

Siletz legislation introduced in U.S. House

The Siletz legislation titled *To Provide for the Addition of Certain Real Property to the Reservation of the Siletz Tribe in the State of Oregon* was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives on July 17, 2012, by Congressman Kurt Schrader.

HR 6141 recognizes the original boundaries of our historic Siletz Reservation as described in the executive order of 1855 signed by President Franklin Pierce. The purpose of the legislation is to allow our Tribe to take land into trust in a process that treats the application as on-reservation versus off-reservation.

Oregon Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley introduced the same legislation in the U.S. Senate several months ago. The Senate Indian Affairs Committee held a hearing earlier this year at which I testified.

On July 24, the House Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs held a hearing at which I testified on the need for this legislation. Bud Lane, Robert Kentta and I have worked on and lobbied for this legislation for the past few years. We appreciate the support of Oregon's elected officials in supporting all of our efforts.

There was only five minutes for me to give supporting historic information for this legislation. We were extremely pleased that Lincoln County Commissioner Terry Thompson also was invited by the committee to testify in support of our legislation.

We were displeased that once again the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw testified in opposition of our legislation, making false statements and distorting history.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs testified that it is in full support of both the Grand

Ronde and the Siletz legislation recognizing our historic boundaries for purposes of taking land into trust.

We are hopeful that our legislation moves forward in this Congress.

City of Portland

Our Tribe was invited to an historic event by the City of Portland on July 11. The purpose was to be present as the City issued a proclamation (see page 3) to recognize the sovereignty of Tribes and to honor and respect relationships with local Tribes.

It was quite an historic event and we are pleased to have the City of Portland as a future partner in events that are of mutual interest to both of our governments.

U.S. attorney visit

S. Amanda Marshall is the new U.S. attorney for Oregon, replacing Dwight Holton, who was serving as interim U.S. attorney. Marshall recently came to Siletz and visited with the Tribal Council and our staff. She was accompanied by Tim Simmons and Billy Williams, assistant U.S. attorneys.



Delores Pigsley

Historical information was shared with the attorneys as well as issues the Tribe raised that are very important to us. Marshall has a unique background in working with Tribes that makes her ability to work with us a very good experience.

We look forward to working with her office.



Courtesy photos by Paul Lumley, executive director, Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission

Grande Ronde Chairwoman Cheryle Kennedy, Nez Perce Chairman Silas Whitman and Siletz Chairman Delores Pigsley (above)

Silas Whitman, Delores Pigsley, Cheryle Kennedy, Umatilla Chairman Les Minthorn and Warm Springs Vice Chair Ron Suppah (left) sit before the Portland City Council.

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 – contact the Enrollment Department at 541-444-8258; 800-922-1399, ext. 1258; or angelam@ctsi.nsn.us. All others – call the newspaper office.

Send information 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 September issue is Aug. 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

Nuu-wee-ya' (our words)

Introduction to the Athabaskan language

Open to Tribal members of all ages

Eugene

Eugene Area Office
Aug. 6 – 6-8 p.m.
Sept. TBD – 6-8 p.m.

Portland

Portland Area Office
Aug. 13 – 6-8 p.m.
Sept. 17 – 6-8 p.m.

Siletz

Siletz Tribal Community Center
Aug. 7 – 6-8 p.m.
Sept. 11 – 6-8 p.m.

Salem

Salem Area Office
Aug. 14 – 6-8 p.m.
Sept. 18 – 6-8 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.