

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



To the editor:

Hello everyone, my name is Illeana Blacketer. This past year I have enjoyed representing our Tribe as Little Miss Siletz 2007-2008.

I met new people and got to travel to many new pow-wows. I want to thank you for all of the support I have received this past year.

Once again, thank you.

Illeana Blacketer

Illeana Blacketer



To the editor:

Hello, I am Rose Marie Pigsley, Jr. Miss Siletz for 2007-2008.

My parents are Tim and Sara Pigsley of Salem, Ore. My maternal grandparents are Marie Croff and Jim "Tinyman" Croff of Browning, Mont. My paternal grandparents are Delores and Donald Pigsley of Salem.

My Siletz Tribal bands are Chetco, Tututni and Klamath from my father's side and decendancy of the Alfred Lane and Delores Pigsley family. I am also Yankton Dakota Sioux from my father's side from my grandfather, Donald Pigsley. I am also part Blackfeet, Assinaboin and Gros Ventre from my mother, Sara Pigsley, and maternal grandparents Jim and Marie Croff.

I would like to take this opportunity to address and thank the Tribal members of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians and the people who have done things to help out Tribal elders, community members and youth in the past and present.

It has been an honor and a rewarding experience to represent the Siletz Tribe with every opportunity I have had. The whole thing has been great and I have wanted to be royalty ever since I was 6 or 7 and saw the beautiful crowns – and this was a dream come true. I have met many people from other Tribes and cultures this year and I have learned to speak in front of crowds and family members at events and pow-wows.

I would like to thank my family and friends for their support and love and encouragement throughout the year.

I would like to thank Mona Fisher and the Tribal Council for support and



Rose Marie Pigsley

funding, and my mother for being the main driver to attend all the events and pow-wows during my reign this year.

I enjoyed the opportunity I had so much that I am going to run again for the same title this year. I wish the best to the incoming royalty for the Confederated Tribes of Siletz 2008-2009.

Rose Marie Pigsley

Dear Fellow Tribal Members:

I would like to express my deepest appreciation and heartfelt thanks to the fellow Tribal members who have interviewed and shared their experiences with me. These interviews greatly help not only my research, but also help in facilitating information for our Tribal archives.

I am so very thankful for the members who have been gracious in helping me with finishing my schoolwork and understanding that my work is aimed at preserving and documenting our information as Tribal members.

My goal is that this work will help us as a Tribe currently and into the future.

As more and more non-Tribal people and agencies are becoming interested in Tribal culture and information, it is my strong belief that we, as Tribal members, need to be able to retain and preserve information which we have had passed to us and that we use (or attempt to use) on a regular basis.

Again, I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to document through interviews, as well as for the members who understand and support my devotion to our Tribal history and culture.

I am in the process of ending interviews and writing my dissertation thesis. If there are any members who may have not had the opportunity to interview, but still are interested in documenting their experiences of the local environment and how they adapted to the ecological changes, I would welcome the opportunity before I end the study.

I can be contacted directly at 503-420-9654, hatfiels@onid.orst.edu or singingbear@go.com

Thank you again,

Samantha Hatfield



Siletz Tribal Elders:

Ahhoh

Greetings and Respects

Our Chaplain and Native American Circle here at W.C.C.F. (Warner Creek Correctional Facility) are sending these three sets of earrings to you as honor and thank you gifts because Siletz Tribal member Lisa Brown donated the beads to help assist us in getting started making gifts for our pow-wow here at W.C.C.F. We greatly appreciate her caring and help, also have included a pair of earrings for her. Lisa Brown is a true inspiration and a positive influence to us and should be honored and recognized as a positive Siletz role model, for we also ordered \$125 worth of beads through her, which she gave us a 30% discount and saved us \$54. So we – Native American Circle, Chaplain Bowen and me, Robert Edwin Peddycoart (Siletz Tribal member) – want to sincerely thank you and honor you with these gifts of appreciation!

Ahhoh

Love, honor and respects.

Sincerely,

Native American Circle at W.C.C.F.

To the editor:

I guess everyone knows our economy is in a rough patch and will get rougher if jobs and wage growth continue to falter.

It's impacting everyone, especially our elders and those on low fixed incomes.

Up in this part of the North Country in New York state, our county agencies are considering to house people together who can't afford to heat their homes this winter. Others are planning to close their homes and move in with relatives or friends to share costs with them.

Our assemblymen and women are working hard to establish safety net funds for people who can't afford heating this coming winter. Our governor called on them for suggestions. He also said our state has a lot of capital project money left that can be sent to counties to use for safety net funds toward home heating.

It's expected that legislatures will discuss the hot issues of heating homes and subsidies. They're also expected to consider raising the income ceiling for Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) so more people would qualify for home heating assistance. They've increased the food stamp program.

I don't know about Oregon county programs, but I'm sure almost every county in the nation has assistance available for elder and low-income people. Usually it's called The Office of Aging, but look into the program to see if you qualify for home heating assistance. Check with your local Senior Citizens Council. They can tell you what you need to know and where to apply.

I'd like to see our Tribal Council offer some assistance to our elders and low-income members during the winter months (December-March). I believe we should have EPR project and capital funds that could be passed on to our elders and low-income members. Even though the funds may be committed to future projects and spending, I think the priority now, this year, is obvious: to spend some of these funds on members, especially elders and fixed-income people.

So many things went wrong this year and in a short time. Whatever our Tribe can offer in the way of funds would help bring some much-needed relief in home heating, utilities, gas, medicines and groceries. Everything is going up because of delivery costs.

You can put into use the Wal-Mart cards again. The out-of-pocket savings can be used toward fuel bills, gas and medicine. You also could increase the elder stipend during the winter months to pay fuel bills. Vouchers for gas and groceries could be given to members.

In spite of our big downturn in economy, the uncertainties and wrong things going on, our Tribal government remains a blessing to us. We're thankful for that.

Have a good summer!

Rose Kentta