

Mascot update

Tribal officials met with the director of the Oregon Education Department, the chief education officer, a member of the Education Board and other staff on the rule-making process affecting Tribal mascots.

All along the way we have kept the Department of Education and other Tribes informed about our position on the Siletz Valley School mascot, the Warrior. We asked for Tribal consultation on the subject with the Board of Education, which resulted in the meeting that was held Jan. 12.

We tried to let the officials who were present understand our commitment to keep the Warrior mascot at the school as it is not a degrading mascot.

The rulemaking process went forward with a vote on the proposed rules later in January. At the same time, legislators who have listened to us plan to introduce legislation that will prevent the loss of our mascot. We are very appreciative of their representation.

Head Start self-assessment

Tribal Council approved the Head Start program's policies and procedures report. The Head Start Policy Council conducted the review with assistance from the management staff.

The review covered all requirements, such as program performance standards and other regulations. All areas were in compliance, with one exception.

The one non-compliance section was the lack of feedback from family members, teachers and staff who are familiar with a child's behavior in the Lincoln City area. This issue was addressed.

Overall, the report covered 117 enrolled children, 169 program volunteers and 13 staff. At this point, 100 percent of the children are covered by insurance and 110 of them have been immunized.

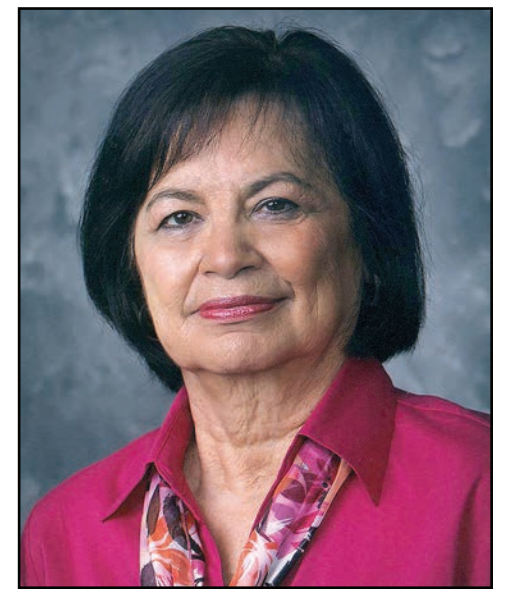
The program overall is extremely important in providing an early education to our youngest children. The staff is doing a great job.

EPA consultation

Formal Tribal consultation was held in Siletz with the Environmental Protection Agency regarding the Portland Harbor cleanup effort. The process has been ongoing for approximately 17 years. The agency is ready to make a Record of Decision on how the cleanup should proceed.

As many of you know, the Willamette River has been polluted since the early 1900s, maybe earlier, with mill residue, ship building and many other businesses that contributed to the pollution. It's those businesses and successor land owners who must pay the price for cleanup, along with money from the superfund.

It has been a long process. Six Tribes have participated and we will continue to be involved throughout the cleanup.



Delores Pigsley

STBC job opening

The Siletz Tribal Business Corporation currently is taking applications for its full-time administrative assistant position. For more information and an application, please visit the STBC website at stbcorp.net or call 541-994-2142 or 877-564-7298.

Elders Council Meeting

Feb. 13 • 1-4 p.m. • Chinook Winds Casino Resort

Siletz Elder potlucks are held monthly at 6 p.m. on the Monday before the regularly scheduled Elders meeting. Please bring a potluck dish you would like to share.

For more information, contact the Elders Program at 800-922-1399, ext. 1261, or 541-444-8261.

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.

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

Applications available for STAHS Board

Deadline for consideration for this volunteer position is Feb. 29, 2016

STAHS is an incorporated non-profit corporation whose mission is to:

1. Develop resources for the construction and implementation of a cultural center and museum where Tribal artifacts and representation of Tribal history and culture can be maintained
2. Develop resources to support activities and administration of the cultural center/museum
3. In cooperation with the Cultural staff employed by the Siletz Tribe, to:
 - A. Promote programs that encourage the revitalization and practice of Tribal cultural and religious activities and the restoration of Tribal religious and cultural sites and locations
 - B. Provide a variety of outreach, educational and training programs, both locally and throughout the region, related to the culture and traditions of the Siletz and other indigenous people of the Pacific Northwest

- C. Promote programs that will encourage economic development of the Tribe through traditional arts and crafts and other culturally appropriate methods

Tribal member status is not required for all positions on the board.

Any individual interested in serving as a volunteer on the STAHS Board of Directors must submit an application form prior to close of business on Feb. 29, 2016. Applications must be returned to Chairman of STAHS, P.O. Box 8, Siletz, OR 97380; email: daveh@ctsi.nsn.us.

The STAHS Board of Directors will review all applications. STAHS recommendations will be sent, along with applications, to the Siletz Tribal Council. The council will review applications and approve appointments at the next regular Tribal Council meeting after recommendations have been made.

If you have any questions about the application process, please call 541-351-8663. See more at huu-cha.org

Nuu-wee-ya' (our words)

Introduction to the Athabaskan language

Open to Tribal members of all ages

Siletz
Tribal Community Center
Feb. 1 – 6-8 p.m.
March 7 – 6-8 p.m.

Portland
Portland Area Office
Feb. 8 – 6-8 p.m.
March 14 – 6-8 p.m.

Eugene
Eugene Area Office
Feb. 2 – 6-8 p.m.
March 8 – 6-8 p.m.

Salem
Salem Area Office
Feb. 9 – 6-8 p.m.
March 15 – 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.