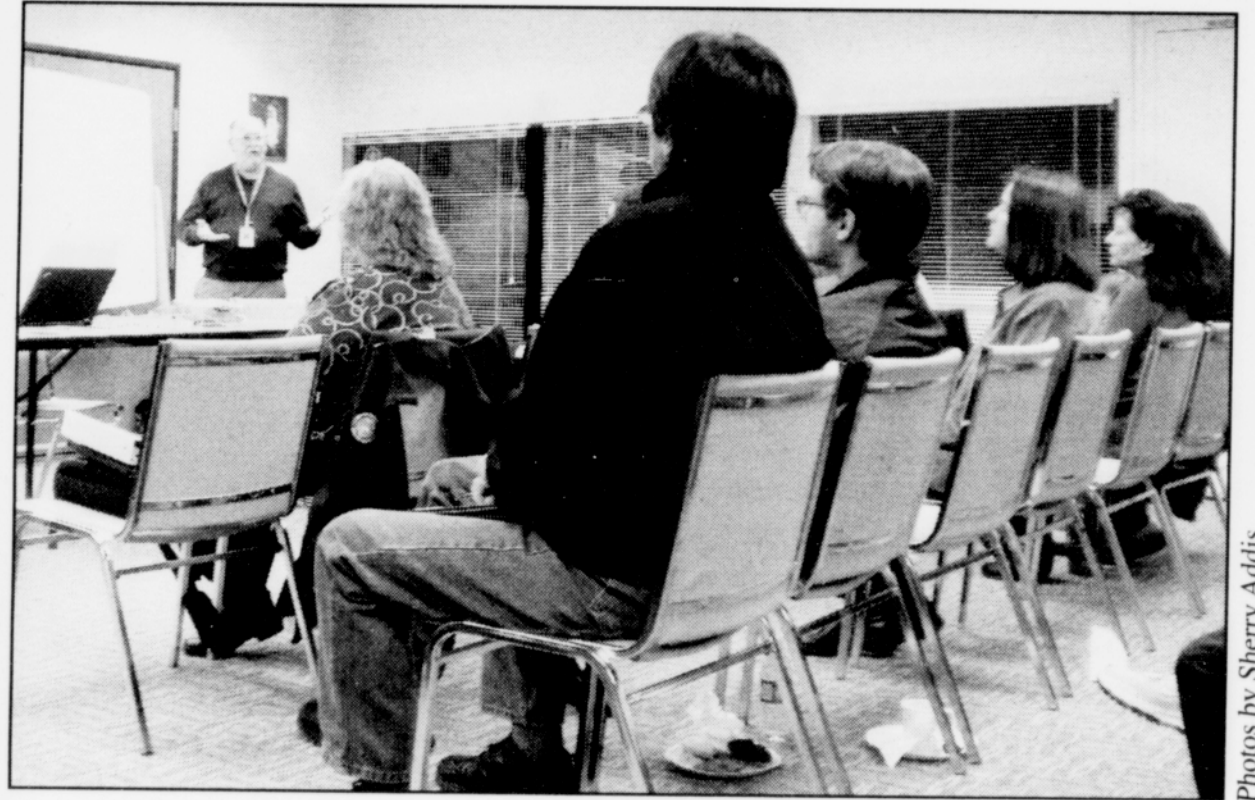


TRIBAL PROGRAM NEWS



Left: Tribal Elder Sister Francella Griggs talks to Rick Colvin at the community meeting in Portland.

Above: Rick Colvin, environmental planner, makes a presentation to Siletz Tribal members and their families.

Photos by Sherry Addis

Planning Department Listens to Concerns

by Sherry Addis

The Planning Department held the first of a series of area office meetings in Portland on March 5. Attending from Planning were Pamela Barlow-Lind, Tribal planner; Rick Colvin, environmental planner; and Naomi Shadwick, planner/grant writer. Also attending from Siletz was Tribal Council member Lisa Brown.

Thirty Siletz Tribal members from the Portland-metro area came to hear the presentation and share their opinions.

Pamela and Rick opened the meeting with a review of outcomes from last year's meetings and projects that were completed in the last year, which included our new Portland area office.

Naomi discussed grants the Tribe has received and those on which she is currently

working. Throughout the meeting there was a lively discussion that resulted in 10 pages of suggestions or concerns from Tribal members.

Tribal members from the Portland area who could not attend but would like to provide input to this process are encouraged to contact the individuals listed below:

Sherry Addis, Portland area office supervisor, 503-238-1512 or sherrya@ctsi.nsn.us
Pamela Barlow-Lind, 800-922-1399, ext. 1361 or pamelal@ctsi.nsn.us
Rick Colvin, 800-922-1399, ext. 1287, or richardc@ctsi.nsn.us

Planning will return to Portland for a follow-up meeting April 2 from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. We hope to see you there.

Siletz Elders Honor Day
April 7
Chinook Winds Casino Resort

Elders' Council Meeting

April 4 • 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Chinook Winds Golf Resort

For more information, please contact Danise Barker at
800-922-1399, ext. 1225; 541-444-8225; or daniseb@ctsi.nsn.us

April Notes From Healthy Family Healthy Child

The phones in our office continue to be quite busy with people asking us about when White Bison will return to Siletz. At first the answer was a difficult one because there was no funding to continue this important program.

This month, however, the answer is different. It is a pleasure to announce that funding has been secured to bring White Bison back to our community so its work can continue in bringing wellbriety to the Tribe. The question that now presents itself is when this will happen, which is, as it turns out, a difficult question to answer.

White Bison is a busy, thriving and successful entity with many demands on its time, which is an enviable position for any company to be in given the current economic situation. Trying to match their availability to our availability has proven to be a difficult thing, but we continue to try to agree on a specific date. This article will endeavor to keep readers informed when a date is set.

One of the largest barriers to setting a date for the next phase of White Bison training is working around an important project that Don Coyhis and White Bison

have planned for May and June. This project is called *1879-2009 Wellbriety Journey for Forgiveness*.

Coyhis has been working toward the completion of this project for a couple of years. The purpose of this journey is to visit the sites of Indian schools in Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming, Nevada, California, Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, New York and Pennsylvania.

The Journey will begin at Chemawa Indian School on May 16 and will end at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C., on June 24. The last school site visited will be at Carlisle, Pa., just prior to the closing ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Since 2000, White Bison has been carrying the Sacred Hoop to Native American communities around the nation. This journey represents the fifth multi-state journey of the Sacred Hoop.

Coyhis says in a pamphlet, "Since 1988, White Bison has been developing resources and training materials to help Native American people heal from

alcohol and substance abuse. During this time we have learned that it isn't just the alcohol and substance abuse that needs to be healed. The unresolved grief from historical events that happened in generations long past affect the mental, physical, emotional and spiritual health of our people. This 'intergenerational trauma' has devastating effects on individuals, families, communities and nations. The elders have told us that before our people can heal from these effects, they will have to forgive and grieve for the losses of the past. The Sacred Hoop brings the gifts of hope, healing, forgiveness and unity."

The Wellbriety Journey for Forgiveness - Healing the Legacy of the Boarding School Days calls attention to the need to forgive and focuses on the impact of the boarding school experience for many of our ancestors. White Bison will hold gatherings at each of the 23 historic boarding school sites.

On June 24 at the *End of the Journey Gathering* in Washington, D.C., White Bison will present a petition to President Obama asking him to provide an apology for the federal government's role in the

abuses that occurred during the boarding school era.

Siletz Tribal members can sign this petition online at www.wellbrietyjourney.org/petition.htm.

This is a huge undertaking. Coyhis and White Bison ask for your support by sponsoring a mile of this historical journey.

"White Bison asks that you contribute \$18.79 for one mile. Why \$18.79 a mile? The first U.S. Government Indian Boarding School was founded at Carlisle, Pa., in 1879. The goal for this journey is to promote awareness, dialogue, forgiveness and healing among Native people for the intergenerational trauma resulting from this era, to highlight 1879 as the beginning of this tragic and as yet not a properly documented chapter in American history. In recognition of your generosity and support, you will receive a bracelet saying '2009 Forgiveness Journey' for each mile you fund."

If you choose to make a contribution, you can do so by going to <http://wellbrietyjourney.org/FundaMile.htm> or contacting Janet Wicklund in the Tribal A&D Program.