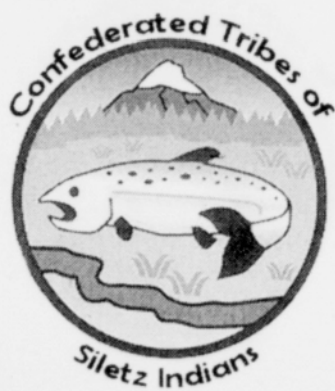


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SILETZ NEWS



Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians

Vol. 34, No. 2 February 2006



Brenda Bremner presents a \$6,000 check to Amy Gibson, Karen Carlson, and Sally Jennings of the Siletz Valley Friends of the Library. Tribal employees raised \$3,000 in December, which was matched dollar-for-dollar by tribal funds.

Siletz Library Renews Fund-Raising Efforts

by Sunshine Keck for Siletz Valley Friends of the Library (SVFOL)

Last fall, SVFOL members were elated when we reached our minimum estimated goal for the new library building (including furniture). In five years' time, we had raised \$751,000. The city of Siletz went out to bid in October and we hoped to start construction in January.

At the bid opening in November, the lowest bid stunned our architect and our building committee – \$813,000 just for the building. This was \$163,000 more than our highest estimate last February.

When the southeastern United States was devastated by three hurricanes, we feared we would see a financial impact here in Siletz but we did not expect the cost to jump from \$115 per square foot to \$194. Increased transportation and heating costs and a mini building boom here on the coast also contributed to the higher construction prices.

We will have to go out to bid again after removing everything we can that won't destroy the integrity of the project. For example, we can ask one of our donors, a local cabinetmaker, to create the two window seats after the building is completed. We can remove any chair rails and interior cosmetic framing around the windows.

This will not be enough – we still need to raise more money for today's construction costs. By cutting costs, raising more money, and going out to bid again, we hope to start building by July 2006. We encourage anyone with ties to our Siletz community to help by donating money.

The support from the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians has been key to getting our community's library project going. One-third of our total library funding has been provided by Tribal Council

and the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund – more than \$200,000. The tribe also has provided technical support – staff time, grant writers' expertise, printing, and other assistance.

After the bids came in, our spirits were pretty low. Then the Siletz Tribe offered a one-time payroll deduction for its employees, which was matched by tribal funds. At the end of 2005, employees donated \$3,000, matched by \$3,000 more from the tribe. This generosity has renewed our determination to continue to write grants, hold fundraisers, and talk to everyone we can.

So many of us have contributed our time, talents, and money because we believe this library and meeting room will be wonderful for our community. Located next to the post office, it will be accessible to everyone.

The library will provide a bright, safe, and inviting area for our kids. It will be enjoyable and comfortable for our elders to come and read books and magazines, take classes, or attend meetings. It can be a healthy alternative for teens after school or in the summer.

We invite each of you to donate money. No donation is too small (or too large!). Ask your friends and family to donate. Donor slips and envelopes can be picked up at the post office or library or we will be happy to mail the forms.

SVFOL is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Any funds contributed to the library building project are tax deductible. Send donations to Siletz Valley Friends of the Library, P.O. Box 130, Siletz, OR 97380.

For more information, call me at home, 541-444-7424, or call Sally Jennings, SVFOL president, at 541-444-2687.

Hatfield Looking for Tribal Members to Interview for Doctorate

Samantha Hatfield is working on her Ph.D. in environmental science at Oregon State University in Corvallis, Ore. She is the eldest daughter of Oscar and Kathy Hatfield of Independence, Ore., and is from the Goodell and Martin families.

Samantha needs to interview Siletz Tribal members age 18 and older who are practicing traditional knowledge and techniques, and who are willing to be interviewed for her school research study.

Her study is aimed at showing that traditional ecological knowledge is worthwhile and valuable, and provides important information about tribal members' local environment.

Traditional knowledge is used to guide hunting, fishing, eeling, and gathering practices, past and present.

It's also used to interpret weather and environmental conditions.

When this project is finished, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians will retain the interview tapes and transcripts, and will receive a copy of Samantha's dissertation.

It's Samantha's goal that this information be used for the benefit of Siletz Tribal members, now and into the future.

Family members who practice traditional knowledge are welcome to be interviewed together. Interviews will be roughly one hour; follow-up interviews can be arranged.

Interested tribal members or those wanting more information should contact Samantha at 503-838-4158, 503-302-7558, or at singingbear@go.com.

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Siletz News
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