

Program News

U.S.D.A. UPDATE

July was a very good month, we received shipments in both Siletz and Salem. We want to thank Marion, Santiago, Vicente Morales for their time and energy. We want to thank Larry Bostwick Sr, Michael Keene, Virgil Lane for their time and energy helping in Salem to unload trucks. A big thank you goes to Randy Butler for making it possible for U.S.D.A. to have volunteers every month. Thanks to Aaron Bennett and Jacob Brock for their time and energy in Siletz, "Thanks to everyone that helped, Good job done" A very big thank you to Maxine Rilatos for the cornbread this was delicious. "Thanks Maxine." This month's selected recipe was Five bean soup, Marion Morales prepared this and it was very good.

FIVE BEAN SOUP
2 CUPS PINTO BEANS
2 CUPS LIMA BEANS
2 CUPS GREAT NORTHERN BEANS
2 CUPS KIDNEY BEANS
2 CUPS GREEN BEANS
1 T. SALT
1 MEDIUM ONION
2 PKGS. TOP RAMEN ORIENTAL MIX

COOK PINTO, LIMA, GREAT NORTHERN AND KIDNEY BEANS TOGETHER FOR 2 HOURS. ADD THE REST OF THE INGREDIENTS AND COOK FOR 1 HOUR LONGER. "ENJOY"

HOUSING REPORT

By Connie Hoffman, SIHA Executive Director

Right after I wrote last month's housing report, we received word from HUD that we had received funding for five additional housing units, for a total of 15 units that were funded this year. The Housing Authority board selected a site plan for the Dickenson property and submitted this to Tribal Council for approval August 16. The plan, which was approved by the Council, provides for 31 lots on the 9-10 acre parcel. It is printed in this issue of the paper. The educational facilities which are shown on the drawing have not been approved, but only show a possible scheme for development of that portion of the site.

We have funding to develop approximately 21 HUD homes on the site. The occupants for these homes will be selected from those who are on our waiting list for the Mutual Help program. These applicants must be within income limits which are established by HUD and which range from about \$20,000 for a couple and go up to approximately \$35,000 for a large family. This would leave about 10 lots which could be leased to Tribal members who do not meet the HUD income limits and who could apply for private financing to develop their own homes.

We hope to be able to start construction sometime in 1998. The hurdles we have to cross are the completion of water system improvements by the city, an environmental review required by HUD, and approval of trust status for the land by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The Housing Authority will be working with our architect, Joe Slack, in the coming months, to come up with designs for the homes, which will range in size from 2-4 bedrooms each, (most of them will be three-bedroom homes). We will be scheduling at least one community meeting to present the floor plans and designs for your input and review.

Another important decision which was made by Tribal Council in August, was to accept the recommendation of a Tribal Hous-

ing Reorganization committee to name the Siletz Indian Housing Authority as the Tribally Designated Housing Entity (TDHE) for the coming year to administer the new Indian housing block grant program under the new Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA). I expect that our housing programs will continue to operate in much the same manner as they have been—at least for the first year. We will be managing our apartments and houses and proceeding with the development of our new housing units. We also expect to launch a major repair and improvement program for the 54 Mutual Help homes, with the help of a Comprehensive Improvement Assistance Program (CIAP) grant from HUD. We do not know yet the amount of funds that we will receive for the CIAP program, but we are hopeful that it will be between \$500,000 and \$1 million. As with all of our construction programs, we will be using Indian preference in the awarding of all contracts.

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The housing surveys that were returned by nearly 400 Tribal households have been very helpful in preparing the housing plan that is required by the new NAHASDA law. We sent out about 1,400 survey forms. If you have one lying around that never got completed and sent back to us, please take a few minutes and fill it out. If you lost the form and would like another, please request one by calling Kristi Martin-Bayya at 1-800-922-1399, ext. 312.

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Our housing area just received an attractive addition with the installation of a carved wooden sign, done by Tribal Member Ken Hatch. The sign identifies the area as Silatchee Park, the name given it by Art Bensell, when the Housing Authority was first organized in 1985. The sign was installed by our maintenance crew, Tim Mason and Brandon Hammett, at the intersection of Judd Road and Chetco Court.