

# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

## Run to the Rogue

Our run began with elders, children, and members at Government Hill. As usual, the first mile includes all of the above. We should be very proud of the runners who were young and old. They were greeted along the way; I witnessed signs acknowledging them and the tribe.

Although it rained at the site, spirits were high and everyone seemed to enjoy the gathering.

## Lincoln County Agreement

The tribe recently entered into an agreement with Lincoln County that has several purposes.

We have been in discussion on issues over the past year. We both agree that our two governments provide valuable services to our members. In many cases the benefits overlap.

It's been recognized that when we apply to have land taken into trust, it immediately goes off the tax roles and as a result, revenues to the county stop. Large pieces of land such as the casino and hotel property cause a bigger concern than do small parcels.

Our agreement is to make a donation to the county that eases the loss of revenue that it's experiencing. The tribe would make this donation on July 1 of each year.

In return, the county commissioners agreed that they would not challenge fee-to-trust applications in Lincoln County in the future based on loss of revenue to the



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county. So far, their only challenges have been based on loss of revenue.

There would be an annual increase in this donation based on the Portland Consumer Price Index, but not more than 2½ percent. The agreement would be reviewed in four years.

Our meetings with the commissioners and their staff were very informative for them as well as for the Tribal Council.

## Oregon Legislative Commission

I was appointed to serve on the Oregon Legislative Commission to review the Legislature itself and to recommend improvements that can be made in the legislative process.

The 30 members of this commission represent Oregon's population. This is the first commission that has been appointed in the last 34 years.

We held our first meeting at the Capitol this month and began the process of setting up a committee structure to outline how we will work together. The Legislature as well as all Oregonians were asked to give input in this process.

The Legislature has been under severe criticism for not being able to take care of legislative activities during its regular sessions. Proposed legislation does not get the necessary action because of looming budget issues.

## Benefits for Elders

Many of you have heard that a motion to provide an "elders per capita" was recently voted on by the Tribal Council. The motion was put forward without any plan for where the money would come from and no plan was offered. The thought was that we could just pass a motion and put a plan together to pay monthly benefits to tribal elders that would increase in the first two years.

As many of you know, one of our long-term goals is to provide health insurance to all members and also to provide end-of-life care for our elders. Our only resources to provide this assistance are either through casino or timber revenues. Currently, neither of these resources is adequate to meet all of our objectives.

Our comprehensive plan was developed with tribal member input and we attempt to follow the input of our membership. I personally voted against the motion not because it's a bad idea, but because it's too big and too important an issue to support without careful thought and planning.

We cannot establish a program our elders will come to depend upon without making sure it's funded properly and funded not just for a year or two but for decades. We know how many elders we currently have from enrollment records; we can project with certainty for several years to come.

The numbers increase sharply in the next few years. We also have to consider how this benefit affects those whose income is offset by other programs like Supplemental Security Income and General Assistance.

Our staff are currently researching the prospects of what impact an elders per capita will have on other programs, what the real cost would be for the next several years, and whether this is at all feasible at this time. After we gather this information and look at any options that may be available, we will provide that information to all the membership.

When the time comes, it's likely that this issue would be referred to the general membership for a decision since five of us on the Tribal Council are tribal elders and would receive a direct benefit from our own actions.

## Some Siletz Tribal Children Need You!

The Indian Child Welfare Program needs good homes for temporary and long-term placement for some of our Siletz Tribal children. Foster homes and homes for relative placements are needed, both locally and within the 11-county service area.

If you are thinking of becoming a foster parent or relative placement, or just have questions, contact Sandra Simmons at 1-800-922-1399, ext. 1275, or 541-444-8275. Packets on the certification process and information sessions are available upon request.

## CTSI Jobs

CTSI Employment Job Line

541-444-8296 or 1-800-922-1399, ext. 1296

Visit our Web site at [www.ctsi.nsn.us](http://www.ctsi.nsn.us)

Note: "Open Until Filled" vacancies may close at any time. The tribe's Indian Preference policy will apply. Tribal government will not discriminate in selection because of race, creed, age, sex, color, national origin, physical handicap, marital status, politics, membership or non-membership in an employee organization.

## Most Often Requested Numbers

Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians	1-800-922-1399
Salem Area Office	503-390-9494
Salem Finance Office	1-888-870-9051
Portland Area Office	503-238-1512
Eugene Area Office	541-484-4234
Springfield Siletz Tribal Head Start	541-747-0161
Contract Health Services (CHS)	1-800-628-5720
Siletz Community Health Clinic	1-800-648-0449
Siletz Alcohol and Drug	1-800-600-5599
Chinook Winds Casino Resort	1-888-244-6665
Chemawa Health Clinic	1-800-452-7823
Bureau of Indian Affairs	1-800-323-8517
Web Site	<a href="http://www.ctsi.nsn.us">www.ctsi.nsn.us</a>

## Nuu-wee-ya'

(our words)

Introduction to the Athabaskan Language

Open to tribal members of all ages

Siletz	Salem
Siletz Tribal Community Center	Salem Area Office
Oct. 11 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.	Oct. 10 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Nov. 8 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.	Nov. 14 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Portland	Eugene
Portland Area Office	Eugene Area Office
Oct. 17 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.	Oct. 4 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Nov. 15 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.	Nov. 7 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Tribal members who need help on cultural projects should contact the Siletz Culture Department. We can assist you prior to the language classes.

For more information, contact Bud Lane at the Siletz Culture Department at 541-444-8320 or 1-800-922-1399, ext. 1320; or e-mail [budl@ctsi.nsn.us](mailto:budl@ctsi.nsn.us).