

## New Year

Happy New Year to everyone! I look forward to this year as prosperous for our Tribe.

## Oregon Tribes

Coquille hosted the Oregon Tribes at the Mill Casino in North Bend in January. Important agenda items were discussed as a follow-up from the governor's summit that was held in Pendleton in December.

Oregon's 100-year water plan needs Tribal input and Tribal action. Chemawa Indian School was also a topic of discussion as the superintendent position has not yet been filled. Oregon Tribes were to be a part of that process.

It was also noted that the school property on the old campus still needs to be cleaned up. We are hopeful that the Bureau of Indian Affairs would come up with some funds to keep the facility cleared.

Discussion also included expanding health care for all Oregon Tribes in the state of Oregon; more information will be forthcoming on this subject. Many other important issues were brought forward and we agreed to meet again when we attended the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians meeting in Portland later in January.

## Chemawa Indian School

Chemawa will celebrate its annual birthday pow-wow on Feb. 22 beginning at 1 p.m. Lummi Tribal elder Jewel James carved two beautiful story poles to be placed at the Chemawa cemetery as a memorial to the students and staff who are buried at that site.

On the morning of Feb. 22 at 10 a.m., the poles will be permanently placed in the ground. All Oregon Tribes have been invited to this small ceremony to mark the event. Tribal members are invited to attend as well as Chemawa students and staff.

## Siletz Tribal Business Corporation

There have been some recent changes at STBC. Gregg Gubuan, who provided oversight temporarily, is no longer there. New job descriptions were developed for the positions to better determine staff functions. No new executive director has been hired at this time.

## Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians

Portland hosted the ATNI meeting in January. Tribal Council attended along with all other Northwest Tribes. Here is some information on ATNI, from its website:

In 1953 farsighted Tribal leaders in the Northwest formed the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians and dedicated it to Tribal sovereignty and self-determination.

Today, ATNI is a nonprofit organization representing 57 Northwest Tribal governments from Oregon, Idaho, Washington, southeast Alaska, Northern California and Western Montana. ATNI is an organization whose foundation is composed of the people it is meant to serve – the Indian peoples.

In acting upon these principles ATNI has taken as its purpose to: Provide a forum for sharing information on matters of interest to its member Tribes,

develop consensus on matters of mutual importance, assist member Tribes in their governmental and programmatic development consistent with their goals for self-determination and self-sufficiency, and provide for effective public relations and education program with the non-Indian communities.

Through its conferences, forums, networks and alliances, it is the intent of ATNI to represent and advocate for the interests of its member Tribes to national Indian and non-Indian organizations and governments.

Where it is appropriate, ATNI will develop and pursue regional strategies for the development, protection and advancement of the interests of member Tribes and their people in the areas represented by ATNI committees, which include: Cultural affairs, economic development, human and social services, natural resources and environment, Tribal governance and ad hoc task forces.

Each committee and task force shall determine its own mission and course consistent with the operating policies and principles of the Affiliated Tribes. ATNI Executive Board and all standing committees and task forces pursue their goals generally in the following activity areas:

- Provide forums for the exchange of information of matters of mutual concerns among member Tribes and their constituencies
- Provide processes for the development of consensus on policy and positions on issues



Delores Pigsley

- Provide recommendations for legislation and government policy on behalf of ATNI and member Tribes
- Monitor, collect information, analyze data, disseminate findings and develop policy positions on matters of interest to ATNI and its member Tribes
- Provide technical assistance, benchmarking (standard setting), education, and training to ATNI and its member Tribes
- Establish and maintain mutual assistance networks and foster strategic alliances between ATNI, its member Tribes and beneficial organizations
- Provide for an effective public relations and education program to non-Indian communities on behalf of ATNI and its member Tribes

*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 enrollment@ctsi.nsn.us. All others – call the newspaper office.

## Elders Council Meeting

**Feb. 8 • 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.

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

### Introduction to the Athabaskan language

**Open to Tribal members of all ages**

#### Siletz

Siletz Tribal Community Center  
Feb. 3 – 6-8 p.m.  
March 2 – 6-8 p.m.

#### Portland

Portland Area Office  
Feb. 10 – 6-8 p.m.  
March 9 – 6-8 p.m.

#### Eugene

Eugene Area Office  
Feb. 4 – 6-8 p.m.  
March 3 – 6-8 p.m.

#### Salem

Salem Area Office  
Feb. 11 – 6-8 p.m.  
March 10 – 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.

### Send information to:

**Siletz News**  
P.O. Box 549  
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**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.**



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