

COVID

We have been used to celebrating Restoration Day in November, but unfortunately this is the second year that COVID-19 has prevented us from gathering for that celebration.

The Tribe went from moving positively forward from emergency procedures from phase one to phase two and then back to phase one because of the positive increase in COVID cases in Lincoln County as well as in the Tribe and the Siletz community.

The casino had an outbreak that resulted in closure for about three weeks. Even though we have a high percentage of vaccinated employees within the Tribe, the casino has a ways to go.

Now it appears that the numbers of COVID are going down. The tests being done on the water in Siletz, however, tell us a lot of infection still exists in the community. The water is monitored regularly.

It is hoped that we can progress to the next phase of reopening the Tribe as we see more people being vaccinated.

Forest fires

Our area has been very lucky this year during the wildfire season. It was just a year ago that fires raged through Lincoln County and all over Oregon as well.

Budgets

The Tribal Council is in the process of finalizing the funds that were received from the CARES Act. Use of the funds was published in the confidential newsletter in October. Those funds must be spent by the end of December 2021; initially the deadline was December 2020.

It is also time for budget planning for 2022 for the Tribe. Congress has not yet approved funds for federal programs; a continuing resolution is in effect until mid-December.

Chemawa

The new Chemawa Indian School superintendent, Amanda Ward, introduced herself to the Oregon Tribes. She shared that school is expected to begin with students in person in mid-October.

A huge issue for the school is the homeless camps that surround the school property as the students need to be safe on their return to the campus. Hopefully law enforcement will be able to clear those homeless camps.

Consent Decree

Work on the Tribe's Consent Decree continues to move forward. The Tribe has the support of Gov. Brown, the U.S. Attorney's office and the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Department.

Meetings with those entities have been very successful. Legislation supporting our efforts will be introduced in Congress very soon.

Salem casino

The Bureau of Indian Affairs continues to process our application to establish a casino in Salem. A public relations firm has been hired to do some marketing and updating surveys in the Salem area.

Portland apartments

Mamook Tokatee is the name of the new Portland apartment complex that will be completed in December. The Tribe is one of the partners with the Native American Youth Association in its development. Twenty units are designated for Siletz Tribal members (see page 3).



Delores Pigsley

For more information about the Siletz Tribe, visit ctsi.nsn.us.

Elders Council Meeting

The Elders Council will hold a virtual Zoom meeting on Saturday, Nov. 13, 2021, at 1 p.m.

If you are interested in participating in the virtual meeting from your phone, computer or smart phone, please contact Brian Crump in the Elders Program at 541-444-8233 by Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2021.

Be safe. Wear a mask. Get vaccinated. Stay well.

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.

Send information to:

Siletz News

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Siletz, OR 97380-0549

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Fax: 541-444-2307

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Deadline for the December issue is Nov. 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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**Please contact Nick Viles (nickv@ctsi.nsn.us)
with questions and to sign up**