

Chairman's Report

Forrest Gerard, former assistant secretary of Indian Affairs and Tribal lobbyist, passed away in Albuquerque, N.M., on Dec. 28, 2013 (see page 11).

Forrest first became known to the Siletz Tribe when he brought several officials from Washington, D.C., to Siletz, Ore., in October 1975 to meet with the Tribal Council about Siletz Restoration. At the time, he was the professional staff member for Sen. Henry Jackson from the state of Washington. Accompanying him was J.D. Folsom, a staffer in the House of Representatives, and several BIA officials.

His visit to Siletz came during the NCAI annual meeting that was taking place in Portland, Ore. The entourage received a warm welcome in Siletz as we were seeking to have our Tribe restored to federal recognition, after termination

in the 1950s, and needed legislation to be introduced.

As a result, Forrest was instrumental in getting our Tribe a hearing before the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs. When the Tribal Council visited Washington, D.C., the following March, he met with us and assisted in preparation for our hearing. We developed a strong relationship as he made himself available for assistance and guidance on our legislation and to our Tribe in general.

When he became the assistant secretary of Indian Affairs, he made sure our legislation to establish a reservation was ready to go forward. He had to push our Oregon representative to move the legislation.

After he left the BIA, our Tribe hired Forrest as our lobbyist and we enjoyed many years of working with him.

He always met us when we arrived in Washington, D.C., and spent time going over our itinerary and preparing us for our meetings with officials. We will remember him always as kind, helpful and knowledgeable.

Forrest visited Siletz many times over the years, working with our good friend Hiroto Zakoji on gaming issues. We were pleased when he visited with his family. Over the years after retirement, we communicated on various Tribal issues. He was always willing to give good advice.

We will always remember Forrest as a champion for all Tribes' rights and for all that he did for our Tribe. He had many accomplishments in his life of which his family can be proud. We will miss his friendship as he touched all of our lives.

Our Tribe offers our deepest condolences to the Gerard family.



Delores Pigsley

For more information about the Siletz Tribe, please visit ctsi.nsn.us.

Siletz Tribal Arts and Heritage Society Board of Directors

Current Vacancy – Term Ending February 2016

Application deadline for consideration to fill the vacant position is March 31, 2014

If you are interested in volunteering to serve as a board member for the Siletz Tribal Arts and Heritage Society, please phone the Tribal Council's executive secretary at 541-444-8203 or 800-922-1399, ext. 1203, to request an application.

Deadline to submit an application is prior to the close of business on March 31, 2014. Appointment to the board will be made at the regular Tribal Council meeting in April 2014.

CTSI Jobs

Tribal employment information – 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 looking for temporary work that can last from 2-12 weeks, please submit an application for the temp pool.

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 covas@ctsi.nsn.us. All others – call the newspaper office.

Elders Council Meeting

Feb. 8 • 1-4 p.m.

Chinook Winds Casino Resort

For more information, contact Dee Navarro at 800-922-1399, ext. 1261; 541-444-8261; or deen@ctsi.nsn.us.

Nuu-wee-ya' (our words)

Introduction to the Athabaskan language

Open to Tribal members of all ages

Eugene

Eugene Area Office
Feb. 3 – 6-8 p.m.
March 3 – 6-8 p.m.

Portland

Portland Area Office
Feb. 10 – 6-8 p.m.
March 10 – 6-8 p.m.

Siletz

Siletz Tribal Community Center
Feb. 4 – 6-8 p.m.
March 4 – 6-8 p.m.

Salem

Salem Area Office
Feb. 11 – 6-8 p.m.
March 11 – 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 email budl@ctsi.nsn.us.

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

Email: pias@ctsi.nsn.us

Deadline for the March issue is Feb. 10

Submission of articles and photos is encouraged.

Please see the Passages Policy on page 20 when submitting items for Passages.



Member of the Native American Journalists Association