

**Administration status**

All employees who provide essential services are either working from home or in their offices. Administrative buildings are still closed to walk-ins, but all staff can be reached by phone. The clinic does see patients as needed, but the majority of services have been by phone.

Everyone will be notified when the offices reopen.

**Coronavirus update**

Staff and the Tribal Council are updated daily by counterparts in the state and consultations with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian Health Service, Housing and Urban Development, and many other entities. All share details on available grants, new information, and Tribal updates in Oregon, the Northwest and the nation.

We have never experienced anything like this in our lives. We appreciate that folks are following the governor's recommendations on staying safe and taking necessary precautions to protect those whom we love. Lincoln County has experienced a very low rate of COVID-19 cases thanks to all the county residents.

Gov. Kate Brown has held weekly calls with all nine Oregon Tribes to keep us abreast of new information and changes.

**Gaming update**

Chinook Winds Casino Resort had a soft opening with Tribal members and some tiered players on May 20. The casino officially opened to the public May 21.

There are many changes in the casino as well as the restaurants and hotel that were necessary to keep employees and

guests safe. We look forward to employees returning to work and having our doors open.

**Our future**

We all look forward to being able to gather and visit as we have done in the past, although I am sure the future will still hold restrictions. It's very sad not to be able to gather for memorial services as we have experienced many Tribal members passing, attend graduation ceremonies and visit in person.

We will all be grateful when the virus is contained and we get to our new normal. All summer events – solstice dances, Chinook Winds 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Culture Camp and our pow-wow have been canceled this year.

Please be safe and stay healthy.



Delores Pigsley

Visit [ctsi.nsn.us](http://ctsi.nsn.us).

Legal Aid Services of Oregon and the Oregon Law Center, civil legal service providers for low-income Oregonians, operate a public benefits hotline where low-income Oregonians can talk to lawyers and paralegals to get advice on public benefits, including unemployment benefits:

**Oregon public benefits hotline**  
**800-520-5292**  
**Oregonlawhelp.org**

**Apply Now for Siletz Tribal Head Start**

Siletz Tribal Head Start is accepting applications for the 2020-2021 school year. Classrooms are located in Portland, Salem, Lincoln City and Siletz.

Children must be age 3 or 4 to attend.

Applications are available by mail or can be downloaded from the Tribal website. To request an application, call DeAnn Brown at 541-444-2450.

Thank you.

**Tenas Illahee Childcare Center Board of Directors Vacancies**

Résumés are being accepted for the Tenas Illahee Childcare Center Board of Directors. Currently, there are two vacant board positions.

If interested, please submit your résumé to Siletz Tribal Council, c/o Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR 97380-0549.

Vacancies are open until filled.

**Census response deadline extended**

The big news out of the Census Bureau is that the 2020 Census response deadline has changed from July 31 to Oct. 31. So the census began on April Fool's Day and ends on Halloween. No joke.

This is great news for those who haven't had an opportunity to show their Siletz pride and be counted. For those who have been laid off, it's an opportunity to get a well-paying temp job as a census taker. Just contact the Census Bureau at [2020census.gov/jobs](http://2020census.gov/jobs).

If you haven't yet responded to the Census, it also means that Census takers will be coming to your door later than planned. Originally, they were to start on May 13. Now they will start in August.

If you want to avoid their visit, respond online at [my2020census.gov](http://my2020census.gov) or phone 888-444-2020. Phone lines may have long hold times.

So far, response from the Siletz community has been in the middle of the pack as far as other Oregon Tribes, but well below the Oregon and national rates.

Indian Country funding is dependent on getting a full response. Funding for schools, roads and health programs are highly influenced by our numbers. COVID-19 funding for states and Tribes is determined by the 2010 Census, which undercounted American Indians by 5%.

The census is not complicated and only asks the minimum of nine questions to identify the number of people in each

household. Your answers are protected and secure. They can't be released to other agencies. Remember to identify yourself as an American Indian and as a proud member of the Siletz Tribe.

In order to add a little fun to responding, the Complete Count Committee has arranged for some contests complete with prizes:

1. The first 100 people who text OREGON to 33339 will receive \$15 Taco Bell gift cards. Agree to receive census-related emails from Dancing Hearts. After sending the text, email your name, mailing address and phone number to [completecount-committee@ctsi.nsn.us](mailto:completecount-committee@ctsi.nsn.us).
2. If you have completed the census response, tell us and send your name, mailing address and phone number to CTSI, Complete Count Committee-Planning, P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR 97380-0549. You will be placed in a drawing for a barbecue grill, five Kindle Fire 10s, five Kindle Fire 5s, shirts, insulated bags and hundreds of other prizes and gifts.

If you haven't completed your response and need assistance, contact your area office. You can also call the Siletz census hotline at 541-444-8285. Watch for upcoming special census events at your local area offices.



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](mailto:enrollment@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](mailto:pias@ctsi.nsn.us)**

**Deadline for the July issue is June 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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