

Green resolutions for the new year will help reduce, reuse, repair, recycle

It's that time of year when we make promises about how we'll change ourselves in the upcoming New Year. We look for ways to make a change in our lives, hoping for better health, a better job or less stress. Some resolutions are small; others are big life-changing challenges.

New Year's resolutions often are broken, especially if they are hastily made without thinking through the logistics. But if you take a few moments to think about what you want for the upcoming year, you're more likely to choose realistic commitments.

Going green is a great way to start off the new year, but it's such a broad term that the specifics of how you'll go green could end up taking a back seat to daily life. Instead of making a broad generalization, choose a few specific ways to green your life in 2011.

Not sure where to start? Here are a few suggestions. Most suggestions fall into the broad categories of reduce, reuse, repair and recycle. Pick one and follow through! Let us know how you do.

Reduce

- Single-use bags – plastic or paper
- Single-use coffee cups at the drive-through
- Plastic water bottles
- Disposable dishes
- Single-use batteries
- Bills sent through the mail – use electronic delivery instead

- Junk mail
- Packaging
- Car trips with a single person or a single destination
- New purchases
- Purchases from big-box stores; buy local instead

Reuse

- Before you throw it away, see if someone else can use it or if you can use it in a different way.
- Donate to and buy from thrift shops, flea markets or garage sales.

Repair

- Getting more than one use out of something not only saves you money, it also is hugely satisfying.
- Half of electrical goods left at dumps still work or require only very basic repairs, so think before throwing it out.

Recycle

- Learn new things to recycle, such as:
 1. Batteries
 2. Compact florescent lights
 3. Plastic bags – the ones you use when you forget the reusable bag!
 4. Electronics
 5. Cell phones
- Purchase items made from recycled material in order to encourage com-

panies to make items from recycled material. Close the loop.

fewer one-use items. Buying an entire new wardrobe of clothing so you can get it all organic or locally does not.

Be careful not to fall for green consumerism.

- While buying green products is a good idea, it's not green if you're overdoing it. Think about what you really need before you shop. Buying stainless steel water bottles and lunch boxes and reusable shopping bags makes sense because then you'll use

If you have any questions about these tips or other energy efficiency and conservation questions, please call the Siletz Tribal Energy Program at 800-922-1399 or 541-444-2532, ext. 1276, 1300 or 1271; or e-mail us at step@ctsi.nsn.us.

The first five people to call or e-mail us after Jan. 6 will receive a free reusable water bottle.

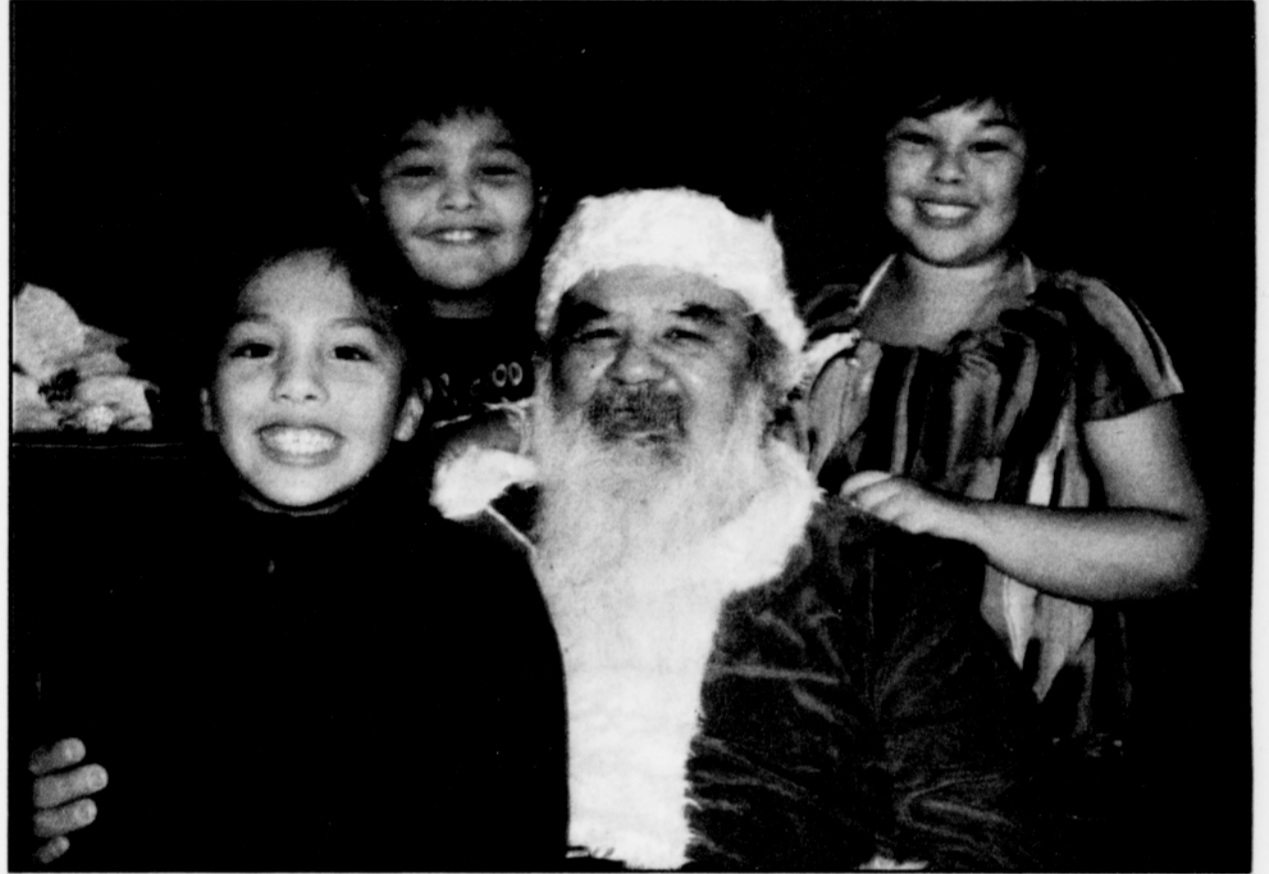


Photo by Natasha Kavanaugh

Ralene, David and Cecillie Butler spend a moment with Santa Claus at the Community Christmas Gathering at the Siletz Tribal Community Center on Dec. 8.



Courtesy photo by Tiffany Wisdom

Third-grade students at Kamiah Elementary School perform *Crow Lady*, a Kalapuya story, as one of seven American Indian legends performed during an assembly.

Third-graders retell Kalapuya story and others at school assembly

By Tiffany Wisdom

Kamiah Elementary School third-grade students performed seven American Indian legends on Dec. 2, 2010, at the school-wide assembly.

Students performed the legends using the readers theatre method. This strategy is a best practice for developing readers. Students read their script over and over and eventually become fluent at their speaking part.

The following Tribal stories were told – the *Heart of the Monster*, *Ant and Yellow Jacket*, *Coyote Builds a Dam* (Nimiipuu/Nez Perce), *Smudge Face* (Mi'kmaq), the *Mud Pony* (Pawnee), *Moose Meet His Match* (Northeast Tribes) and *Crow Lady* (Kalapuya).

My reading group was able to tell the story of *Crow Lady*, which I learned from Siletz Elder Esther Stutzman. I then turned this story into a script.

My reading group learned more about Siletz culture from this story and the morals we live by. I had lots of laughs and smiles during the performance from the outstanding sound effects and wonderful acting of the third-graders.

The Kalapuya story also was shared with the Nimiipuu Elders at the Lookingglass Senior Center in Kamiah, Idaho, during the last week of December.

Queciyeyee (thank you in Nimiipuu), Esther Stutzman, for sharing this story with me so I could share it with others.

2011 standing committee applications due

Deadline for consideration for committees is Jan. 31, 2011

Any Tribal member interested in serving on a committee for a two-year term must fill out the following form and return it to the address below prior to Jan. 31, 2011. Please mail or fax your application to Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Attn: Executive Secretary to Tribal Council, P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR 97380-0549; fax: 541-444-8325.

Name: _____ Roll No: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone: Day () _____ Evening () _____

Choose the first, second and third choice of committees you are requesting by numbering your preference 1, 2, 3 in the space provided. If you only want to be considered for one committee, please indicate this by inserting the number 1.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education Committee (3) | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Committee (3) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Resources Committee (3) | <input type="checkbox"/> Pow-Wow Committee (no limit) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Committee (3) | <input type="checkbox"/> Budget Committee (1) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Heritage Committee (3) | <input type="checkbox"/> Enrollment Committee (1) |

Tribal Council will review applications and approve appointments at the Regular Tribal Council meeting in February 2011. If you have any questions, please call Tami Miner, Tribal Council executive secretary, at 800-922-1399, ext. 1203, or 541-444-8203.