



Wanting to wish Bear a Happy Birthday on Jan. 1. We love and miss you so much, and are counting down the days until you come home.

Love always, Kassi and the cubs



You're going to have to change your nickname to Big Jared 30 now that you're having a birthday!

Love you – Mom, Dad, Justin, Jalen and Jessica

I just want to say Happy Holidays to my family. Thank you so much to my mom, Liz Barrabas, for being my rock and a great mom and oma. I don't know what I'd do without you – me and Louis (Bub) love you very much. Thank you to my sisters, Amanda and Giesela Barrabas, for being here for us. Thank you to my niece, Olivia, for being a great cousin. Thank you to my dad, Clemens Barrabas, for being a great dad and opa. I miss you Fawn Metcalf, Trish Bowers, Eugene Johnson, Roxanna Morsman, Ferrol Walton, Samantha, Mathew and Clint. Louis Bubbi and I love you all and we hope our entire family has a great New Year.

Love always, Triston Louis-Kodiak Barrabas and Jennell Meadow

Passages Policy

Submissions to Passages are limited to two 25-word items per person, plus one photo if desired. All birthday, anniversary and holiday wishes will appear in the Passages section.

Siletz News reserves the right to edit any submission for clarity and length. Not all submissions are guaranteed publication upon submission. Please type or write legibly and submit via e-mail when possible.

NCAI hails Google changes to better acknowledge Tribal nations on Google Maps, make searches easier

WASHINGTON – On Dec. 19, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) announced the results of joint efforts with Google to ensure better visibility for Indian reservations in the United States on Google Maps.

Over the past year, Google launched several improvements for the way reservations appear on Google Maps, including labeling reservations, highlighting reservation borders in search results and ensuring that their reservation dataset is as comprehensive as possible.

The most recent update was rolled out in November to coincide with Native American Heritage Month.

In 2012, NCAI and the Google American Indian Network co-hosted a summit at the Googleplex in Mountain View, Calif. At the summit, Tribal leaders underscored the role of Tribal nations as first American governments, explained the significance of land to Native people and urged Google to consider closer partnerships with Native people as the first American innovators.

As a result of those discussions, Google Maps now makes it easier than ever to search for federally recognized Tribal reservations.

The project was led by the Google American Indian Network (GAIN) and the Google Earth Outreach (GEO) team in close collaboration with NCAI and the Tribal Technology Taskforce.

Including reservations on Google Maps is an important part of creating a comprehensive map of the United States and the world. Google and NCAI worked together to accurately represent reservation labels, borders and additional details in a way that was respectful of indigenous communities.

In welcoming the development, NCAI President Brian Cladoosby released the following statement:

“NCAI congratulates Google on this important innovation to acknowledge the place of Tribal nations in the American family of governments. America’s 566 federally recognized Tribes are acknowledged alongside foreign nations and state governments in the U.S. Constitution and they have jurisdiction over a land base of over 100 million acres. This land base is larger than all but three American states.

“Thanks to the partnership between NCAI and the GAIN and GEO teams, the lands of America’s first governments are now clearly highlighted on Google Maps. We look forward to our ongoing partnership to improve the representation of Tribal lands on Google Maps.

“This is a great step forward to acknowledge the place of Tribes in the past, present and future of the United States, but it is not the last. NCAI will continue to build partnerships with tech companies like Google to ensure the first American innovators remain on the front lines of 21st century innovation.”



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