

SSP helps 2 overcome barrier, get jobs

Siletz Tribal members Ronald Messer and Michael Jackman have been actively participating in the 477 Self-Sufficiency Program in Siletz.

Ronald recently was offered full-time employment in his field of interest. He hopes to gain experience to become a dump/log truck driver.

Michael also has been offered employment and is excited to be working.

The Self-Sufficiency Program would like to congratulate both men on overcoming a huge barrier by giving them a \$25 Fred Meyer incentive gift card.

We wish you the best of luck in your future and congratulations on your accomplishments.

For information about **Agent Orange**, possible health-related problems and VA benefits:

- Toll-free Helpline – 800-749-8387, press 3
- publichealth.va.gov/xposures/agentorange/



Ronald Messer

Courtesy photo

Rikki Golsh – 1963-2014

Rikki Golsh was 50 years old when he passed away Jan. 11, 2014. As he wished, he was taken care of at home by his family until he passed.

Rikki was born (Oct. 23, 1963) and raised in Santa Cruz County. He was the son of Victor and Beverly Golsh. He was a loving father and a dedicated family man.

Rikki was married and spent 33 years with his best friend, Jill. Together they have three children.

Rikki was very proud of his children. He affectionately referred to them as “number one son,” “sweet pea” and “buckaroo.” They meant the world to him.

Rikki was a kindhearted man who was willing to help anyone in need if he could.

For most of his career, Rikki was proud to call himself a truck driver. He truly enjoyed driving.

He also had a passion for music. He enjoyed listening to all kinds of music and taking photographs at concerts he attended. He loved to reminisce about the many Day on the Green concerts he went to and share his pictures of them.



Rikki is survived by his wife, Jill; his three children, Mark, Katie and James; his beautiful new granddaughter, Cordelia; his sister, Vikki; two brothers, Marc and Steven; as well as the many cousins, nieces and nephews that Rikki loved and cared for as if they were his own children.

“One day, you’ll be just a memory for some people. Do your best to be a good one.” Rikki Golsh

A memorial service was held for Rikki in Santa Cruz at De Laveaga Park on March 2, 2014, that included a potluck and barbecue.

Tooth Talk: Sealant Clinic serves community’s children with dental care

By Mary Ellen Volansky, EPDH, MS

We did it – Siletz Valley School (SVS) and the Siletz Community Health Clinic (SCHC) worked together to provide oral health care for 148 SVS students on Feb. 25-27.

Many gracious and helpful people made this possible – and it all began last summer.

Well, not exactly last summer. The 2014 clinic dates were set right after last year’s clinic. During the summer though, while I was back east, Dr. Douglas Chadwick updated the registration/health history form.

This updated form for 2014 then was given to Teri Nielsen to include with all the other registration paperwork that parents get to fill out when enrolling their children at SVS.

A free clinic such as this takes lots of volunteers; we are honored to have many kind, generous people step forward from SCHC and SVS.

First were Dr. Chadwick’s efforts with the important form changes. In October, Dr. Megan Saxton applied to the American Dental Association for Give Kids A Smile Day. Her efforts earned SCHC donations of sealant, F2 varnish and many other patient supplies. Misty Reed calculated what additional supplies were needed and made them available.

Kelley Ellis organized the volunteers from SCHC. Most volunteers were new this year, except for Kelley. You may remember she was a volunteer last year, working with the students in the Shell Room.

I am pleased to say everyone did a great job – Nikki Jenkins, Michelle Strickler, Jack McCord, Karrie Gilkes, Brittany Russell, Tracy Lancaster and Kelley.

Volunteers drove students to SCHC from SVS and back again. Two or three volunteers monitored the students in the Shell Room, providing activities and movies for them.

Other volunteers kept track of paperwork and services provided and coordinated which student was next to be seen or next to ride the van back to school.

Teri, my contact at SVS, coordinated the gathering of more great volunteers. The SVS volunteers worked at signing up students, coordinating teachers’ and students’ schedules so there was a steady group of students for us to see.

Other volunteers rode in the van and monitored the schedule from a list of students. SVS volunteers included Tony Lyons, Patricia Mills, Monteen Nash, Candy Smith, Kammy Stam and Teri.

This year the Sealant Clinic had another SVS volunteer, student Robbie Rilatos, who is considering college next year to study dental hygiene. Lane Community College has two men graduating from its dental hygiene program this June.

Besides being helpful and kind to patients and staff, Robbie learned a skill he can place on his résumé for college and for work – fluoride varnish application. He will receive a Certificate of Achievement for learning this skill. Based on his work at this clinic, Robbie will make an excellent dental hygienist.

Bobbi Foley ordered the food and Wendi Schamp picked it up; we had plenty of flavorful food for all volunteers. This is especially helpful as many times volunteers could only grab a bite on the run.

SCHC dental staff provided all the oral health services: Dr. Chadwick, Dr. Jeremy Vistica, Dr. Yuka Vistica (Dr. Vistica’s wife is a dentist licensed in Japan), Sara Bell-Tellez, Bonnie McAlpine, June O’Connor, Bobbi and Misty.

All staff and a few volunteers helped with pre- and post-clinic setup. In addition to oral health services, each staff member provided charts that were written into computer or to hard copy and soon those signed consent forms will be scanned into individual charts. Our work doesn’t end when the students return to class.

Now for the statistics all these volunteers made possible: We saw 148 students over three days (please remember that the SVS learning day is shorter than the SCHC work day).

These 148 students received 148 screenings, 147 fluoride varnishes and 467 sealants. If these services were purchased in the community, they would cost at least \$35,636.

The sad news is that 42 students had visible decay and of those, 12 had teeth needing the placement of temporary fillings.

Finding decay with the naked eye means a cavity has to grow into a hole

large enough to be seen. We would much rather find cavities on an X-ray, seeing a cavity when it is small and not painful.

This is why every student was given a letter to his or her parent(s) requesting the parent(s) to take the student to see a dentist.

The question is whether these students will be able to see a dentist. Can the family afford to pay for treatment or drive to the dentist, say, in the valley? Can the family afford to take the time from work to have their child seen or will work allow for their time away?

If your child needs dental care, give someone a call. Call the school nurse. Call the Oregon Health Plan office. Give me a call. Please, call someone.

That’s it for the 2014 SVS/SCHC Annual Sealant Clinic. I hope you enjoyed reading of our efforts as much as we enjoyed our work.

Photos by Diane Rodriguez

Robbie Rilatos (left) applies fluoride varnish to the teeth of an unidentified student.

June O’Connor and Tracy Lancaster (below) check Aurora Carmona’s teeth.

