



Siletz News  
Confederated Tribes of  
Siletz Indians  
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## Tribal members return incumbents to Tribal Council in 2012 elections



Photo by Natasha Kavanaugh

2012 Siletz Tribal Council (l to r): Reggie Butler Sr.; Loraine Butler; Robert Kentta; Delores Pigsley, chairman; Jessie Davis, treasurer; Tina Retasket, secretary; Sharon Edenfield; and Alfred "Bud" Lane III, vice chairman. Not pictured: Lillie Butler.

### Incumbents also selected as officers

By Diane Rodriguez

Reginald Butler Sr., Sharon Edenfield and Jessie Davis were re-elected to the Tribal Council of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians in elections held Feb. 4.

Butler, from Siletz, Ore., was re-elected with 283 votes; Edenfield, also from Siletz, was re-elected with 237 votes; and Davis, from Salem, Ore., was re-elected with 218 votes. Eleven candidates ran for the three open positions and the three who received the most votes were elected.

These individuals will serve with Alfred "Bud" Lane III and Lillie Butler, both of Siletz, and Delores Pigsley of Keizer, Ore., whose terms expire in 2013; and Robert Kentta of Logsdon, Ore., and Loraine Butler and Tina Retasket, both of Siletz, whose terms expire in 2014. Term of office is three years for each position on the nine-member council.

Six hundred eighty-one ballots were returned and accepted. Enrolled members of the Siletz Tribe who are age 18 and older are eligible to vote in Tribal elections. The Tribe has more than 4,800 enrolled members.

The swearing-in ceremony for the re-elected council members took place Feb. 5. Officers are elected on an annual basis and those selected for 2012 include:

- Delores Pigsley, chairman
- Alfred "Bud" Lane III, vice chairman
- Tina Retasket, secretary
- Jessie Davis, treasurer

Pigsley currently has served 26.5 years as Tribal chairman out of 33 years on the council, while Davis has served 23 years on the Tribal Council; Lillie Butler has served 20; Reggie Butler, 15; Lane, 14; Kentta and Loraine Butler, seven each; Retasket, four; and Edenfield less than three years.

The Siletz Tribe has spent the last 34 years rebuilding its government and economic structure. The signing of Public Law 95-195 in 1977, which restored government-to-government relations between the Siletz Tribe and the federal government, started this process. The Siletz Tribe was the second in the nation – and the first in Oregon – to achieve restoration.

The Siletz Tribe was among the first to become a self-governance Tribe, giving Tribal government more control over services provided to Tribal members. Under self-governance, the U.S. government provides general funding to the Tribe (rather than to specific programs), then Tribal employees and the Tribal Council decide how funds will be spent.

## Tribe surpasses \$9.4 million in charitable donations

### Total includes \$114,911 distributed in February

The Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund distributed \$114,911.28 to 49 organizations on Feb. 3 as it continued its quarterly donations to non-profit organizations.

The checks were presented at Chinook Winds Casino Resort in Lincoln City, Ore.

The Siletz Tribe is proud of its contributions through employment, monetary donations and cooperative measures to the Siletz community, Lincoln County and the state of Oregon. The seven-member charitable fund advisory board has distributed nearly \$7.3 million since its inception in 2001.

Overall, the Tribe has honored its tradition of sharing within the community by distributing more than \$9.4 million through the charitable fund and other Tribal resources.

Chinook Winds has donated nearly \$2.3 million in cash and fund-raising items since it opened in 1995. The casino also provides in-kind donations of convention space for various fund-raisers as well as technical support, advertising and manpower for many events.

The next deadline to submit applications is March 14, 2012. Eligibility for money from the charitable fund is limited to two categories:

- Entities and activities located in the Siletz Tribe's 11-county service area (Lincoln, Tillamook, Linn, Lane,

Benton, Polk, Yamhill, Marion, Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas counties)

- Native American entities and activities located anywhere in the United States

Applications and requirements can be obtained at [ctsi.nsn.us/charitable-contribution-fund](http://ctsi.nsn.us/charitable-contribution-fund); from Kelley Ellis at 800-922-1399, ext. 1227, or 541-444-8227; or by mail at Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund, P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR 97380-0549. Applications can be submitted via e-mail at [stccf@live.com](mailto:stccf@live.com).

See Charitable on page 6.

## Our America

### 10<sup>th</sup> Annual State of Indian Nations Address

Remarks by Jefferson Keel, President • National Congress of American Indians (NCAI)  
Jan. 26, 2012 • Newseum, Knight Studios, Washington, D.C.

#### Acknowledgements

I want to thank the Native service members and veterans who have joined us today. Many know the story of Indian Country – the challenges we have faced and the ones we face today. But very few Americans know the story of the hundreds of thousands of Tribal members who have served in the United States military as far back as the Revolutionary War. As a veteran myself, I want to thank Lt. Col. Hunting Horse and the 24,000 active duty American Indian and Alaska Native service members serving today to protect the sovereignty of the United States and the Tribal nations of North America. Thank you.

#### Strong Indian nations

My fellow Tribal leaders, Tribal citizens and American citizens, members of the National Congress of American Indians, members of the administration and the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress of the United States and those listening or watching today: I am

See Indian Nations on page 12.

See Elections on page 4.