

**ROGERS**(cont.)

"I feel confident in her abilities to do a good job based on her background and her approach. She is organized and has the capabilities necessary to implement a successful program. She really knows people, not just kids and her approach is a real humanistic one and that is what it is going to take for a successful program," said General Manager, Jim Willis.

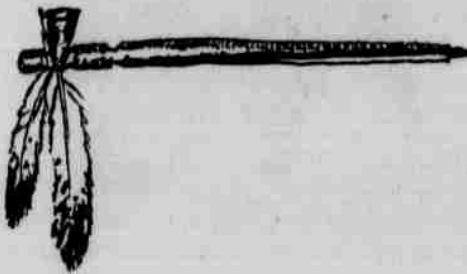
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-Jim Willis

Rogers brings a wealth of experience to the job with her. "I've worked with domestic violence and drug abuse programs for many years and throughout that time I feel that I've gained quality experience travelling and working throughout the country." The new director said it has always been her desire to work with Native Americans. "I am part Native American and it has always been an important part of my life." Rogers explained that she has been interested in Native American culture and backgrounds for years. "I'm very proud of that part of my heritage and I have been interested in helping people too."

Helping people has always come easy for the quick-witted Rogers and she has always taken pride in her work. "I was working in an out-patient unit in Wisconsin just prior to coming to Oregon to work for the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. It was intensive treatment with adolescents and adults."

Rogers brings a breath of fresh air to the treatment center with her positive attitude and her intense desire to provide the young adults at the center with a healthy environment. "The more I work in this capacity the more I know I'm in the right profession."



## INDIANS LACK HEALTH CARE DESPITE FEDERAL PROGRAMS

A recent report in The Miami Herald said that many of the more than 1 million Indians in the United States have inadequate health protection despite nearly \$1 billion in health care aid each year.

The newspaper reported that many Indians lack money for everything from eyeglasses to chemotherapy. Infant mortality is slightly better than a decade ago, but is still higher than in some Third World countries.

Nearly half of American Indians will die before their 45th birthday.

In Florida, the Herald reports, one doctor serves 2,000 Indians located on three different reservations.

"We're rationing health care. That's a frank, simple statement. We do this by establishing priorities," Dr. W. Craig Vanderwagen told the Herald.

- Courtesy of the American Indian Report



Tribal member Connie Monson began working for the Tribe as the Forestry Department's secretary in July of '89.

## CONNIE MONSON

Forestry secretary Connie Monson has been winning over co-workers and Tribal members alike with her hard work and cheerful personality since she began working for the Tribe in July. "Connie does a good job of relating to and handling Tribal members and co-workers. We've had people come in (to the forestry office) that have been upset about personal things and she handles all situations very well. She is just an excellent employee," said tribal forester Cliff Adams.

Connie explained that she learned about her present position with the Tribe when she spotted a job opening announcement in the tribal newsletter. Soon after, Connie and her husband Brad Monson moved to the Grand Ronde area from Falls City, Washington near Seattle. "I really wanted to move down here and come back home," said Connie. She grew up in nearby Sheridan.

After she graduated from high school, Connie attended college at Northwest Nazarene in Nampa, Idaho for two years. After meeting her husband Brad "at a non-denominational church camp," the couple moved north to Seattle, Washington. Connie explained that when she was in Seattle she gained valuable working experience, but didn't really like living in the big city. "It took forever to get home from work; it was already too late to do anything."

Moving back to this area and going to work for her Tribe has made Connie thankful for the opportunity.

## THE EFFECTS OF DRUGS & ALCOHOL ON YOUR BABY

Drugs and Alcohol can cause problems for you and your baby before and after birth. When you drink or use drugs your unborn baby does too. Drugs and alcohol can be trouble for anyone, but especially for your unborn child. Harmful chemicals taken during the first three months of pregnancy can cause birth defects or miscarriage. Continued drug abuse during the pregnancy may effect your baby's brain growth and weight gain, or cause premature birth, which leads to problems that effect your child their entire life.

Substances Most Commonly Abused & Their Risks to Mother and Baby

Connie's husband Brad works for Computerland, in Salem. "We both like the area and we have a nice place to live on 3 1/2 acres that takes up most of our spare time."

Connie said that one of the best parts of her job is working with the rest of the forestry crew and the Tribal members who frequent the forestry office. "I like working here because I find it more of a challenge than other jobs I've had in the past, because I'm learning so much." Adams is full of compliments for his staff's secretary. "She's been doing an excellent job, Connie is just an exceptional worker. She's so fast at her work it's hard to keep her busy."

Adams expressed his pleasure at being able to trust her with the responsibilities associated with maintaining an organized office. "We have all (including Jeff Kuust-Tribal Forester and Jeff Nepstad-Forest Technician) given her the responsibilities here at the office because we're so busy outside the office that she is relied upon to take care of things."

When asked what he thought her strongest quality was, Adams elaborated, "One really strong point she has is her ability to be very dependable. She has confidence and she is real sure of her abilities which is something that I looked for during the interview process."

It's clear that Connie Monson has been a valuable addition to the family of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. If you need any information regarding the Forestry Division you can contact Connie at 879-5211 ext. 131.

**COCAINE:** In the first three months of pregnancy, cocaine causes an increased risk of miscarriage. In the last three months of pregnancy, separation of the placenta, premature labor, increased blood pressure and heart problems may develop. Cocaine injected into the veins increases the risk of getting AIDS. The newborn experiences withdrawal symptoms and is at increased risk for crib death (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome).

**ALCOHOL:** Malnutrition, miscarriage, and still births are risks of alcohol abuse. Effects on the baby include Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS). Symptoms of (Continued on page 7.)