

Le' daa-ghit-yvn (Now We Sing): Youth Learn Dee Ni Children's Songs

Tribal Language Project features songs, upcoming performance at SVS

By Cova St. Onge

The Siletz Tribal Language Project staff is pleased to announce that our monthly Elder's Language Luncheons have attracted some visitors in the last few months.

On Feb. 23, Clarinda Black, Felisha Howell, Cecillie Butler, Makiah and Tehya Woodruff, Kateri Whitehead and Jazmyn Metcalf visited the project's Elder Advisory Committee. The girls were accompanied by their grandparents Bennie and Teri Brown, Sharon Mason, Betty Whitehead and Aunt Peggy Medina.

The seven girls have been working to learn Dee Ni children's songs. They were eager to share their accomplishments with the Elders and their grandparents at the luncheon.

The very proud Elder Advisory Committee was happy to welcome the girls back for a second performance when they sang *Happy Birthday*, *Row Row Row*

Your Canoe and *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star*, all in Dee Ni.

The Siletz Tribal Language Project, through the response of Elders interested in the project, formed the Elder Language Advisory Committee, which includes Ed Ben, Eddie Collins, Kay Steele, Jim Swanson, Lorna Scott, Nancy Simmons and Elouise Case. The committee meets monthly to review curriculum and oversee the progress of the language project.

On March 9, Kathy Killian, program specialist for the Administration for Native Americans, and SVECA student Ronald Butler joined the Elders. The group reviewed curriculum across grades for the Nee Dash lesson, cultural sharing and Dee Ni songs.

The Head Start classroom contributed to the visit with a performance of the Dee Ni version of *Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes*. The day proved to be a very successful event.

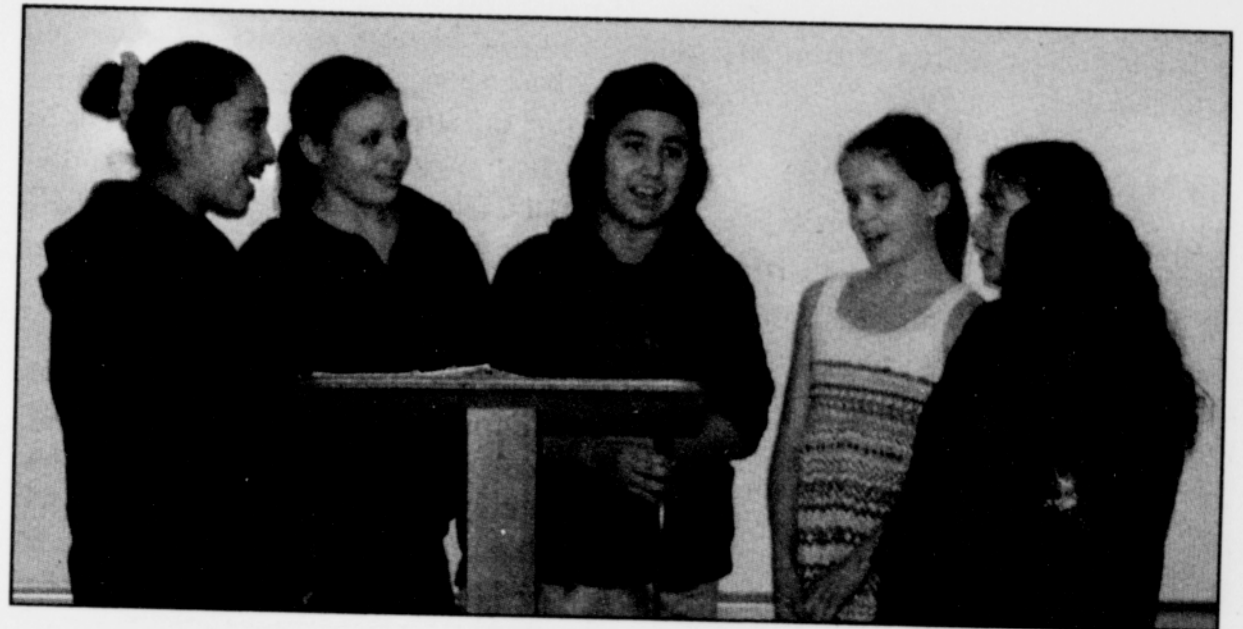


Photo by Diane Rodriguez

Spring Culture and Language Sharing Event at SVS

The Siletz Tribal Language Project staff looks to continue with that success. We have partnered with Siletz Valley School to organize the "Spring Culture and Language Sharing" performance

that will showcase the accomplishments of SVS students and the language-rich environment they have had the rare opportunity to experience this school year.

Classes have included sign language, Arabic taught by an Egyptian teacher and the Siletz Tribal Language Project staff enriching the lives of the students during this academic year.

Songs and skits will be included in the program. We look forward to sharing this unique environment with you April 22 at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. in the small gym at SVS.

Nuu-wvn srxii-xe xuu-srxii-xe hii-chu xuu-srxii-xe hii-chu xaa-ma

(For our children, their children and their children)

Hvm'-chi'

Photo above: Kateri Whitehead, Makiah Woodruff, Clarinda Black, Tehya Woodruff, Jazmyn Metcalf and Felisha Howell sing a Dee Ni children's song and (left) join Tribal Elders at a luncheon.



Courtesy photo by Cova St. Onge

April is Alcohol Awareness Month

CEDARR and Tribal Prevention staff are planning activities at Siletz Valley School. If you would like to be involved, please call Jenifer Metcalf at 541-444-8267 or 800-600-5599.

April 8 is National Alcohol Screening Day

For more information, contact www.nationalalcoholcreeningday.org. A&D Program staff will provide alcohol screening materials on April 8 at the Siletz Community Health Clinic conference room from 10 a.m. to noon and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Please stop by and see us!

Area office A&D counselors will have information available during April.

Please talk with your area office staff to find out more.

The Move

The Siletz office is moving to the new clinic in April! We will be on the lower level at the south side of the building across from the ropes course. We will have our own entrance and waiting area.

Moving days for Siletz A&D staff are April 7-9. We will do everything we can to continue services during our move and will be grateful for your patience and support. Our new mailing address will be:

Siletz Tribal Alcohol & Drug Program
P.O. Box 320
Siletz, OR 97380

Prevention Program Looking for Volunteers, Help with Making DVD

If you are interested in volunteering with the Prevention Program, here are the specific guidelines for volunteering:

- Apply to be a Tribal Prevention volunteer at Human Resources. This will include agreeing to a criminal background check and a drug screen.
- Attend an orientation with Prevention staff to learn about ethics and program policies and procedures. A volunteer training program will be developed.
- For those with previous problems with alcohol/drugs, at least one year of living a clean and sober lifestyle is required.

- Participate in making a prevention DVD:

- A. All people who are going to be filmed have to sign an agreement to be filmed.
- B. The Tribal general manager and Tribal Council must approve of the final cut before it is released for public viewing.

If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact Jenifer Metcalf, Prevention coordinator, at adprev@ctsi.nsn.us or 800-600-5599 or 541-444-8267.

TLC Attitudes of Gratitude – For the Sun, the Move and Settling In

By Lynn Whitlow

On this day as I am writing, it's easy to be grateful for life. Although I woke to ice on my windshield, it quickly melted away and life-giving sun made an early entrance. There was rumor of snow overnight ... fortunately not!

Residents are getting more settled into our new women's house, making adjustments that make everyday living feel better. By time of this publication,

all furnishings should have arrived and be in use.

TLC residents always have things/events to be grateful for. This month they include: I'm grateful for my daughter being a part of my life every day, watching her take her first steps and loving me. My roommate and her son are a big part of my life ... love you guys. Grateful to the TLC staff for being so understanding and helpful to my needs. Love you all.

Seven-year-old resident: I'm grateful I live close to my friends. Other grate-

fuls: Our new roommate, being able to work through emotional things – when before I used to use "over the game" emotions. I know now I don't have to do that. Progress!

Going to the movies with a good friend. I'm grateful for the men in our community who do positive things for the programs and for our Tribe. For my lil sunny bunny and for the phenomenal women in my life. We appreciate all your service, Jen!

We never tire of thanking our wonderful volunteers – Alice McCain and Dee Hadden for overnight coverage, Denise Riding In for her support and George Nagel for his consistent help.

We are grateful to Public Works for helping us put "stuff" together and doing it with a smile. Thanks, Tracy Bailey, for all the little extras you have helped us with.

Keep joy in your heart and a smile on your face!