

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Tribal Budget Process

During the past month, the Siletz Tribal Council has been carrying out one of its most important functions as a tribal government – the tribal budget process. It's not a simple matter of the council deciding how much funding each department should get.

It is, for our Siletz Council, an intensive process that spans several days. The general manager and every tribal department tells the council what has happened the prior year, what is currently being done, and what the unmet priority needs will be the coming year. It is, after all, the staff who are in daily contact with the grassroots community members. They are the ones who know what their needs are and what will be required to address those needs.

It would be great if we had unlimited resources to meet all unmet tribal needs. But the reality is that the Tribal Council must make prudent and very difficult budget decisions based on tribal priorities and limited resources.



Chairman Delores Pigsley

It's a complex and difficult responsibility that our council takes very seriously.

Dedication of Fort Hoskins

A significant event took place last month relating to the history of the Siletz Tribe: the dedication of Fort Hoskins, the result of eight years of planning.

Robert Kentta was very much involved. Council members JoAnn Miller and I represented the Siletz Tribe at this dedication ceremony. Grand Ronde officials also participated.

Fort Hoskins was established to protect the Indians against the hostility and violence of the white settlers. Although historically proven to be not effective in protecting the Indians, Fort Hoskins at least was intended to serve that purpose. (See related story on page 6.)

National Indian Council on Aging

Thirty-seven members of the Siletz Tribe joined many other tribes from across the country to attend the National Indian Council on Aging in Albuquerque, N.M. Siletz representatives participated in many productive meetings that addressed a wide variety of issues on aging.

Back to School

Another school year has begun. Don't think that my granddaughter hasn't reminded me of that and the fact that we adults need to be involved.

"Come visit me at school, Grandma," she says – and she's right.

As parents and grandparents, we need to be involved in our children's education. While the Tribal Council considers education a high priority as reflected in our tribal programs, our responsibilities as parents and grandparents – as adults – need to go beyond just the funding of education programs.

Teachers, counselors, and school administrators often tell us that one of the best ways of motivating our children to learn is by showing an active interest in their education, both inside and outside the school. The amount of interest and concern we demonstrate as parents and grandparents is bound to reflect on our children's own attitude toward education and their achievements.

25th Anniversary Restoration – A Reminder

Finally, though the 25th Anniversary Restoration isn't until next month, I want to remind all of you to mark Nov. 16 on your calendars so we can all be together to celebrate this special event. (See details on page 7.)



To the editor:

I would like to tell you about a very special daughter. She is only 16, but very special.

She works very hard to make us, her parents, proud of her. She gets upset when she gets a B in school. She volunteered to stay after school to put the flag away with the janitor because he would just wad it up and throw it in a corner of the school office. So every day last year, she stayed until he would come out and fold the flag up and put it away.

We moved over here a year ago and she could not get on the Youth Police Explorer Program here because of her age. She could go to some of their programs, which she did, waiting to turn 16 so she could apply again. But the sad part was that there were so many 17- and 18-year-olds, she didn't get on with them here again.

The Indian Youth Academy came up and she applied to go, even though she had never been that far away from family or flown in an airplane. Miranda and Nick at the Springfield office wrote nice letters of recommendation and she was accepted. She went and had a great time and met some very nice law enforcement people.

She has wanted to be in law enforcement for the last three years. When she came home from California, she called the Coburg Police and finally got to join the Youth Explorer Program there. She watches her nephew, who lives with us, every day until we get home from work. She loves her family, her country, and tries to never get into trouble.

We just want her to know how proud we are of her and how much she is loved by all of the family.

Odessa Smart, you do us proud. Thank you for being our daughter.

Love you, Mom and Dad

Ronnie and Juanita Smart

Artwork Sought from Oregon Indian Tribes

The Oregon Legislative Commission on Indian Services (OLCIS) is searching for a Native American graphic to use for the 2003-2005 Oregon Directory of American Indian Resources. OLCIS hopes that the artist will be an Oregon tribal member, or a tribal member and/or tribal representative of the director.

The commission will be able to offer any financial compensation, but the directory is widely distributed and the artist will be acknowledged in the publication.

For more information, please contact Gladine G. Ritter, commission assistant, 900 Court St. NE, Room 167, Salem, OR 97301; telephone 503-986-1067; or e-mail gladine.g.ritter@state.or.us

General Council Meeting

Siletz Tribal
Community Center
Nov. 2, 2002

Agenda

7:00 pm
Call to Order
Invocation
Roll Call
Approval of Agenda
Approval of Minutes
Cultural Program Report
USDA Program Report
Tribal Member Concerns
Candidates' Declarations
Chairman's Report
Announcements
Adjournment