

Siletz Tribal Head Start

The children and staff of Head Start are putting on the green just as Spring is turning the trees and lawns green. The children have been finding lots of ways to enjoy the beautiful sunshine.

SILETZ CENTER: We'll be finishing up units on Marine animals with a field trip to the Marine Science Center and learning about some Saint Patrick's Day traditions.

Therese Loomis, Head Start Teacher, continues to be off-work due to injury but we're sending lots of get well thoughts her way and hope she'll be back soon. A big thank you to Head Start parents Kristi Lane, Tina Rexroad, Valerie Howell, and Kittie Hostler for volunteering in the classroom. As usual, Madge Mason's assistance has been greatly appreciated; Madge is Green Thumb participant. Some temporary assistants have also been a great help, including Steve "Hangaburger" Rife and Brenda Davenport. As of March 4th, Siletz Tribal member Daphne Simmons, will be assisting Vella in the Siletz classroom until Theresa returns to work. **THANK YOU EVERYONE!**

A Head Start family recently moved from the Siletz area so we have one opening at the Siletz classroom. An income eligible, Siletz Indian descendent will have preference for this opening. Openings sometimes occur and it is important that families complete an enrollment application so their child is on the waiting list.

SPRINGFIELD CENTER: The Springfield classroom is fully enrolled at the moment but, if have friends and family in that area, please encourage them to complete enrollment applications. Sheri or Susan can be contacted at 747-0161. Recent activities include storytelling, a visit from a fireman, and health screens. A big thank you to Irene Holland for helping to make the health screens possible. The Springfield classroom is a work experience site for JTPA client and tribal member, Judy Fry. Judy's assistance has been truly appreciated.

NEW FAMILY SERVICES COORDINATOR: DeAnn Brown, joined the Head Start Staff as the Family Services Coordinator in mid-February. DeAnn is a Siletz Tribal member, mother of two children, active walker/jogger, and previously worked at West Eugene Adult & Family Services. DeAnn works twenty hours per week. We're really excited to have DeAnn's social service experience to call upon.

New Johnson O'Malley Program in Portland

We now have a Johnson O'Malley Program in the Portland Area serving Multnomah, Clackamas & Washington counties. Lori Johnson, a Siletz Tribal member and long time Portland resident, was hired as the Johnson O'Malley Coordinator the last part of February.

Welcome aboard Lori!!!

Housing Report

By: Connie Hoffman, Housing Director

I attended a two-day workshop in Portland in mid-March on HUD's Resident Initiatives program. This was not only interesting and informative, but inspirational as well. We had an opportunity to hear first-hand from Housing Authorities in the Northwest who have successfully implemented programs which serve the needs of their residents and which are managed and operated by the residents themselves.

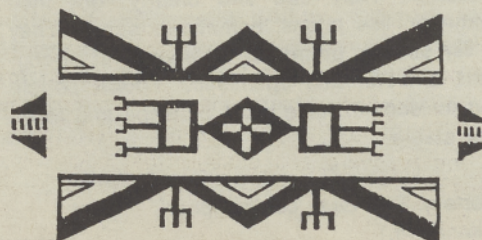
I believe that the Siletz Indian Housing Authority has accomplished so much during its few years of existence, largely because of the active involvement of Homebuyers on the housing board. This is not the only way that residents can become involved, but it is an important one.

I hope that during the coming months a Resident Organization or Council can be formed among Homebuyers in the Mutual Help housing projects. There are funding opportunities available through HUD for a Resident Group to obtain funding to assist with its organization and also to work on specific projects, such as the elimination of problems stemming from drug and alcohol abuse.

The involvement of residents is essential in overcoming the management problems which are inherent in any neighborhood of families. These include problems of trespass, respecting the property of others, supervision of youngsters, and on and on and on. In fact, management functions can be turned over to resident groups, if this is what the housing board and resident organization deem to be best for the project.

One of the first things that the new Housing Counselor will be doing is a needs assessment, which will tell us what the families themselves, who live in the projects, see as the most important problems or areas to work on. This counseling program, which is being subsidized by HUD and is being obtained through a contract with Oregon State University's Extension Service, is due to start this month (April).

Also, during the next month or two, we will be polishing up our application to develop some rental housing for Tribal members, mainly elders and small families, and will be submitting this again to HUD for funding. We have quite a number of preliminary applications from those who would benefit from this type of housing and we are always interested in hearing from more, as this helps us to document the need. Rental housing would serve the needs of those with very low incomes or unstable incomes, as HUD's rental program provides a higher level of subsidy to the resident, than does the Mutual Help program.



Gold Card Information

From: Robin Essery, LCSD Board Secretary

We would like to advertise the availability of Gold Cards for senior citizens. Gold Cards provide free admission to school activities to Lincoln County residents 62 years of age or older or a retired employee of LCSD. Proof of age and residency are required before a Gold Card can be issued.

Gold Card application forms are available at all schools and LCSD offices.

School activities and athletic events are usually busy and crowded. School staff or volunteers may not have time to process Gold Card applications during athletic events or school activities. In that case, senior citizens may contact me at the District Office or forward requests for Gold Cards to me through the courier. I would be happy to help any way I can.

WE'RE
SOCIAL SECURITY:

WE'VE GOT YOUR NUMBER.

1-800-SSA-1213
STARTING OCTOBER 1, 1991

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Social Security Administration

Spring Cleaning

Elders as you know, spring is just around the corner. If you need any spring cleaning or chore services done around your home, please call Allison (in Salem) at 390-9494 or Elouise (in Siletz) at 1-800-922-1399. The Elder Program can pay someone to do those chores you cannot do. If you have someone in mind to do services for you, they need to be at least 14 years old with a work permit.

Tax Preparation Assistance For Elders

Siletz Tribal Elders who need help in filling out their 1991 tax returns can receive assistance at the Tribal Community Center April 6th from 11:00 to 2:00 p.m.