



Delores Pigsley

Chairman's Report

Happy Holidays to everyone, we look forward to a prosperous New Year.

The Oregon Tribes' last meeting was held in North Bend, hosted by the Coquille Tribe. Important agenda items included Chemawa Indian School; taxation of benefits derived from casino income; a Memorandum of Understanding among the Oregon Tribes regarding drug, alcohol and related issues and the Department of Justice presentation; and announcements on Tribal consultations.

With regards to Chemawa, Tribes are moving forward to try to get our congressmen to introduce legislation to have the Chemawa property taken into trust. The Tribes will participate in several steps of this process, including working with our state legislators and local government officials.

An Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians committee has been formed to look at some taxation issues that the

Internal Revenue Service has raised about how Tribal gaming revenues are spent and what may be considered income to the recipient.

While Tribes know per capita payments from these revenues are taxable, we have disagreed on taxation of certain other benefits derived from gaming revenue.

Tina Retasket, Janet Wicklund and Austin Greene from the Warm Springs Tribe have worked to update the current MOU (see page 3) that Oregon Tribes have had in place for several years. The updated version was presented and all the Tribes will be asked to sign on and make a commitment to stop drug trafficking and widespread drug use.

Representatives from the Department of Justice were present to talk with Tribes about Tribal issues and concerns with which the DOJ may be able to assist. They held consultation sessions all morning.

DOJ has been extremely helpful to our Tribe after visiting with us in July. They have assisted us in setting up meetings with other agency representatives. On Dec. 20, we hosted a meeting to discuss issues we have about access at Yaquina Head for gathering purposes.

Siletz Tribal Business Corporation

In an effort to streamline operations in this challenging economic time, the Board of Directors adopted a restructuring plan that resulted in the elimination of three positions – the economic development director, the economic development specialist and one other staff position.

The organizational changes will have no effect on current operations of business or the function of STBC to process Elders' stipends and other related functions. It's the Board's desire to have streamlined operations at a much lower cost of doing business.

Nuu-wee-ya' (our words)

Introduction to the Athabaskan language

Open to Tribal members of all ages

Eugene

Eugene Area Office
Jan. 3 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Feb. 7 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Portland

Portland Area Office
Jan. 10 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Feb. 14 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Siletz

Siletz Tribal Community Center
Jan. 4 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Feb. 8 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Salem

Salem Area Office
Jan. 11 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Feb. 15 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Classes begin with basic instruction and progress over the year. They also are a refresher course for more-advanced students. Come and join other members of your community and Tribe in learning to speak one of our ancient languages.

We also have equipment in the Cultural Department available for use in grinding and drilling shell or pine nuts or other applications. If you need to use the equipment, call the number below to set up an appointment.

For more information, contact Bud Lane at the Siletz Cultural Department at 541-444-8320 or 800-922-1399, ext. 1320; or e-mail budl@ctsi.nsn.us.

Vocational Rehab Program needs volunteers for advisory committee

The Siletz Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Program (STVRP) is looking for Tribal members to serve on its Advisory Committee.

STVRP helps Tribal members with disabilities in the 11-county service area to achieve and maintain employment and independence within the Tribal community.

If you are interested in serving on the STVRP Advisory Committee, please contact Sharmon Cook-Wright at 800-922-1399, ext. 1213, or 541-444-8213; or e-mail sharmonc@ctsi.nsn.us.

Tribal children need foster parents

Do you value Siletz Native culture and want to help preserve it? If so, please consider fostering for the Tribe. The Siletz Tribe needs loving, stable, nurturing homes in all areas.

If you are interested, please contact Shawna Henarie, foster care certifier, at 541-444-8275 or 800-922-1399, ext. 1275; or visit www.ctsi.nsn, click on Tribal Services, then Employment & Social Services, then Indian Child Welfare.



CTSI Jobs

Tribal employment information is available at www.ctsi.nsn.us.

Note: "Open Until Filled" vacancies may close at any time. The Tribe's Indian Preference policy will apply. Tribal government will not discriminate in selection because of race, creed, age, sex, color, national origin, physical handicap, marital status, politics, membership or non-membership in an employee organization.

CTSI constantly is looking for temporary employees to cover vacancy, vacations, maternity leave and extended sick leave. If you are retired, a homemaker or a student and are looking for temporary work that can last from two weeks to 12 weeks, please submit a temporary application for the temp pool.

Elders' Council Meeting

Jan. 8
1-4 p.m.

Chinook Winds Casino Resort

For more information, please contact April Bender at 800-922-1399, ext. 1225; 541-444-8225; or aprills@ctsi.nsn.us

Send letters to:

Siletz News
P.O. Box 549
Siletz, OR 97380-0549
541-444-8291 or
800-922-1399, ext. 1291
Fax: 541-444-2307
E-mail: pias@ctsi.nsn.us

Deadline for the February issue is Jan. 10. Submission of articles and photos is encouraged. Please see the Passages Policy on page 24 when submitting items for Passages.



Member of the Native American Journalists Association

Siletz News is free to enrolled Siletz Tribal members. For all others, a \$12 annual subscription fee applies. Please make checks payable to CTSI and mail to Siletz News.

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____

Change of address: Tribal members – call the Enrollment Department at 541-444-8258 or 800-922-1399, ext. 1258; all others – call the newspaper office.