

# TRIBAL PROGRAM NEWS

## December USDA Distribution Dates

### Siletz

Monday, Dec. 1	9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 2	9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 3	9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 4	9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 5	9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

### Salem

Monday, Dec. 15	2 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 16	9 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 17	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

I would like to extend a happy welcome to my new USDA clerk, Joyce Retherford, who began working here Nov. 3. She joins our team that includes Verne Belgarde, Elders



Work Experience warehouseman; Daniel Brown, Tribal Work Experience warehouseman, both in Siletz; Earl Littleton, warehouseman in Salem; and also myself, Kitti Hostler, USDA FDP director.

I want to say it's a joy to work with all of the team and I want to **thank** Angela Ramirez, Elders Program coordinator, for thinking of our program for worker placement and many **thanks** to the ESP team for placing workers with USDA. Thank you to all the staff here and in the area offices for their efforts to inform people that our food program is here as a resource. You're all appreciated.

Joyce Retherford operates the forklift in the Siletz warehouse.



Don't forget we'll have **bonus** three-pound frozen ham for your Christmas dinner. Happy meals to you and yours this holiday season.

## Walt's Words of Wit and Wisdom

Well by golly, how time does fly. Elk season is upon me. I had to go to Ukia starting out Nov. 6. Camped at the 5,574-foot level. In the meantime, I'm going to pass on some pertinent information that one cannot live without knowing.

We often put a gender on the objects we're talking about, for instance a ship. We refer to a ship as she.

But what about other objects, aren't they being slighted? A hammer? It's a he. It hasn't evolved much over the last 5,000 years, but it's handy to have around.

- Ziplock bags, he: It holds everything in, but one can see right through them.
- Copy machine, she: Once it's turned off, it takes a while to warm up.
- Tire, he: Often goes bald and many times is overinflated.
- Hot air balloon, he: In order to get anywhere, a fire has to be lit under it.
- Sponges, she: They're soft and squeezable and retain water.
- Subway, he: They use the same old lines to pick people up.
- Remote control, she: One would think this is male, but consider this. It gives men pleasure, he'd be lost without it, and while he doesn't know the right buttons to push, he keeps trying.

Now good people, you can rest tonight having gained this knowledge. I don't remember where I got this valuable information from, though.

## Hatchery Open for Visits, Tours

The Lhuuke Illahee Fish Hatchery has steadily made improvements over the last year and now has several new things for people to see. It's open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily and is located near milepost 13 on Logsdan Road.

The hatchery has three rearing ponds where the 50,000 fry (newborn fish) live for one year. Tribal fish and wildlife personnel decided to make the ponds as natural as possible by filling them with tree branches, which accomplished two things.

The branches attract bugs, which eat the algae that builds up on the branches. The bugs reproduce and the fish feed on the bugs. This, in turn, means that it isn't necessary for staff to feed the fish, which cuts down on costs for the tribe while providing a better feeding situation for the fry. The brush also creates a visual barrier for the fish, which enhances their less-crowded conditions than that of most fish hatcheries.

To help the fish complete their cycle of reproduction, tribal personnel built two spawning channels. The fry usually spend their first year in the rearing ponds. Then as smolts, they spend about 18 months in the ocean. They come back to the spawning channel to lay their eggs, averaging 3,000 eggs at a time. Once the eggs incubate, the fry are captured as they

swim out of the channel and are taken to the rearing ponds.

A tribal goal, says Stan van de Wetering, tribal fisheries biologist, is to eventually not use any hatchery fish so that all fish in the Lhuuke Illahee Fish Hatchery are wild salmon.

The spawning channels adjacent to Little Rock Creek and the rearing ponds are open to the public to observe the fish's lifecycle. An awning with a wood stove and picnic table, and a port-a-potty, are available. Safe and accessible

walking areas are marked with a roped path.

Fishing by tribal members only is allowed at the hatchery during the regular fishing season(s). Tribal and non-tribal individuals, families, and groups can visit the rearing ponds and spawning channels. Larger groups should call Stan at 541-444-8294 or 1-800-922-1399, ext. 294, or Frank Simmons, Natural Resources technician, at 541-444-8288 or 1-800-922-1399, ext. 288, to schedule a tour.

