

# TRIBAL PROGRAM NEWS

## Ask Raven

Raven will answer your questions about problems associated with alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. Look for boxes in tribal offices with Raven's picture. You can leave your questions for Raven in these boxes. Those questions suitable for Siletz News will be answered here. If you want a confidential answer to a question, please leave an address and Raven will contact you.

### Dear Raven: Why does alcohol and tobacco consistently play a huge role in this nation's history? Dee

Dear Dee: When the Europeans came to North America, they brought alcohol. Native people saw alcohol as a supernatural substance that could dull pain and change how a person saw things. Many also thought it was not a good thing. They believed it was poison – something that could make a person become possessed by a bad spirit.

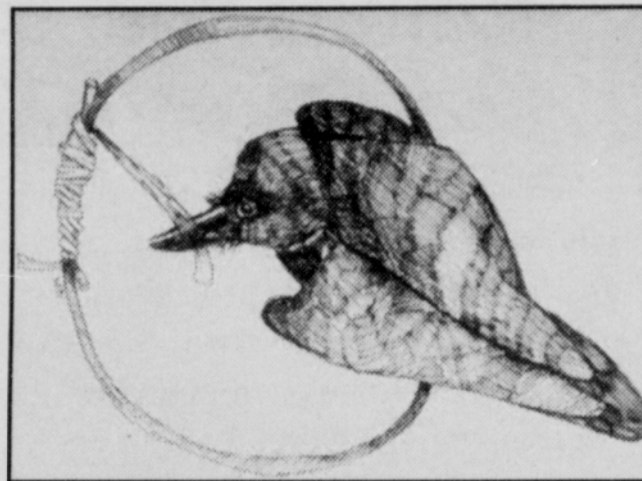
The fur trade in the 1700s spread alcohol use to a wide group of people. Traders used it not only as a reward for a good trapping, but also to cheat people out of their rightful payment.

In the early 1800s, Native leaders started calling for the U.S. government to stop the traders from offering alcohol to their people. These leaders saw that family violence, social destruction, suicide, and murder happened when their people drank alcohol.

Little action was taken until 1832 when the Fort Smith outpost in Arkansas was burned to the ground by a group of angry people who were under the influence of alcohol. Congress then passed a law prohibiting the sale of alcohol to Native American people.

The law remained in effect until 1953. The only way a Native person could get alcohol was through bootleggers and smugglers. Because of this, those who wanted to drink had to hide their alcohol. They bought it in large quantities and tended to drink it all at once.

These practices continue. Native Americans have one of the highest rates of non-drinkers of any ethnic group in America. However, they also have one of the highest rates of suicide, violence, incarceration, accidents, and illness due to alcohol compared to any other ethnic group.



Next month I will talk about tobacco. There also is a lot more to say about alcohol. If others want to contribute to this conversation, please put your comments in the Raven boxes. Thanks for writing, Dee! Raven

### Dear Raven: Do you think you should force your child to take a drug test if you think they are using? Anonymous

Dear Anonymous: Most of the time, my answer to this question is "yes!"

If you find out that your child is not using drugs, then the worst that has happened is that they will feel you didn't trust or believe them. You can work to let them know that you do have confidence in them, but that sometimes as a parent you have hard decisions to make and have to do the best you can to make sure they are safe. If you find that your child is using drugs, then you may have intervened at a critical time, making the difference in your child's future.

If you think that you may want to have your children take a drug test, tell them ahead of time so it will not come as a surprise. Like I said a few months ago, "Get between your child and drugs any way you can!" Good luck! Raven

## Announcements

If you think your child may be at risk for alcohol, tobacco, or other drug problems and/or juvenile delinquency behaviors, please call Delina or Crista at 1-800-600-5599 or 541-444-8286.

One of them will talk with you about risk factors and those things that help protect your child from developing those problems. They will help you develop a prevention plan that will support you as a parent and provide your child with support for making good choices.

## Activities

It's almost spring and spring break! If you want to be involved in kayaking, canoeing, or hiking, please let an A&D staff person know.

## Siletz Tribal Alcohol & Drug Programs

### Prevention, Outpatient Treatment, and Women's Transitional

Siletz: 1-800-600-5599 or  
541-444-8286  
Eugene: 541-484-4234

Salem: 503-390-9494  
Portland: 503-238-1512

### Meth Task Force Meeting

March 1, 2005 – Noon  
Siletz Tribal Housing Department  
Conference Room

### Male Volunteers Needed

We need you to volunteer, even once a year, to chaperone a youth prevention activity. We currently have one male staff person who chaperones. Without more help, we will have to limit overnight activities for boys and young men.

We will be glad to talk with you about the kinds of activities you are

willing to chaperone. All volunteers need to have a criminal background check, so please contact us now if you have any interest.

### Area Office Services

We have a new counselor in the Eugene office. Please call Nora Moore if you need A&D services in the Eugene area. A vacancy still exists in Portland and Conrad is going there one day a week. Hopefully, there will be a counselor there soon.

If you have any questions about services, please call the Siletz office at 1-800-600-5599 or 541-444-8286.

## Royalty Crown Proposals Due

The Pow-Wow Committee is now accepting proposals for the 2005 royalty crowns, which are for Miss Siletz, Jr. Miss Siletz, and Little Miss Siletz.

Crowns do not include years but do include separate barrettes that are approximately 3 inches in diameter with the year 2005 on them and matching the crown's colors.

All proposals must be submitted with a proposed design, including color scheme, size of beads, size of crown(s) and total cost. Preference will be given to crowns containing

the state of Oregon with treaty date, cursive writing, and minimum bead size of 11 or smaller.

**Proposals must be received by March 31, 2005.**

You can submit proposals for as many crowns as you would like. Payment is made after the

crown(s) and barrette(s) have been completed. Crowns must be finished by July 31, 2005.

Mail proposals to Siletz Pow-Wow Committee, P.O. Box 549,

Siletz, OR 97380-0549.

Questions? Please contact Nick Sixkiller at 541-484-4234.

