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put in their path at every turn. Each one has been faced with great resolve and determination. The Council has set an example for all of us, not giving in to adversity and continuing to work for the betterment of the Tribe.

Although we now are reaching the final days of the struggle, we are still faced with opposition from Barbara Roberts, the Governor of the State of Oregon who sent a letter of non-concurrence to Secretary Lujan on November 20. Since that date, an injunction has been filed in the United States District Court by the State of Oregon and Governor Roberts with the United States of America, Department of Interior and Manuel Lujan as defendants in an attempt to stop the fee to trust transfer. November 23, the Salem City Council followed suit and filed its own injunction.

To help clarify this issue please read the following press release issued by Tribal Officials on November 20 along with Governor Roberts letter of non-concurrence.

Governor Robert's letter of November 20 to Secretary Lujan reads as follows:

"Pursuant to Section 20 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, I do not concur in your determination that the proposed acquisition of land for gaming purposes in Salem, Oregon by the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians is in the best interest of the tribe and not detrimental to the surrounding community.

I have reviewed your findings and the record on which they are based.

The basis for my decision is described in the enclosed Statement of Nonconcurrence and in

my comments to you dated October 26, 1992. " (This was attached to a six page statement of nonconcurrence which can be obtained at Tribal Central Office.)

In reply the Tribe issued the following press release on November 20, 1992:

"Tribal leaders for the Siletz Indians said they were disappointed by Oregon Governor Barbara Roberts' decision today not to concur with the Secretary of the Interior's support of the tribe's application to take land into trust for a gaming center in Salem.

Nonetheless, tribal officials said they are optimistic that Interior Secretary Lujan will place the land in North Salem into trust, allowing the project to go ahead.

Lujan sent a letter to Roberts on November 6, seeking her input and stating: "I conclude that the proposed acquisition in Salem is in the best interest of the tribe and that the acquisition would not be detrimental to the surrounding community." Those are the two criteria for taking off-reservation land into trust on behalf of a tribe for gaming purposes, under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA).

Siletz Tribal Chairman Delores Pigsley said, "Nothing in the governor's letter disproves the Secretary's findings. She has not been able to show evidence of any community detriment."

In her letter, Roberts also contends that she has the right to veto the Secretary's determination. "The state believes the governor has the right to veto the proposal. She doesn't," said tribal attorney Craig Dorsay.

"What the state has is an opportunity to negotiate with the tribe over the scope of

gaming activities and business operations proposed for the facility," he said.

Pigsley also questioned the state's fairness in attempting to prohibit establishment of a tribal gaming facility. "The Siletz tribe only wishes to use gaming -- as others in the state have been allowed -- to enhance the well-being of our people and our communities," Pigsley said.

The state, for example, operates the lottery, video poker and other forms of gaming. According to the state's figures, sales from video poker alone are averaging more than \$2 million a week.

Pigsley emphasized several reasons the tribe believes establishment of its gaming facility is in the public's interest.

"The gaming center will generate revenue needed to provide critical health, education and economic development programs for the Siletz," she said. "Gaming allows the Siletz tribe to meet its own economic needs that the tribe's timber resources simply are not adequate to fund."

"Salem and the surrounding area also will benefit," she added. "We expect the facility will employ about 500 people. Most of the jobs will be filled by non-tribal members."

Once the fee-to-trust land purchase is completed by the federal government, the tribe and the Governor's office will work out the details of the gaming center operations a process known as compact negotiations. "We anticipate a productive discussion with the Governor when compact negotiations are underway," Pigsley said.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

From Nelsen Witt

As this is the last newsletter for 1992 I would like to reflect on the many activities and accomplishments experienced by the Tribe during this past year. When we measure the success of the tribe, credit is due everybody that was involved; a dedicated council for its guidance, a hard working tribal staff and the tribal membership for its encouragement and direction. I know when listing activities some will be missed because a lot of things the Tribe does are taken for granted. These are day to day activities that just happen as a matter of courses in the delivery of services.

Under the auspicious of Self-Governance a major reorganization of the tribal staff was undertaken to provide a more streamlined and effecient system of providing services to tribal members. A restructuring of the salary schedule was done to make

tribal salaries competitive with other local agencies. The safety program was brought to the forefront and active Safety Committee established an incentative awards, Drug testing and an employee assistance program were implemented.

The tribe participated in the initial planning activities to implement the congressional manadated self-governance program for Indian Health Service. The Siletz tribe is

one of seventeen tribes eligible to participate in the second phase. We will recieve a \$75,000.00 grant in 1993 to do the planning entailed in this process.

The Clinic continues to be very successful and recently expand its services by the addition of staff who will be able to provide a full range of dental service and a Nurse Practitioner to assist the medical staff.

We were successful in obtaining an ANA grant and a special Court grant from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to assist in tribal court development including additional training for the tribal judges, court code development and court resource and reference material.

We were recently notified of an award to the tribe of \$325,000.00 through the community development block grant program to build a tribal administrative building.

As you can see we had a very prosperous 1992 and look forward to an even more prosperous 1993.

