

Native American Rights Fund

I was pleased to be able to attend the Native American Rights Fund (NARF) 50th anniversary celebration in Aurora, Colo., in April of this year. I was invited as a guest speaker as NARF played a significant role in our Tribal Restoration effort prior to 1975 when I was first elected. Many Tribes and lawyers were present who assisted our Tribe back in the day when we had no funds whatsoever for any legal assistance.

Our good friend Charles Wilkinson also was in attendance. He expressed many fond memories of our Restoration effort, remembering all the folks with whom he worked. We reminisced about old times.

NARF continues to work on major Tribal issues; John Echohawk is still the executive director. We are proud of our association with the organization. Through charitable donations we fund a summer intern at NARF.

Mamook Tokatee

Our housing development in Portland (Mamook Tokatee) celebrated a ribbon cutting ceremony with all of the partners (Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA), Community Development Partners) in May. The housing development is beautiful; we are extremely lucky to have the partners working with us and us with them.

Our housing director, Sami Jo Difuntorum, is to be commended for her work Paul Lumley, NAYA CEO. The artwork in the facility, organized by Phillip Hillaire, is outstanding.

Chemawa Indian School

The Portland regional director invited the Siletz, Grand Ronde and Coquille Tribes to participate in a meeting at Chemawa with several Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) officials to

discuss Chemawa issues that have been discussed many times in the past. We are making some headway.

The issues have centered on upkeep of the old campus and the cemetery. Funds have not been allocated for the upkeep and Tribes have always insisted that it is the responsibility of the school. We toured the facility and all the surrounding grounds, including the cemetery where the grass was knee-high.

I also had the opportunity to have the BIA officials visit our future Salem casino property. It was a good visit and I let them know they will get an application from us soon and we look forward to them approving our project.



Delores Pigsley

Memorial Day

Our Memorial Day ceremony took place on May 30 at the Paul Washington Cemetery on Government Hill. It was good to see so many of you there.

STBC seeks landscape contractor(s) for properties in Salem/Keizer area

The Siletz Tribal Business Corporation is looking for a suitable vendor/vendors to perform landscaping services for both vacant land and developed land in the Salem/Keizer area

An RFP is available by contacting Ann Lewis, acting CEO for STBC, at 541-994-2142 or alewis@stbcorp.net. Proposals are due by 4 p.m. on Friday, June 15, 2022.

Elders Council Meeting

The Elders Council will host an in-person meeting on Saturday, June 18, 2022, at 1 p.m. at the Hee Hee Illahee RV Resort in Salem, Ore. If you have questions, please contact the Elders Program at 541-444-8233.

Editor's note: In the article on Nellie Orton in the May issue of Siletz News, Wolverton Orton's name was misspelled. Siletz News regrets the error.

CTSI Jobs – Tribal employment information is available at ctsi.nsn.us.

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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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