



Courtesy photos by Teresa Simmons

The Siletz Tribal Arts and Heritage Society sends out a huge thank you to David Gray and Kent Rilatos, who volunteered to assemble chairs for the office/meeting room in the upstairs area of the STAHS gift shop in Siletz.



Moffitt family donates artifacts found near Waldport to Tribe

By Teresa Simmons

On the morning of March 11, Siletz Tribal Arts and Heritage Society board members held a reception in the STAHS Gift Shop/Museum that was followed by the actual noon groundbreaking ceremony for the museum to be built on Government Hill. We all arrived early to set out snacks and spiffy the place up so everything would look its absolute best for our guests.

At the stroke of 10 a.m., the appointed time to open, we heard a knock on the back door of the shop that was the beginning of a marvelous gift!

Dave Moffitt, whose family settled in the Waldport area in 1936, had contacted us earlier in the week. Over the phone, he told of arrowheads, scrapers, spear points and a net weight that he wished to donate to STAHS for possible display in the soon-to-be-built museum.

Dave and his sister, Betsy Maxfield, along with other family members found the artifacts on the beach of Alsea Bay and in the fields of their family farm between 1940 and 1960. His family felt that the items should be returned to a place where they would be treasured as they had been for many years.

Dave's actions are an example of how we are seeing items returned to the care of the Siletz Tribe as we build a place to share Tribal history today and for generations to come.



Courtesy photos by Teresa Simmons

Above: Spear point with arrowheads in the background

Right: Dave Moffitt with the family collection



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part of the Siletz Reservation, representatives from the Tillamook Pioneer Museum came to wish us well.

State Sen. Dick Anderson, representatives from the Lincoln County Historical Society and the North Lincoln County Historical Museum, along with Lincoln County commissioners, Tribal Council members, architects from AKANA, individual donors, Tribal elders and so many more joined in.

To view the groundbreaking video, visit our website at siletzartsheritagesociety.org.

The celebration continued and our numbers increased to about 160 at a dinner hosted by STAHS to thank all those who have helped us reach our capital campaign goal. State Rep. David Gomberg joined us for the evening meal that was held at Chinook's Seafood Grill in Lincoln City.

A silent auction with donations supplied by STAHS board members, a very short program and delightful food gave the evening an informal air, allowing all of us to spend time enjoying each other's company. It was a proud and joyful event.

The largest portion of the funds needed to reach our goal was secured through the efforts of Rep. Gomberg and Sen. Anderson, who lobbied on our behalf as did U.S. Sens. Ron Wyden and Merkley. We can't thank them enough.

Now with the assurance of a 3-to-1 match from the Siletz Tribal Council, it's time to start digging and building!



Courtesy photo

An artist's drawing of the new cultural center and museum

Photos by Andy Taylor

Left: Gloria Ingle, Bill John, Loraine Butler, Teresa Simmons and Carlos Calica

Below: Connor Mason, Tyee Yanez, Kent Rilatos, Ron Butler Jr. and Carter Mason

