

To the editor:

The public and community college libraries in Lincoln and Tillamook counties that have been a part of the Coastal Resource Sharing Network (CRSN) will be making some changes throughout the coming year.

During recent years, we have been having unresolvable problems with our current library catalog. We are working to make changes this year so we can provide better service to all of you. We do not know yet what the final changes will be, but we do know that many of the changes will be made by the end of June 2012.

We have several major goals:

1. We want to continue to have good resource sharing between the libraries that have been a part of CRSN.
2. We want you to have access to a library catalog that is easier for you to use and gives you more information.
3. We want you to have a library catalog that is making excellent use of current technology and is flexible enough

to easily adapt to future changes in technology.

We are currently investigating the best ways to reach these goals.

We would like your help in this process. Please fill out a survey about the library catalog when you visit one of these libraries between now and Sept. 10, 2011: Driftwood (Lincoln City), Newport, Siletz, Tillamook Bay Community College, Toledo and Waldport

Thank you for your help during this exciting time of changes in your local libraries.

- Diedre Conkling, Lincoln County Library District
Jill Tierce, Waldport Public Library
Kathleen Searles, Oregon Coast Community College
Luke Kralik, Tillamook Bay Community College
Peter Rayment, Toledo Public Library
Sue Jenkins, Driftwood Public Library
Ted Smith, Newport Public Library

Keepseagle settlement claims filing period opens for farmers, ranchers

Claims must be filed no later than Dec. 27

WASHINGTON – Janie Hipp, senior adviser to Secretary (Tom) Vilsack for Tribal Relations, recently reminded American Indian farmers and ranchers that the period to file a claim in the Keepseagle class action settlement has opened.

Keepseagle v. Vilsack was a lawsuit alleging that the USDA discriminated against American Indian farmers and ranchers in the way it operated its farm loan program. The lawsuit was settled late last year and the settlement has been approved by the court. The filing period opened June 29, 2011, and continues for 180 days, until Dec. 27, 2011.

USDA will pay up to \$760 million in monetary relief, debt relief and tax relief to successful claimants.

There are two tracks for claims: Successful Track A claimants may receive up to \$50,000; successful Track B claimants may receive up to \$250,000. The standard of proof for Track B claims is a higher standard than what will be applied to Track A claims.

Keepseagle class counsel will hold a number of meetings in the coming months throughout Indian Country and will provide assistance to help Track A claimants fill out a claims package at those meetings. The dates and times of the meetings are posted on the Keepseagle claims website – indianfarmclass.com.

Claimant services representatives also can be reached by calling 888-233-5506. Claimants must register for a claims package (by calling the number or visiting the website) and the claims package will be mailed them.

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E-mail: imprintslc@charter.net
imprintsprintshop.com

Hello Tribal members:

This is Kevin Goodell. These words are to thank each and every one of the staff members at the Portland Area Office for everything they have done for me since my release from prison on Feb. 8, 2010. They are all very helpful and treat me like family.

A special thank you to Katy Holland for her constant support, encouragement and friendship. Also, to Jamie Mason for her help with many things. From the time I was released from prison, I couldn't believe they were so willing to help me after I have caused so much damage to my life.

They have helped me realize everyone deserves a chance and everyone makes mistakes but through hard work and determination, I could have a good life. I'm happy to report they were right – I've built a good life and for that I am proud.

While I was locked up, my fiancé, Kim Passarge, moved to Portland and worked hard on starting a new life in a new city. Kim graduated from beauty school and is employed as a stylist and esthetician in a salon. She did this so we could have a fresh start when I was released.

After being released, I came to Portland and joined her in building our clean and sober life. I was lost as to a career choice. Katy helped me decide what I wanted to go to college for.

I'm currently attending Clackamas Community College and am in my sixth term. I've been on the Honor Roll for the last five terms. I'm a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Alpha Xi Zeta Chapter of the National Honor Society and have a 4.0 GPA.

I'll complete school in spring 2012 with an associate's of science degree in



welding technology. Many thanks to CTSI for making my education possible.

I'd like to tell all my Tribal brothers and sisters who are still in prison, jail or lost to addiction that you can do this too. Opportunities are available to us as Tribal members that many people don't have. Make a plan and stick to it, one day at a time.

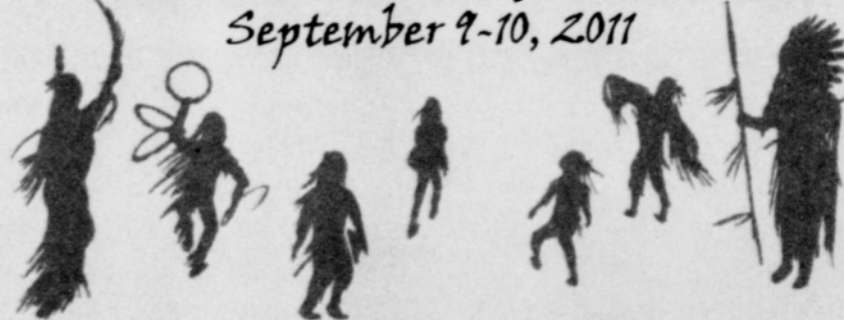
Kim and I have been clean and sober for 2½ years and we enjoy life every day. We also enjoy our family and grandchildren. Life is amazing when you live it with a clear mind. With God's love and guidance, anything is possible.

The person I'd like to thank most is my mother, Joyce Goodell, for never giving up on me. She's the definition of unconditional love.

Along with the many thanks I've extended, I'd like to apologize to my Tribal community for all of the harm I caused. There's nothing I can do to change the past. However, I can promise that my future is bright and I'll live my life as a Tribal member you can be proud of.

Kevin Goodell

Neerchokikoo Powwow September 9-10, 2011



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NAYA strives to enhance the diverse strengths of our youth and families in partnership with the community through cultural identity and education.

Siletz News Letters Policy

Siletz News, a publication of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, is published once a month. Our editorial policy encourages input from readers about stories printed in *Siletz News* and other tribal issues.

All letters must include the author's signature, address, and phone number in order to be considered for publication. *Siletz News* reserves the right to edit any letter for clarity and length, and to refuse publication of any letter or any part of a letter that may contain profane language, libelous statements, personal attacks, or unsubstantiated statements.

Not all letters are guaranteed publication upon submission. Published letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of *Siletz News*, Tribal employees, or Tribal Council.

Please type or write legibly. Letters longer than 450 words may be edited for length as approved by Tribal Council Resolution #96-142.

Please note: The general manager of the Siletz Tribe is the editor-in-chief of *Siletz News*.

Editor-in-Chief: Brenda Bremner
Editor: Diane Rodriguez
Assistant: Natasha Kavanaugh