

## A letter about the Siletz Tribe's 40<sup>th</sup> Restoration Celebration

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November 9, 2017

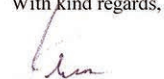
Delores Pigsley, Chairman  
 Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians  
 PO Box 549  
 Siletz, Oregon 97380

Dear Chairman Pigsley,

On behalf of the Native American Rights Fund, congratulations on the Siletz Tribe's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemorating the Tribe's restoration! Thank you for your kind invitation to celebrate this historic event with you and the Siletz people. Unfortunately, prior commitments prevent me from attending. Please know that I will be there in spirit.

I extend my best wishes for a successful event!

With kind regards,

  
 John E. Echohawk  
 Executive Director

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## Environmental Protection funding

Siletz was among 10 Northwest Tribes that recently received competitive funding from the Environmental Protection Agency. The funds will be used to address unique and environmental challenges that we face.

Siletz will use grant funds to create four (of a total of 17) in-stream large wood and boulder structures to enhance salmon and lamprey rearing habitat in the Siletz River. These structures will reduce stream velocity and increase channel habit complexity, improving water quality and beneficial uses.

The adoption of policies affecting climate change has been a top priority in Oregon. Our governor leads the nation in addressing policy issues and creating legislation to make those changes, and Tribes have an active role in this process.

## Climate change

The need to begin the process to challenge climate change is upon Tribes, which need to focus on the next 10 years, according to speakers at a recent meeting I attended in Marysville, Wash.

What are we doing now that we can change and look back at success 10 years from now? The Tribe needs to begin documenting trends in the effects of climate change from the water we use, the food we gather, the air we breathe and the whole environment around us. Protections need to be in place.



Delores Pigsley

## Regional director retirement

Oregon Tribes paid tribute to Stan Speaks, our regional director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, as his retirement nears at the end of a career spanning 59 years.

Stan began his career as a teacher at the Intermountain Indian School in Utah and since that time has built a career as a BIA administrator and manager. He has traveled extensively and served not only the Northwest Tribes, but Tribes all over the U.S. He is a member of the Chickasaw Tribe of Oklahoma.

Each Tribe spoke kindly of Stan and honored him with a gift. We will miss Stan and his wife, Lois, who have been great friends of our Tribe.

## Elders Council Meeting

Jan. 20 • 1-4 p.m.

Chinook Winds Casino Resort

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: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Change of address:** Tribal members – contact the Enrollment Department at 541-444-8258; 800-922-1399, ext. 1258; or enrollment@ctsi.nsn.us. All others – call the newspaper office.

### Send information to:

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**Deadline for the February issue is Jan. 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**

## Nuu-wee-ya' (our words)

### Introduction to the Athabaskan language

Open to Tribal members of all ages

#### Siletz

Siletz Tribal Community Center  
 Jan. 8 – 6-8 p.m.  
 Feb. 5 – 6-8 p.m.

#### Eugene

Eugene Area Office  
 Jan. 9 – 6-8 p.m.  
 Feb. 6 – 6-8 p.m.

#### Portland

Portland Area Office  
 Jan. 17 – 6-8 p.m.  
 Feb. 12 – 6-8 p.m.

#### Salem

Salem Area Office  
 Jan. 16 – 6-8 p.m.  
 Feb. 13 – 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 e-mail [budl@ctsi.nsn.us](mailto:budl@ctsi.nsn.us).