Porter Graduates from Ashmead College of Massage

The Siletz Education Program, friends, and family would like to congratulate Portland-area student Connie Porter, who completed her vocational training in massage therapy and graduated from Ashmead College of Massage as a massage therapist in December 2002.

Connie Porter

Connie Porter is the daughter of Kathryn Porter and granddaughter of Connie Hartt. Connie has two wonderful sons, Jerimiah and James, who supported and encouraged their mother to follow her dream of becoming a massage therapist at the Vancouver, Wash., college.

Connie's graduation ceremony was held Dec. 20 at Skyview High School, where she was recognized and awarded her diploma. For these ceremonies, Connie was dressed in her white buckskin regalia while surrounded with family and friends at this happy and proud time.

Connie will take her national board exams in March 2003, which will allow her to be officially licensed to practice massage therapy. Connie plans to enter into ONABEN's next small business class to help her start planning for her own salon and spa.

Congratulations, Connie! We are all so very proud of all your hard work, determination, and accomplishments! Connie is wished the very best.

Siletz Students Learn Mediation

Fourteen Siletz School students have been selected as peer mediators in the Siletz School Peer Mediation Program. They were selected from the sixth and seventh grades by submitting applications and getting staff approval.

The students were trained at two half-day sessions at the Siletz Grange. The training was facilitated by Valerie Payne, program director for Lincoln Community Dispute Resolution (LCDR); Barb Woehle, safe and drug-free school coordinator; and Nanette Logan and Priscilla Bradley, community volunteers.

The training included a discussion about conflict, an overview of the mediation process, and a lesson on active listening and paraphrasing. Students also took part in "lots of role-play practice so each student learns how to be an effective peacemaker," Payne said.

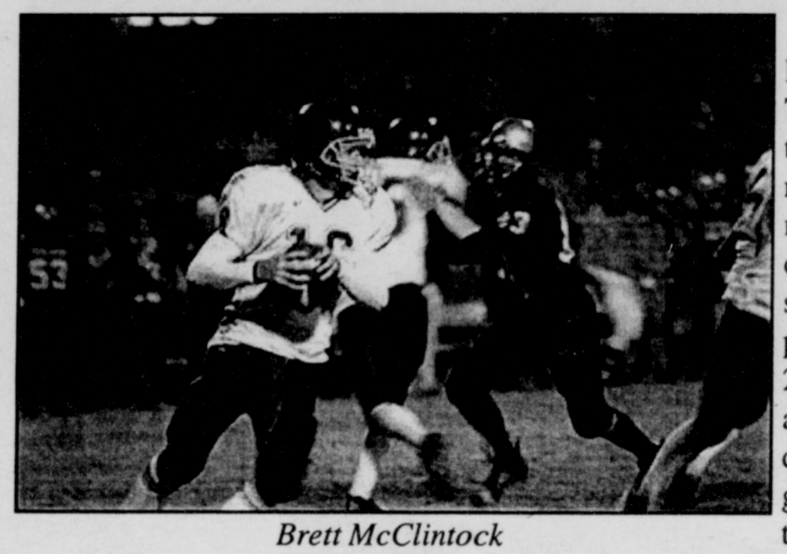
The Siletz program started in the fall of 2000. Since that time, 49 students have been trained in peaceful conflict resolution skills.

"Everyone is very grateful to the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund for providing the funding to continue this program," said Payne. "I want to publicly thank Commissioner Karen Gertulla for her hard work in helping to fund this program. It is very important that young people learn this important life skill. It helps them in their own relationships with others, as well as their ability to help others resolve conflict.

"Research indicates that having peers model and help other students resolve their problems in a safe and courteous way blossoms into change in school culture and language," she said.

For more information about peer mediation programs in schools and other conflict resolution services provided by Lincoln Community Dispute Resolution, call 541-574-9846 or drop by the office at 936 SW Hurbert St. in Newport, Ore.

McClintock Receives MVP Honors



Brett McClintock

Brett McClintock led the Junction City Tigers at quarterback this year. He was named the team's most valuable player on offense, setting school records with 29 passing touchdowns, 2,389 yards passing in a season, five touchdown throws in a game, and the longest touchdown reception of 97 yards.

Brett also was named to the first team of the Sky-Em Conference at quarterback and received honorable mention all-state quarterback honors.

Gabriel Joins the Family

by Mark Soulier and Cynthia DePoe-Soulier

Another miracle has happened
so wonderful and true.
A second child has been given to us
so precious and so new.

Announcing Brianna's new younger brother, Gabriel DePoe Soulier. He arrived on Oct. 30, 2002, at 7:10 p.m., weighing 7 pounds, 6 ounces, and 19∫ inches tall.

Gabriel DePoe Soulier

Front row, l to r: Pippi Sanchez, Heather Moore, and Leslie Schuler. Second row: Amanda Westfall, Tabietha Little, Heather Luckini, Jesseca Guillen, Whitney Dickinson, Heaven Perkins (veteran peer mediator), and Eric Luckini. Third row: James McGaughey, Priscilla Bradley, community volunteer; Valerie Payne, trainer; Nanette Logan, community volunteer; and Josh Van Hoorebeke. Not shown: Barb Woehle, safe and drug-free school coordinator; Chelsey Ann Stewart, Sage Hatch, and Tommy Potter.