theantidrug.com/pdfs/version3General.pdf).

Source: Media Campaign Flash is an initiative of the White House ONDCP. The National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign targets youth age 9-18 – especially middle-school adolescents – parents, and other adults who influence choices young people make to lead drug-free lives. For more information, check out [www.mediacampaign.org](http://www.mediacampaign.org).



The Planning Department: Sherri Groh (l), Tom Chandler, Helen Cooper, Michael Harris, and Dale Hile

- \* Currently, Health and Human Services programs provide \$9.4 million in service delivery: Housing in the last two years has provided about \$6.5 million to meet tribal member needs.
- \* Natural Resources had its first timber sale in 1983 when the tribe logged 2,489 million board feet from Sugus Hill. The timber was sold to Publishers Paper with net revenues of \$786,000. During the past 20 years, the tribe has harvested 73,437 MBF totaling \$22,026,323 in gross stumpage value to the tribal treasury.
- \* In 1982, there was no gaming enterprise. Today, Chinook Winds Casino is a major force in the county's tourism industry, attracting more than 475,000 extra visits per year and generating \$14.8 million in sales for county business.
- \* In 1982, there was no tribal clinic.

Today, the tribe has a fully staffed community health clinic that serves non-tribal as well as tribal members.

I would like to congratulate the tribal government and its people for doing such a fine job in achieving your goals since establishing the reservation. As stated in the Siletz Indian Reservation Plan, 1979, "The tribe's chief goal is to improve the lives of its members by meeting their pressing social needs and sustaining their sense of pride in being Siletz Indians. A major purpose of the reservation will be to provide a place for tribal facilities and to provide sufficient income to assure tribal government of a permanent existence, with the continuing ability to address the problems faced by tribal members."

Overall, I believe the tribe has not only fulfilled its vision reflected in the 1979 plan, but also has set the foundation for the future.

## CTSI Jobs

**Position:** Employment Services Director

**CTSI Employment  
Job Line**

**Department:** ESP Department

**Location:** Siletz, Oregon

**541-444-8296**

**Salary:** \$17.03 per hour

**1-800-922-1399, ext. 296**

**Opening date:** 12/12/01

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