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2003

# SILETZ



# NEWS

Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon

Vol. 31, No. 9 September 2003

## Siletz Tribe Assists with Opening of Charter School

The Siletz Valley School will open on Sept. 8, 2003, thanks to a charter school incentive grant obtained by the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon.

A community meeting about the new school was held on Aug. 5 at the Siletz Tribal Community Center. Emphasis was placed setting up an interim school board, gathering ideas on potential curriculum, and finding volunteers for work crews to help get the school open. Van Peters, the consultant who helped the tribe write the charter school application, will serve as interim administrator for the school.

The charter school incentive grant includes \$350,000 awarded to Siletz Valley School by the Oregon Department of Education. This includes a \$50,000 planning grant for such things as planning and designing educational programs, professional development of staff, selecting a governing board, developing bylaws, and determining educational opportunities in satellite, distance, and on-line educational programs.

The school also received a \$150,000 implementation grant to purchase equipment and educational materials, develop curriculum, develop and disseminate materials informing the community of the charter school, and other initial operating costs that cannot

be met from state or local resources during the first year of operation.

Additionally, the school received a \$150,000 grant to help operate the school for a second year. This grant will help with such things as expanding the number and type of books in the school's library and with purchasing musical instruments, art supplies, physical education equipment, and items for science classes (telescopes, microscopes, globes, and maps).

This public school will include children from kindergarten through the eighth grade. It will take an integrated learning approach based on Oregon academic standards for K-8<sup>th</sup> grade for core curriculum classes and electives, including music, art, and physical education. The integrated curriculum will be activity based, where students engage in hands-on activities, build models, create simulations, and transform ideas into new creations.

The Lincoln County School District approved the Siletz Valley School's application for a charter school, which was prepared by the tribe, in July and has supported the tribe's efforts.

"We would like to thank the school district for its support of the charter school plan," said Delores Pigsley, Siletz Tribal chairman. "All of the

**See Charter on page 4.**



2003-2004 Siletz Royalty – Ashliegh Ramirez, Little Miss Siletz; Katrina Reis, Jr. Miss Siletz; and Tiffany Stuart, Miss Siletz

## Join Us for Run to the Rogue IX

You are invited to join Siletz Tribal members on Sept. 18-20, 2003, for Run to the Rogue IX. This relay run/walk celebrates the continuing return of the Siletz Tribe to its ancestral lands along the Rogue River. The run begins in Siletz and follows Highway 101 to a location near the Rogue River.

Everyone may take part in and contribute to Run to the Rogue. You can participate in the following ways:

- Help get the run started by running or walking one mile on Sept. 18 if you are unable to take part in the entire three-day run. Each year, this group is able to get the main group of runners off to a good start. It's a very important part of making the run a success.
- Other runners/walkers can join the group as it travels south on

**See Run on page 6.**

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Siletz News  
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