

Trahant named editor of *Indian Country Today* digital news organization

WASHINGTON – Independent journalist Mark Trahan (Shoshone-Bannock) has accepted the role of editor to lead *Indian Country Today*, which is under the ownership of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI).

“We are excited to have Mark Trahan on board to help us lead this next chapter of *Indian Country Today*,” stated NCAI President Jefferson Keel. “Mark is respected in and beyond Indian Country for his professionalism, journalistic skills and keen insight into issues and developments impacting Tribal nations.”

Trahan has a demonstrated history of commitment to the American Indian voice through journalism. As a dedicated journalist, Trahan does a weekly audio commentary for *Native Voice One* while also reporting and commenting on events and trends through his blog at Trahan-Reports.com. He also is on the faculty at the University of North Dakota as the

Charles R. Johnson Endowed Professor of Journalism.

“I am excited and can’t wait to get going,” Trahan said. “Indian Country needs a national digital platform for this generation that builds on the good work done by so many who created and published *Indian Country Today* in its previous lives. I look forward to recruiting and working with talented journalists who will create an innovative news organization.”

As the former editor of the editorial page for the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, Trahan chaired the daily editorial board and directed a staff of writers, editors and a cartoonist. He has also worked at *The Seattle Times*, *Arizona Republic*, *Salt Lake Tribune*, *Moscow-Pullman Daily News*, *Navajo Times*, *Navajo Nation Today* and *Sho-Ban News*.

Trahan is also former president of the Native American Journalists Association.

“The first Tribal editor, Elias Boudinot, described his paper as a ‘vehicle of Indian intelligence.’ Even though ink has been replaced by pixels, the task remains the same – to publish an informative daily account that’s comprehensive and adds context to the stories missing from the mainstream media,” Trahan said. “We have so many stories to tell. Our mission is simple but important: Solid, factual reporting. Great writing. Photography that inspires and records. Provide a real service to readers across Indian Country’s digital landscape.”

On Feb. 1, 2018, NCAI officially took over ownership of *Indian Country Today* and moving forward plans to share content to Tribal newspapers, radio stations and websites at no cost with proper credit attributions.

“We are eager to add to this important platform for Indian Country. We will work to make sure that this next chapter of *Indian Country Today* is both sustain-

able and useful while maintaining the primary goal of dedicated service others have forged before us,” said NCAI Executive Director Jacqueline Pata.

Visit *Indian Country Today* at indian-countrymedianetwork.com.

About the National Congress of American Indians

Founded in 1944, the National Congress of American Indians is the oldest, largest and most representative American Indian and Alaska Native organization in the country. NCAI advocates on behalf of Tribal governments and communities, promoting strong Tribal-federal government-to-government policies and promoting a better understanding among the general public regarding American Indian and Alaska Native governments, people and rights.

For more information visit ncai.org

Bulls Bag Restoration Project Meeting

Tribal Member Input Wanted

The Natural Resources Department is in the process of developing a fish habitat restoration project at the Tribe’s Bulls Bag property using logs from the property. Tribal members are invited to provide input on the project at a meeting on **Saturday, April 7, at 9 a.m.** in the Tribal Council Chambers in the admin building in Siletz.

Natural Resources staff will provide an overview of the project, followed by a field visit to the site. Come and make your voices heard.

Time to gather basket-making materials is here

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 contact Bud Lane at 800-922-1399, ext. 1320; 541-444-8320; or 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:

May

Hazel, willow, and fir sticks, spruce roots

June

Hazel, willow and fir sticks (until mid-June), spruce roots

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

Siletz Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Program (STVRP)

STVRP is here to assist members of **ANY** federally recognized Tribe in overcoming barriers to employment. We work with individuals who have disabilities and are living within the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians’ 11-county service area.

Examples of Services:

- Guidance and Counseling
- Referral to Services
- Employment Services
- Résumé Writing
- Interviewing Techniques
- Job Coaching
- Culturally Relevant Individualized Services
- Evaluations and Assessments
- Training Placement Opportunities
- Adaptive Equipment



For more information about STVRP, please inquire at 800-922-1399. We maintain resource and employment boards, so please stop by if you’re interested. Services are provided in all area offices, however, to inquire about services, please ask to be transferred to your closest office listed below.

SALEM AREA OFFICE

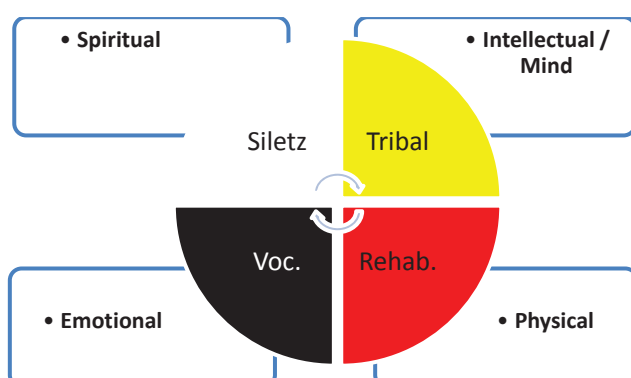
3160 Blossom Drive NE, Suite 105
Salem, OR 97305

SILETZ ADMIN OFFICE

201 SE Swan Ave.
Siletz, OR 97380

SALEM OFFICE – **DANA RODRIGUEZ**, Program Aide; **TONI LEIJA**, Counselor/Job Developer

SILETZ – **RACHELLE ENDRES**, Counselor/Job Developer; **JERAMIE MARTIN**, Program Director



For more information about the Siletz Tribal language program, please visit siletzlanguage.org.



Courtesy photo by Mary Jo Kerlin, SNLH

Dr. McKaila Allcorn (center) from Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital visits with students in the Siletz Tribal Head Start class in Lincoln City, Ore. Students were joined by (l to r) Melissa Pistoressi, assistant teacher/bus driver (left); Sarah Beuving, teacher (seated); and Shannon Reboh, classroom aide (right).