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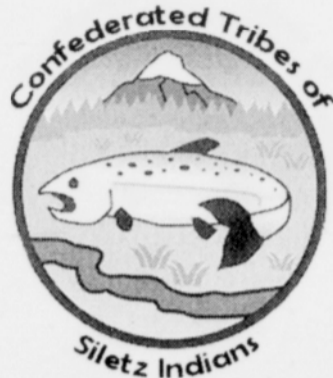
Pow-wow, prevention, NARCH,
cultural center
Pages 5-9

Students, athletes, reunions,
poetry, fund-raisers
Pages 10-12

Food labels, health conference,
5-A-Day, new Dental hours
Pages 15-16

Gladys Knight, Cheap Trick, job
fair, Mentor/Protégé Program
Pages 18-19

SILETZ NEWS



Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians

Vol. 34, No. 4 April 2006



Tryna Luton and Bill McCaughan from OSU, Brenda Bremner from the Siletz Tribe, and Kris Whitehead, Van Peters, and Katie Lindstrom from Siletz Valley School at the SVS-OSU signing ceremony

Tribe Purchases Timberland

The Siletz Tribe increased its timberland base by approximately 2 percent recently when it purchased an 80-acre parcel approximately 1.5 miles south of the city of Siletz in late December 2005.

The owner of the parcel offered the property on a right-of-first-refusal basis to the tribe instead of advertising it on the open market.

The new parcel consists mostly of 15- and 25-year-old Douglas fir, with small scattered amounts of merchantable fir, hemlock, and spruce. Access is good via a loop road through the property.

The tribe will grow the timber on this property until it reaches the tribe's 60-year-old rotation age. Commercial thinnings may be possible prior to that time. Money for the cash purchase of this property came from excess pledge revenue funds.

The tribe continues to search for available timber properties for purchase. It has secured a line of credit from Key Bank for future purchases.

Ideally, the tribe would like to find parcels with 25- to 45-year-old timber on them in order to fill in a gap in that size timber within its current land holdings.

SVS Adds Partnerships for High School, Extends Charter

February was quite a month for Siletz Valley School and the future looks bright for this nearly three-year-old institution.

First, representatives from Siletz Valley School signed an agreement with Oregon State University for OSU to assist in creating the Siletz Valley Early College Academy. OSU's Extended Campus and its P-12 Outreach programs will develop and deliver online high school courses to help fulfill the academy's curricular requirements.

"In a small high school, you're limited in what you can offer," said Katie Lindstrom, president of the SVS School Board and a parent with four children at SVS, the oldest of which is in the eighth grade. "There are so many more opportunities we can offer online."

The academy will provide a blended high school and post second-

ary curriculum. Students can earn a high school diploma and up to two years of transferable college credits at the same time.

"If you really use this program, you could earn an AA degree at the end of four years," said Van Peters, school administrator at SVS, during the signing ceremony.

As part of an initiative administered by Antioch University in Seattle (*Siletz News*, November 2005), Siletz Academy will be one of 10 early colleges to serve Native youth and community members in Oregon, Washington, and California.

Additional partners include Oregon Coast Community College, Lincoln County School District, and Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory.

At the end of February, the community received some good news about both of its educational programs.

The LCSD board of directors voted to extend the SVS charter for another five years. Additionally, Siletz Academy received the three-year charter its representatives had requested.

"Our goal on behalf of tribal members has been to raise the retention rate for high school kids," said Brenda Bremner, general manager of the Siletz Tribe, at the SVS/OSU signing ceremony. But her comments reflect on all of the recent success and growth of education in the Siletz area. "We're pleased with the efforts here and what's going on with the kids."

Attention Siletz Tribal Veterans

Any veteran who is interested in performing Honor Guard ceremonies for various events at Chinook Winds Casino Resort and pow-wows, etc., should contact Clay Arden at the Portland Area Office, 503-238-1512 or 1-800-922-1399, ext. 1419.

A stipend will be given to those who participate.

What's Inside

Letters to the Editor	2	Tribal Council Timesheets	14
Chairman's Report	3	Siletz Clinic	15
Tribal Program News	5	Chinook Winds	17
Tribal Member News	10	Passages	19
Notices	13		

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