

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Visit by Smith and Wyden Staff

It isn't often that we are visited on site by representatives of the United States Congress and/or their staffs. What better way for members of the Congress to find out about our Tribes than by firsthand visits to our reservation, face-to-face contacts with our Tribal members and dialogue with our program staff.

Too often, regarding Indian issues, our congressional representatives are only presented verbal descriptions of who we are, where and how we live, and our educational, social and material programs and issues. We often wish our representatives would come and see for themselves how we live, what we have accomplished and to personally experience the burning issues that we have yet to deal with.

That is exactly what happened this past month when we welcomed staff members from the offices of Senators Gordon Smith and Ron Wyden. It's already well-known that Smith, who happens to be a Republican, and Wyden, a Democrat, communicate and work cooperatively with each other whenever they can. This holds true for their staffs as well.

We were able to give them a tour through our clinic, our housing projects, the child care center, community center, our administration building and our Dance House.

We had an opportunity to show our visitors our community health clinic in operation. They took the time to talk personally with clinic staff and in turn heard from our staff their concerns about the need for increased health care funding.

It's the staff members who are expected to provide to their congressmen verification of what they have learned from these site visits. It's our hope that both Smith and Wyden will join Sen. Byron Dorgan's initiative to increase Indian health care funding (many of



Delores Pigsley

you may already know that Sen. Dorgan serves as chairman of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee, as well as chairman of other committees, and has been very vocal in his efforts on behalf of Indian Tribes, in particular, Indian health).

To round out their personal experiences on our reservation, the visitors were welcomed at our traditional Dance House with a warm fire and highlights of our Tribal history. We wanted our visitors to understand that the Dance House reflects a vital part of our spiritual life and cultural history.

We appreciated the opportunity to show our accomplishments firsthand. We often speak with the senators and their staffs in an office setting – **their offices** – so it was nice to be able to show them around – and for them to personally experience and speak with us on **our land**.

Chinook Winds Casino Resort – NAC's 2008 Sexiest Casino

What many of you may not know is that the Siletz Tribe recently received high accolades for what *Native Ameri-*

can Casino Magazine called the "Sexiest Casino in the Nation!"

Titles have been awarded to some very large and beautiful Indian casinos in past years, such as Mystic Lake, Foxwoods, Barona, etc. by *Native American Casino Magazine*. This year we came in ahead of all of them.

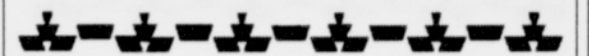
The NAC award was presented by Melanie Dallas of the national NAC Magazine prior to the Lee Ann Womack show on June 20. The May 2008 issue of the magazine featured photos of Chinook Winds and stated:

"Majestically overlooking the Pacific Ocean from the Lincoln City, Oregon shores, the 157,000-square-foot Casino Resort is Oregon's premier casino."

The article also featured photos of the interior waterfall area and the golf course.

The criteria for the award were based on overall operation of the casino and the overall appearance. It described the casino's entertainment, other family entertainment features such as the arcade and child care center, and other amenities such as the hotel and golf course.

We are proud of our casino and all the staff, and appreciate the magazine for presenting to us this outstanding national recognition.



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
www.ctsi.nsn.us



Restoration CD Available

If you attended the Restoration Celebration, you saw a CD of Tribal history and old photos that was played during the event. We are making that CD available to Tribal members at no cost. You need to fill out a request form (available on the Tribal Web site – www.ctsi.nsn.us) and send it to Diane Rodriguez, c/o Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR 97380-0549.

The CD is restricted to one per Tribal member and each Tribal member must request their own. For questions, please call Diane Rodriguez at 800-922-1399, ext. 1291, or 541-444-8291.

Siletz News Letters Policy

Siletz News, a publication of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, is published once a month. Our editorial policy encourages input from readers about stories printed in *Siletz News* and other tribal issues.

All letters **must include** the author's signature, address, and phone number in order to be considered for publication. *Siletz News* reserves the right to edit any letter for clarity and length, and to refuse publication of any letter or any part of a letter that may contain profane language, libelous statements, personal attacks, or unsubstantiated statements.

Not all letters are guaranteed publication upon submission. Published letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of *Siletz News*, Tribal employees, or Tribal Council.

Please type or write legibly. Letters longer than 450 words may be edited for length as approved by Tribal Council Resolution #96-142.

Please note: The general manager of the Siletz Tribe is the editor-in-chief of *Siletz News*.

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Deadline for the August issue is July 10. Submission of articles and photos is encouraged. Please read the Passages Policy on page 23 when submitting items for Passages.



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Name: _____

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Change of address: Tribal members – call the Enrollment Department at 541-444-8258 or 800-922-1399, ext. 1258; all others – call the newspaper office.