

66 Lincoln County students enjoy adaptive swimming lessons funded through STCCF grant

NEWPORT, Ore. – In February, the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund awarded \$3,733.10 in matching funds for our Spring Adaptive Physical Education Swimming program. Thanks to this generous contribution, our program was able to provide lessons to 66 students.

This grant allowed the Lincoln County School District Adaptive Physical Education Program to provide adapted swim lessons to students with moderate to severe disabilities in elementary through high school. The Lincoln City Community Center and Newport Aquatic Center donated their facilities and only charged for lifeguard and instructor fees.

Connie Craddock, Adaptive PE assistant for the Special Education Department in the Lincoln County School District, remarked, “I loved seeing the progress of each student. Some overcoming fears, some exploring what they were capable of in the pool by attempting new skills and activities and the majority of them improved their comfort in a pool setting, swimming and water safety skills.”

The students in Lincoln City went to the Lincoln City Community Center; youth in Newport, Toledo and Waldport went to the Newport Aquatic Center. Crestview Heights Elementary had six students, Toledo Elementary had three students, Sam Case Elementary had seven, Newport Middle School had nine, Newport High School had 12, Oceanlake Elementary had seven, Taft 7-12 had seven and Taft Elementary had 15 students.

The Lincoln County School District Adaptive Physical Education Program teaches students with moderate to severe disabilities to develop gross motor skills. This skill development is accomplished by providing one-to-one instruction, small group instruction and community outings.

Students learn the gross motor skills necessary to maintain a healthy lifestyle and participate in lifelong recreational physical activities. This includes instruction on how to access community facilities for lifelong health and leisure.

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A \$7,000 Tribal benefit ...
Do you know what it is?

Will your loved one benefit from it?

Obviously, none of us wants to think about passing away and our funeral. Inevitably, it will happen ... to all of us. We should do our best to make sure we have arranged what we can. One simple thing you can do is submit your Designation of Death Benefit Beneficiary form to the Enrollment Department.

The Siletz Tribe self-funds (Tribal funds) a death benefit to all enrolled Tribal members, including children, for funeral and burial costs. As of May 5, 2019, there are 1,470 Tribal members who have no beneficiary listed for this benefit. Are you, a family member or your children one of them?

A mail-out was done in March 2019 to Tribal members with no beneficiary on file and to those with forms on file that were last submitted 10 years ago or more in case information needs to be updated. Please check with your family members to see if they have submitted their paperwork for this important benefit.

If you know you have one on file, when was the last time the contact information for the beneficiary was updated if the beneficiary is not a Tribal member? Do you know whom you have listed as your beneficiary? Does your beneficiary know you named them?

There is a brochure on the Tribal website that is beneficial for the beneficiary to have.

Things Tribal members need to know about death benefits:

- When an unenrolled child 6 months or younger passes away and is eligible for enrollment but not yet enrolled at the time of death, the child will be

- eligible for the death benefit. This includes miscarriages and stillborn children when the family chooses to have a funeral service. The Enrollment Department will administer the death benefit to pay for funeral expenses only.
- Tribal members need to fill out and keep a copy of the Designation of Death Benefit Beneficiary form. The form can be updated at any time to name a different beneficiary or to update the contact information for your beneficiary. It is extremely important to update your Death Benefit Beneficiary Designation form anytime you marry, divorce or if your designated person passes away.
- The designated beneficiary needs to be age 18 or older as they may be the one responsible for making your funeral arrangements.
- Are your children over age 18 now? They need to update their beneficiary. You can now update your beneficiary to include them.
- The Enrollment Department keeps the original form on file with the Tribal member's Enrollment file. In the event of your passing, the most recent form that has been submitted is what will be used to determine the beneficiary for this benefit.
- The beneficiary can be anyone, a Tribal member or a non-Tribal member. They can be a family member or not. The most common beneficiary is a parent, spouse, adult child or someone trusted who will be in charge of making your funeral arrangements.
- The current death benefit amount is \$6,000 and is for burial and funeral expenses. Most funeral homes are willing to work with the Tribe so families do not have to pay out-of-pocket costs up to the benefit amount. Some



Photo by Angela Ramirez

Lincoln City Mayor Dick Anderson, who also sits on the STCCF Board; Reunion Chairman Traci Dickenson Fischer; and Teresa Simmons, committee member

Siletz School Reunion receives STCCF grant, sets 'old school, all class' event for Sept. 13-14

SILETZ, Ore. – On May 3, the Siletz School Reunion Committee was awarded a check for \$500 by the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contributions Fund.

“These funds will go a long way to help make this reunion the best ever,” said Reunion Chairman Traci Dickenson Fischer, “And we greatly appreciate the support of the STCCF”

The “Old School, All Class” reunion for all alumni of Siletz School who were students in a class with a graduation date through 1986 will be held Sept. 13-14. The event will take place at the picturesque Elks Lodge #1664 Campgrounds, Tokatee Illahee Park, located at 20590 Highway 229 approximately three miles north of Siletz.

This reunion is not just for graduates, but for anyone who attended Siletz School during that time period.

Classmates and their partners are invited to attend Friday evening (Sept. 13) for a social get-together and trivia contest

from 7-11 p.m. On Saturday (Sept. 14) from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., enjoy visiting with old friends and classmates, purchase tickets for the many items that will be raffled and either bring an entry or vote for your favorite in the cake and pie bake-off contest.

The aroma from Bristo's Place, conveniently located on site, will lead you to a mouthwatering made-to-order delicacy of your choice at a reasonable price.

Order forms and prices will be available soon for advance purchase of commemorative T-shirts and hats. Donations of items for raffles would be appreciated.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Traci Dickenson Fischer by phone at 541-961-8843 or by e-mail at tmfischer_07@live.com, or watch for posts on Facebook at “You Know You Are From Siletz If.”

Campsites are available but limited, so please reserve your space at Tokatee Illahee Park by calling 541-444-2733.

Tribal website: ctsi.nsn.us
Enrollment page found under Government Listings, then Enrollment

- funeral homes are not, so please be aware of that.
- If funeral expenses are less than \$6,000, then the unused balance of the death benefit goes directly to the beneficiary.
- If funeral expenses are more than \$6,000, the balance of the expenses is the responsibility of the person making the funeral arrangements.
- The current amount that goes directly to the beneficiary that is not part of the burial expenses is \$1,000 and will be paid directly to the beneficiary.
- If no beneficiary is listed, the funeral and burial expenses are still paid and the Enrollment Department will work with the family and the funeral home. Any unused balance of the death benefit and the \$1,000, however, will go unpaid to anyone.
- The Tribe has caskets, standard size and “2x,” on hand that have a Pendle-

- ton blanket liner that can be purchased with death benefits or directly.
 - If you have specific wishes for your burial, please let your family members know. You may also want to research costs for plots and fees if you wish to be buried someplace other than at the Siletz cemetery.
 - A form to use as a tool in planning your funeral service if you want to provide your family with guidance can be found in the Enrollment section of the Tribal website on the “Death Benefits” tab.
- If you have questions about death benefits, Tribal caskets, purchasing Tribal Pendleton blankets for use as a liner/wrap in a casket or completing the form, please contact Angela Ramirez or Marlette Roebuck-Knight, Enrollment officers, at 800-922-1399, ext. 1258, or 541-444-8258.