



Photo by Natasha Kavanaugh

Work continues on the new Siletz Community Health Clinic building, now set to open this spring. Construction progress has been running two to three months ahead of schedule, even through the rainy winter months. The 32,000-square-foot facility will include 15 exam rooms, two procedure rooms, eight dental operatories, medical laboratory, radiology suite, counseling offices, Contract Health, Prevention, Community Health and administrative space. Clinic staff also will be able to better prepare for disasters and emergencies because they will have space to provide vaccinations, treatment, triage, quarantine and decontamination as necessary. The project is funded by a \$2 million grant from the Indian Health Service, combined with an IHS equipment grant, Tribal health revenue collections and a short-term loan. No health program dollars are being used for construction – every Contract Health Service dollar is being spent on health care for Tribal members.

February Notes from the Healthy Family Healthy Child Project

Every once in awhile we come across things that strike us as being meaningful and important thoughts. We will start the next few months with such thoughts. We hope you gain from them or that they stimulate consideration. Enjoy.

Humility – Most of us have been at times generous, brave, respectful and even wise. But humility is the one virtue that validates all the others. It's the one virtue that enables us to coexist with everyone around us in the world – be it plants, animals or people – because it can and does diminish arrogance, which is the biggest obstacle to peace and coexistence.

Over the last couple of months, the Healthy Family Healthy Child Project attended two conferences held for Tribal members. These were the annual Tribal Youth Conference in Lincoln City and the annual SSP conference called "Improve Your Success," both of which were interesting and informative. Each conference, based on the feedback received, was a success.

The Tribal Youth Conference was held at the B'nai B'rith camp on Devils Lake in Lincoln City. It was attended by 50 Tribal youth and several adults. The Creator blessed the gathering with hail, wind and a very awesome display of lightning and thunder, which the campers reported shook the cabins.

Many adults contributed to the success of this event. George Nagel supplied the inspiration and leadership; everybody else wore many hats and contributed in many ways.

We would like to thank Katy Kaady, Sonya Moody-Jurado, Leah Suitter-Ebersol, Margo Hudson, Mark Pullam, Bekki Lundy, Lauren Patterson, Nora Williams, Jessica Garcia, Adrienne Crooks, Stuart Whitehead, Hal Darst, Edwina Flagg, Cova St. Onge and Frank Aspria for their participation, energy, patience, talents and inspiration.

The emphasis of the conference was "respect." The keynote speaker was Marcus Red Thunder, who elaborated on that theme while keeping the kids laughing, thinking and involved as he delivered his message to us all.

On the second day of the conference, Chairperson Delores Pigsley generously gave of her time to come and talk to these young adults about many things, such as her role in getting the Tribe restored and the role of respect in this accomplishment.

She spoke of the discrimination and hate that was directed at the Tribe and at her as a Native woman and Tribal representative. She also told the gathering about growing up and the role respect played in her large family.

The organizers of this event would like to express their appreciation to those talented young drummers and singers, the

West Coast Boyz, who provided us with the ceremony for this event. They drew many of the young people to their drum like a magnet and excited much interest in this ceremonial aspect of Tribal life.

The kids were kept very busy with the many activities, most of which had cultural significance, that were planned for them throughout the conference. One of the highlights was the canoe races, which for a few teams also turned out to be a lesson in cold water swimming.

If the 50 young adults who attended the annual Youth Conference represent the future of our Tribe, we can rest easy, for it's our opinion that these future leaders of this Tribe are fully capable and full of vision. We believe the Tribe is going to be in good hands in the future, with very strong leadership. Thanks to all of you who helped and attended the conference.

Improve Your Success Conference

This year's IYS or "Improve Your Success" two-day conference was held at Silver Falls State Park and attended by approximately 55 Program 1 clients and staff members.

The conference was held during the height of a cold snap, with temperatures well into the 20s, but all report the chosen venue was warm and cozy. The staff at Silver Falls State Park provided those

attending the conference with great food, a clean facility and great service.

The keynote speaker for day one of this conference was Allen Nelson, outpatient counselor in the Portland office. He stimulated much interest and discussion with a well-prepared multi-media presentation on historical trauma.

Participants also enjoyed the cultural activity of making dentalium necklaces during the late afternoon. After the evening meal, Bingo was the featured activity with lots of popcorn followed by an evening of movies in the cabins.

The second day consisted of a session on "Effective Job Searching and Readiness for Change" presented by Mark Pullam and Margo Hudson. This was followed by a cultural presentation by Marcus Red Thunder, who also spoke to the participants about "Readiness for Change."

Participants tell us they had a great time with lots of cultural activities and the "Life Boat" and "Change Challenge" games were full of laughter.

When the buses left for their respective towns, the comment heard most was that everybody enjoyed themselves and hoped the next conference was as positive, informative and fun as this conference had been.

We would like to thank all who attended this conference and shared in this experience.