

## Another Year of Wisdom Happy Birthday!

Carol Blomstrom, 7/27  
 Douglas Brown, 7/31  
 Alton Butler, 7/5  
 Marie Chapman, 7/6  
 Alta Courville, 7/29  
 Antonio Delgado, 7/29  
 Everett Downey, 7/11  
 Peter Downey, 7/2  
 Marjorie Finley, 7/22  
 Barbara Fisher, 7/27  
 Joan Fisher, 7/20  
 Myrt Flagg, 7/1  
 Evagene Hamilton, 7/6  
 William John, 7/1  
 Geraldine Jordan, 7/11  
 Marvin Jordan Sr., 7/14  
 Richard Koehler, 7/3  
 David Lane, 7/24  
 Cherine Martell, 7/23  
 Lorna Martin, 7/18  
 Roberta Martin, 7/4  
 Wilma Mills, 7/10  
 Judy Niemi, 7/7  
 John Roe, 7/19  
 Robert Sanders, 7/1  
 Rachel Smith, 7/15  
 Raymond Sondenaar, 7/26  
 James Swanson, 7/3  
 Naomi Vasquez, 7/23  
 Joseph Williams, 7/18



*L to r: Delores Pigsley, Frank Simmons, Bob Tom, Gladys Bolton, and Rosemary Landis participate on the elders' panel at the Native American Fish & Wildlife Society conference at Chinook Winds Casino in May.*



*Elders and others participate in chair exercises led by Miranda Strong at the diabetes conference hosted by the Siletz Community Health Clinic at Chinook Winds Casino.*

## Elders Honor Day

The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians Elders have been invited to the Grand Ronde Senior Honor Day on July 20. Any elder who wants to attend can call Kathryn Dick, elders coordinator, at 1-800-922-1399, ext. 261, or 541-444-8261.

There's still time to sign up if you would like to attend. Transportation will be provided from each area. If you need a ride or would like more information, please call Kathryn.

## Elders Run to the Rogue

The elders are planning a trip to the Run to the Rogue event coming up in September. The planned dates are Sept. 14-16.

We need to know how many elders would like to participate so we can reserve rooms. This is a very exciting traditional event. Run to the Rogue is right after our Pendleton trip, so those of you who want to attend, please call Kathryn Dick at 1-800-922-1399, ext. 261, or 541-444-8261.

## Elders Meeting

July 14, 2001  
 Chinook Winds Casino  
 2 p.m.

The Siletz Tribal Police  
 Department can be reached  
 at 541-444-8371.

## Walt's Words of Wit and Wisdom

Before time, the Creator had completed creating Mother Earth and all the inhabitants of Mother Earth. Now the Creator was tired but was fearful of resting as the Creator was fearful of evil elements in a different domain. The Creator become very tired and had a hard time staying awake.

One of the Tree People asked the Creator to lie in the shade and rest. The Creator said that it would be nice but cannot, as someone needs to be on guard all the time. Now the trees were hardy and strong and said, "Creator, you rest. We will keep lookout." The Creator was skeptical, but did consent that if the trees would stay awake while the Creator rested, Creator would rest.

The trees all agreed that they would stay alert and the Creator went to sleep. As time went on, some of the trees started to droop and were becoming tired. Soon the Alder Trees became sleepy, the Maple Trees and even the Tamarack became very sleepy and went to sleep. The mighty Oak was watching and thought that those trees were very weak and just couldn't be trusted. Soon the mighty Oak started feeling drowsy, then he too went to sleep.

Now the Creator woke up, looked around, and all the trees were asleep. The Creator became angry and was scolding the trees for going to sleep. A voice came from the trees saying,

"I didn't go to sleep. I've been awake all the time keeping guard while you slept."

The Creator looked and it was Cedar Tree. For this, Cedar Tree would become the chosen tree. The Cedar Tree is the Sacred Tree of many coastal peoples. The leaves are used in the smudge, the wood is used for the coverings of sacred feathers, and the bark is used for clothing and building homes. Just under the bark is a substance that is edible. It's a multi-purpose tree.

There were other trees that didn't go to sleep but didn't speak up. The

trees that went to sleep, now the Creator wasn't so upset with them. The Creator decided that each of the trees would have a rest period every year. All of the tree's leaves would turn different colors at a certain time of the year, then turn brown and fall to the ground, becoming part of Mother Earth. But every year they would all start new again. The Tamarack is the only needle tree that went to sleep, so every year it loses its needles and rests. This is why every fall the trees all lose their leaves and every spring the trees spring back to life after the winter's sleep.