

Guests share culture, Zumba and breakfast at Head Start in Lincoln City

By Tiffany Stuart, Head Start Teacher

Elaine Smith-Rilatos and Gloria Ingle-Rilatos, Siletz Tribal Elders, came to the Siletz Tribal Head Start program in Lincoln City, Ore., in January to share about Alaska with the students.

The students were able to touch furs, such as the fox and mink. They particularly liked the walrus tusk. We learned about Tribal cultures from Alaska from clothing, baskets and wood carvings.

Thanks, Elaine and Gloria, for coming! Also, a big thank you to my

parents, Thomas and Marlene Stuart, for allowing us to borrow your traditional items from Alaska.

In February, students learned about the Southwest. Jacintha Stanley from the Navajo (Diné) Nation shared about her Navajo culture.

We were able to feel and see Navajo jewelry. Also, we learned about winter string games and played Duck Duck Goose in Navajo language.

My brother and his wife, Thomas Jr. and Cheryl Stuart from the San Carlos

Apache Reservation, sent us traditional Apache items for students to learn about.

Also in February, we had Kids Zumba with Sasha Shoemake (Siletz Tribal member). Thank you Jay, Tommy, Cheryl and Sasha!

Thanks to all the dads who came to breakfast with their children on Valentine's Day.

Parents, community members and the Siletz Tribal Elders have donated classroom items to the Head Start in Lincoln City. Thank you so much!

If you are looking for things to donate to the classroom, we will cover the following themes in March – transportation, spring, Easter, bugs and insects. In April, the themes will be weather, space, ecology, farm animals, pets and plants. In May, the themes are zoo, rainforest animals, birds, reptiles, dinosaurs and kindergarten transition.

As always, we teach Siletz culture and children's interest. If you have a donation or would like to know more about the Head Start in Lincoln City, contact me at 541-994-0400 or tiffany.wisdom@yahoo.com.



Gloria Ingle-Rilatos and Elaine Smith-Rilatos talk about Alaska with Head Start students in Lincoln City.



Courtesy photos

Sasha Shoemake leads a Kids Zumba session at Head Start.

Vet rep requests help with project

Tony Molina, Tribal veterans representative, is working on a World War II project.

Oregon is in the process of building a WWII memorial in Salem, Ore. Molina has been asked to obtain the names of the Siletz Tribal veterans who were killed in action during WWII. He needs your help to make sure all of the proper names are submitted.

If you have a name for Molina, contact him at 541-444-8330; 800-922-1399, ext. 1330; or tonym@ctsi.nsn.us.

Siletz veterans office open daily: Tony Molina is available for all Siletz Tribal veterans. He is in the Tribal administration building in Siletz on Monday-Friday to help you get information for your VA benefits. Additionally, he needs your help to update our veterans' roster, especially for those currently serving. See below for contact information.

From our veterans representative, Tony Molina: All of our veterans and families can call me 24/7 at home at 541-444-2828 or on my cell at 541-272-2818. This will help since I'm only in the office part-time. My office number is 541-444-8330 or 800-922-1399, ext. 1330. I thank all of our veterans for their service to our nation.

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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.

Significant Tribal accomplishments since Restoration include opening the original health clinic in 1991 and a new much larger clinic in 2010; building more than 100 homes and multiple dwellings for Tribal members, including 20 units at Neachesna Village in Lincoln City that opened in 2009, plus another eight units there and 19 apartments in Siletz that opened in 2010; completing the Siletz Dance House in 1996; opening the Tenas Illahee Childcare Center in 2003; opening the Tillicum Fitness Center and a new USDA food distribution warehouse in Siletz in 2008; and opening the Siletz Rec Center in 2009.

Through its economic development division, the Siletz Tribal Business Corporation, the Tribe purchased the Lincoln Shores office complex in Lincoln City in 2001; opened the Siletz Gas & Mini-Mart

in Siletz in 2004, the Logan Road RV Park in Lincoln City in 2004 and the Hee Hee Illahee RV Resort in Salem in 2006. The Tribe purchased the Imprints printing business in Lincoln City in 2008. It also opened O'Downey's Irish Pub and Family Dining in Depoe Bay in 2010.

Tribal offices in Portland, Salem and Eugene now are housed in Tribally owned buildings. The Eugene office moved to its current location in 2005, the Salem office did the same in 2006 and the Portland office moved to its current location in 2008.

The Tribe also played a lead role in opening Siletz Valley School in 2003 and the Siletz Valley Early College Academy in 2006.

Chinook Winds Casino in Lincoln City opened in May 1995. In June 2004, the Siletz Tribe purchased the former Shilo Inn adjacent to the casino and opened Chinook Winds Casino Resort. Chinook Winds Golf Resort opened in April 2005 when the Tribe purchased the former Lakeside Golf and Fitness Center in Lincoln City. The combination of Tribal employees and those at Chinook Winds Casino Resort has allowed the Siletz Tribe to become the largest employer in Lincoln County.

The Siletz Tribe has honored its tradition of sharing within the community by distributing more than \$10.2 million through the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund and other Tribal resources. Chinook Winds has donated nearly \$2.3

million in cash and fund-raising items since 1995. It also provides in-kind donations of convention space for various fund-raisers as well as technical support, advertising and manpower for events.



Courtesy photo

Election Board Chairman Tracey Worman swears in Lillie Butler, Alfred (Bud) Lane III and Delores Pigsley on Feb. 3 following their re-election to the Siletz Tribal Council.