

A DECADE OF PROGRESS...

As the Tribe celebrates its tenth anniversary of restoration, many have turned their attention to the things the Tribe has accomplished during the last decade, and what will be achieved in the future.

Timber revenue has enabled the Tribe to purchase more property to build more facilities and enhance programs.

As Small Business Development seeks to promote Native American entrepreneurs and services, Spirit Mountain Development Corporation moves ahead with the construction of a gaming facility in Grand Ronde.

Now, ten years after restoration, people who have



Council member Andy Jenness, with members of Council and SMDC, helps "break ground" on the location of the planned gaming facility.

lived their lives in Grand Ronde are able to witness the transformation from ten years ago to today. Tribal members who have dreamed of a better life for their children and grandchildren can now visit a Grand Ronde Tribe which provides an abundance of human, financial, and educational services to its membership.

People are beginning to appreciate the Grand Ronde Tribe, and realize its belonging in Oregon, and the Pacific Northwest.

People are beginning to realize this is a Tribe rooted in tradition, but its members are not afraid to consider the future of their children and elders.

Two years ago, the Tribal Community Service Center was completed, and a day hasn't gone by when it hasn't been used. It houses the Tribal Dental Clinic, now complete with orthodontic services. It is the Elders' Mealsite, and location for General Meetings. Friday night bingo is located there, conferences, family reunions, and youth activities like last month's Halloween party.



Dental Clinic Staff: Myra Bielby, Pam Wilson, and Lydia Mathena (sitting).

The health and human services the Tribe provides includes not only physical health care, but mental health as well. In the six-county service area, more and more tribal members have been able to receive treatment when they become injured or sick.

Social Services has provided effective family crisis assistance to tribal members and their children. They have the means to find solutions to family problems, and help tribal members change their lives for the better.

The Tribe's Alcohol and Drug program has provided assistance to tribal members in recovery and the help they need. The Wellness and Prevention Components promote healthy life-styles for tribal youth and families. By providing alternative activities to using drugs and alcohol, tribal children in the community are learning they have a choice about the decisions they have in life, as well as having pride in their Tribe and their heritage.

Nanitch Sahallie Youth Treatment Facility, located in Salem, received a CARF accreditation last this year, and



Tee-shirts are still available from Nanitch Sahallie's First Annual Fun-Run. They are \$6.

have given chemically-dependent adolescents from many different tribes the tools they need to lead a sober life.

The Tribal Education department is providing assistance to more students than ever before, and many tribal members have expressed interest in not only furthering their education, but also working for the Tribe. There are tribal members attending universities all over Oregon.

In short, the Tribe is providing inspiration to its members. Inspiration to begin a new business, inspiration to live a healthy life, inspiration to get an education, or inspiration to be proud of who we are, and what we've accomplished.

The Grand Ronde Restoration Celebration to be held on Saturday, November 20, will be for many people a time of remembrance, as well as a time to look ahead at the opportunities the future may hold.

New Year of Head Start

As many of you know, school is back in session! Head Start classes started back up on September 21, and are now in full swing. For those of you that don't know, Head Start is a half day preschool program that is open to eligible community members and tribal staff who live outside the community, as long as they demonstrate eligibility.

Angie Bedortha, Head Start teacher, and her assistant, Shari Shell, would like to extend an invitation to all staff and community members to visit the classroom. All are welcome to just take a peek around or stay for an hour or so. If you would like to spend time in the Head Start classroom, call 879-2281 to set up a time.

Not much advance notice is required, and the Head Start staff would be glad to have visitors any Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. They especially need people who have culturally-related information they would like to share with the children. If anyone who knows jargon or Indian legend stories, and would be interested in sharing them with the class, they would be more than welcome.

The Head Start program is beginning its second year in the Grand Ronde Community. The staff believes in the importance of preserving and promoting cultural identity, especially for the young children.

They are also asking for donations of culturally-related items such as regalia, cradle boards, jewelry, tools, or anything that would be appropriate for a child's use. Your assistance and support of the Head Start program is greatly appreciated.