

Wildfires

Just when we thought nothing could be worse for us this year than the pandemic, the fires took precedence. There are many Tribal members who suffered, either losing their homes, damage to their property, evacuations from their property and other damages that include health issues such as breathing hazardous air along many other health concerns related to the fire.

While there are many organizations that offer assistance, it takes time to process requests for assistance. Our heart goes out to all those affected families.

As of this date, fires are still burning across Oregon and the fire season remains in effect. A big thank you goes out to all the people who assisted in the evacuations and providing services to the people who lost their homes and all those who were evacuated.

A big thank you also goes to our staff who assisted evacuees at the Recreation Center in Siletz. Many folks worked long days to help others in activities associated with the windstorm and wildfires – thank you so much!

COVID-19

The Tribe continues to provide services with CARES Act funding. The services have assisted many members.

We were fortunate to provide a cash payment to every adult member earlier this year. The Tribal Council intends to make another payment before the end of the year to adult members. The difference this time is that Tribal members must apply for the payment and give the reason it is needed. The member survey that many of you completed gave very compelling information and needs that must be addressed.

The CARES Act funds are guided by regulations that have changed over time. The Tribe must comply with those regulations as all expenditures will be audited and all funds must be spent appropriately, related to the pandemic. Any funds not expended by Dec. 31, 2020, must be returned to the U.S. Treasury.

An application will be mailed to all adult Tribal members. It must be completed in its entirety; an instruction sheet will be provided. Tribal members must complete the application to receive any CARES Act fund payments.

Services

Services for Tribal members have changed somewhat. Our Tribal clinic has imposed several restrictions for members needing health care. Appointments are necessary, but no one should be turned away from receiving care. The staff is there to assure that everyone receives the care they need.

All other Tribal offices provide services by appointment only. Upgrades are still being made to keep walk-in folks safe. The Tribal Council intends to keep offices in the same mode until January 2021. This date could change depending on circumstances and the outcome of the virus or if a vaccine is in place before that date.

Our staff is either working from home or in the office on different shifts in some cases. No one should be without necessary services during this time.

Tribal Council meetings

All of our Tribal Council meetings are held by phone as the Tribal Council chambers is currently undergoing safety precautions and upgrades. The General Council meeting in November will be



Delores Pigsley

held in the same way as the May and August meetings. They can be viewed on the website.

Hopefully, the fires are behind us. The pandemic will be with us for the immediate future, but I look forward to being able to see and visit with everyone as soon as it is possible.

Stay safe and stay healthy.

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.

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.

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I will catch up to them in a short period of time and emphasize a teamwork endeavor,' said Smith. "From the department personnel I have worked with and observed, we have some quality personnel and operating systems. I love a good challenge, especially when the positive results are for the Tribal government and Tribal members."



Courtesy photos

Siletz Tribal General Manager Gerald Smith with the U.S. Olympic Boxing Team (both photos) in 1996



Send information to:

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 800-922-1399, ext. 1291
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Deadline for the November issue is Oct. 9.

Submission of articles and photos is encouraged.

Please see the Passages Policy on page 20 when submitting items for Passages.



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