

LETTERS TO EDITOR

(Editor note both letters are reprints at the request of Dolly Fisher)

To The Editor:
The Oregonian
Portland, OR 97201

A letter on June 11 tried to correct two statements in a previous issue of your paper.

True, the Siletz Indians do not have a Tribal Chief, but Webster's dictionary defines Chief as the head or leader of a body of men; the person highest in authority; the head of a clan or Tribe. Used as an adjective the word can be used in many ways with no intent of claim to the Tribal Religious Leader or CHIEF. The 1973 Legislation to restore Federal recognition to the Siletz Tribe of Indians did not fly. In 1975 a new format of legislation was prepared and that effort was fulfilled in 1977 with plans for a reservation to be submitted within two years. The 1973 plans had no request for a Reservation as it was not wanted by a select few.

As a tribal member and beneficiary of the Federal benefits restored under the supervision and direction of Chairman Bensell, I am thankful for the Reservation Plan. Many benefits would not be available without the on/or near Reservation status. The support of Senator Hatfield and Representative AuCoin to sponsor the Siletz Bill, aka the Bensell Bill on the Hill in Washington DC, was indeed a result of the personal friendship among Mr. Bensell and these two men, that acknowledgement was heard loud and long at a Recognition Dinner in 1987 and again on May 14, 1988.

Dolly Fisher
Siletz, Oregon

To The Editor:

Nathan Thomas Metcalf was the only Siletz Tribal Member to graduate from Chemawa Indian School on June 3, 1988.

He received an award from Chemeketa Community College in Salem for a tuition wavier, Nathan will be attending there this fall.

Nathan is the son of Lorraine Metcalf of Jefferson and the late Willard Metcalf Jr.

We are very proud of our nephew and wish him well in his endeavors.

Leon Metcalf & Sharon Butler
Siletz, Oregon

(this letter was published in the OREGONIAN on June 11, 1988)

Siletz have no chief

To the Editor: Your editorial (May 13) relative to the passing of Art Bensell in Siletz was misleading. Bensell was a personal friend for 60 years, and he did, indeed, live a distinguished life. But two statements in your editorial were incorrect.

First, he was not a chief of the Siletz. The Siletz have no chief. Second, he did not enlist the aid of Rep. Les AuCoin and Sen. Mark Hatfield. Bensell did not support Siletz restoration until two years after its inception in July 1973.

AuCoin's commitment to sponsor the legislation was obtained in 1974, and Hatfield agreed to sponsor it when it was presented to him in early 1975 by Sister Francella Griggs, then of St. Philip Neri here in Portland, and me. We had also obtained the support for this legislation from the rest of the Oregon delegation prior to Bensell's offer to join us in our effort.

It is unfair to some 40 people, many of whom worked nearly full time on the effort, to credit Bensell for achieving tribal restoration at Siletz. He served several years as tribal chairman during the time when the legislation passed, but did not develop the initial legislation, or persuade the parties you mention to enact the legislation. It had already happened. He was, however, a very important person in subsequent legislation.

JOE LANE
Tribal chairman, 1973-75
Confederated Tribes of Siletz
Southeast Portland

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD ASSISTANT

July 18-27, 1988 (tentative dates)

Pay: \$5.00-\$5.50/hour

Closing date for applications: July 8, 1988

JOB DESCRIPTION:

Field assistant for short-term archaeological test excavations at 35LNC50 in the Newport vicinity for the Bureau of Land Management through Heritage Research Associates, Inc. Duties, under the direction of a crew chief, may include (but not limited to) auger excavation (of post hole size), shovel tests, screening fill for shell, stone, and faunal remains, some note taking, and discussing field observations with crew chief. Field assistant should be in sound physical condition, careful, precise, observant to detail, and able to follow directions. Must be reliable and prompt in arriving for work. Field assistant should be willing to be part of a team that consists of experienced archaeologists. Experience or demonstrated interest in archeology, culture, geology, botany, biology or related fields is desirable. No smoking allowed on site.

DATES AND PAY:

Dates of fieldwork are tentatively set for July 18-27, 1988, but field schedule may vary somewhat. Pay is \$5.00-\$5.50/hour depending on experience. Meals and lodging may be provided if necessary.

APPLICATIONS:

Applications should be completed and returned to:

Sacred Lands Preservation Committee

Confederated Tribes of Siletz

P.O. Box 549

Siletz, OR 97380

SILETZ NEWS DEADLINE JULY 20
Send articles to: Siletz News, P.O. Box 549
Siletz, OR 97380

GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 6, 1988
SILETZ TRIBAL COMMUNITY CENTER
Beginning at 1:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1:00 p.m. - Call to Order

Invocation

Roll Call

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Tribal Members Concerns

Tribal Chairman's Report - Delores Pigsley

Pow-Wow Report

Housing Authority Update

Siletz Health Clinic Update

Announcements

Adjournment

POTLUCK BEGINNING AT 12:00 NOON

CHANGE OF ADDRESS or ADDRESS CORRECTION

Old or Incorrect Address:

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Zip Code _____

New or Correct Address:

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

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