

# National Indian housing group elects Difuntorum as new chairwoman

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – During its 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention and Trade Show in June, the National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC) selected a new chair to lead the organization for the next two years.

More than 400 attendees representing Tribes from all over the United States attended the convention. Highlights included a service project to help refurbish the Kansas City Indian Center, a welcoming address from Kickapoo of Kansas Tribal Chairman Steve Cadue, plus congressional messages from members of Congress and a presentation from the Crow Nation addressing supportive housing for veterans.

Sami Jo Difuntorum was elected as the new chairwoman of the National American Indian Housing Council. She is

a member of the Kwekakee Shasta Tribe and is the executive director of the Siletz Tribal Housing Department.

Congratulations to Chairwoman Sami Jo Difuntorum.

NAIHC membership and staff thank Chairwoman Cheryl Causley, Bay Mills Indian Community, for her four years of leadership and many years of dedication to NAIHC.

## About NAIHC

The National American Indian Housing Council was founded in 1974 as a 501(c)(3) corporation. NAIHC is the only national organization representing housing interests of Native people who reside in Indian communities and Alaska Native villages, and on Native Hawaiian homelands.



Courtesy photo by Jeff Harjo, NAIHC

Sami Jo Difuntorum at the National American Indian Housing Council convention

# SSP offers summer employment program for young people age 14-21

The 477 Self-Sufficiency Program (SSP) has openings for its Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP).

This program is separate from the Tribal employment program offered through the Education Department.

This program's mission is to give youth age 14-21 the opportunity to gain employment or education skills in a field that interests them. Our current placements are 160 hours and pay minimum wage.

The program is only available to those youth who reside within the 11-county service area.

Basic eligibility criteria include:

- Youth must be between ages 14-21 at the time of application.
- American Indian verification (includes American Indian, Native Alaskan and Native Hawaiian) and those enrolled in a federally recog-

nized Indian Tribe. Participants also can be eligible with verification of descendency from a family member who is enrolled with a federally recognized Tribe.

- Latest school grade report. Participants will need to have at least a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0. Participants below a 2.0 can participate in a classroom training program and receive a stipend while they attend summer school.
- Family income must fall below the income guidelines set by the Department of Labor.

## Household size      Income Level

Household size	Income Level
1	\$15,068
2	\$24,694
3	\$33,905
4	\$41,849
5	\$49,390
6	\$57,764

Slots are limited and are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. If you are interested in applying for SYEP, contact one of our Tribal services specialists located in each of the Tribe's area offices.

For more information about the Siletz Tribe, please visit [ctsi.nsn.us](http://ctsi.nsn.us).

# Willamette Falls lamprey eel harvest permits available

The Tribal Natural Resources Department has Willamette Falls lamprey eel harvest permits available for issuance to Tribal members.

Lamprey harvest at the falls is restricted to 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday through Monday between June 1, 2014, and July 31, 2014. Harvest is not allowed Tuesdays through Thursdays.

The open gathering area is at the east side of the falls and the harvest method is limited to the use of hand or hand-powered tools. Gatherers are asked to avoid the area around the lamprey ramps that have been installed to allow lamprey to move upstream of the falls.

The permit includes a lamprey harvest record card that must be filled out prior to leaving the site. The harvest card must be returned to the Natural Resources office by the end of the harvest season.

Lamprey harvest permits are available at the Tribal Natural Resources office weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or by calling Natural Resources Manager Mike Kennedy at 541-444-8232 or Natural Resources Administrative Assistant Rosie Williams at 541-444-8227; or either one at 800-922-1399.

# Time to gather materials for baskets

Spring is here and very soon hazel sticks will be ready to pick and peel.

Hazel stick gathering is a must for anyone interested in making traditional Siletz baskets. Spruce root can be dug all year round and is used for the weavers or weft of Siletz baskets.

Bear grass and maidenhair fern are used for overlay to make our traditional designs or marks in our baskets and both are picked in late summer.

Any Tribal members interested in gathering can call Bud Lane at 800-922-1399, ext. 1320, or 541-444-8320, or e-mail [budl@ctsi.nsn.us](mailto:budl@ctsi.nsn.us).

Just a reminder – basket materials must be gathered in a timely fashion.

Here is a general breakdown of gathering times for different materials:

## July

Fir sticks, spruce roots, bear grass, maidenhair fern

## August

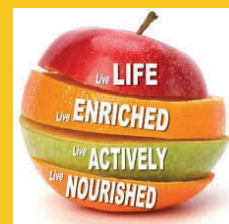
Fir sticks, spruce roots, bear grass, maidenhair fern, hazel sticks (limited), willow sticks

## September

Bear grass, maidenhair fern, woodwardia fern, spruce roots

## Free and Fun!

Register as a single, but participate in groups!



## Are you in it to win it?



# THE BIGGEST LOSER COMPETITION

WHEN: July 14- September 12

Registration is due NO LATER THAN July 9

Weekly weigh-ins to track progress

Track your activity and food with a free journal

FREE BMI measurement in the beginning and at the end of the competition to see how far you have gotten!

- GRAND PRIZE WINNER
  - RUNNER-UP PRIZES
  - RAFFLE PRIZE
  - FREE FITNESS EVENTS
  - FREE T-SHIRT\*
  - FREE WATER BOTTLE\*
- \*WITH PARTICIPATION

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Please contact the Diabetes Program Assistant to receive a registration packet.

