

Parenting class graduates 17

By Carmen Mercier

Indian Child Welfare Prevention Caseworker

As Kathy Gibbs from Easter Seals Healthy Start walked into the first session of "Make Parenting a Pleasure," a group based positive parenting course, one student asked excitedly, "Where have you been? We've been waiting for this!"

And so began a long-awaited parent education class for Grand Ronde Tribal members, a possibility realized through the collaboration and enthusiasm of eight local community partners.

Easter Seals Healthy Start, one of many family centered programs at Easter Seals Oregon Children's Therapy Center, was approached to facilitate a parenting class by Carmen Mercier of Indian Child Welfare.

As an ICW Prevention Caseworker, Mercier coordinated parent outreach and registration.

She worked with Grand Ronde Head Start to secure childcare and a terrific cook, and also arranged to hold the classes in the parent education building as well as secured incentives for 100 percent participant completion.

Employment Resources North-



Seventeen graduate from the "Making Parenting a Pleasure" parenting course.

Photo courtesy of Kathy Gibbs

west, a job training program for individuals receiving public assistance, supplied the parents with workbooks.

The Behavioral Care Network provided resources for instruction of classes and food. During the last class, an interesting and informative presentation on childhood

diabetes was given by Connie Jaeger, nurse practitioner from Polk County Health Department. Her daughter, Val, accompanied and spoke of her experience living with childhood diabetes.

Lastly, AmeriCorps member Michelle Laseter assisted in the classroom, engaging parents during

the 2.5 hour evening sessions.

Largely championed by Mercier, the successful graduation of 17 parents from the Tribe is a testament to the powerful outcomes of collaboration. A big thank you to community partners who made this opportunity for parent education in Grand Ronde possible. ■

College & Career Fair set for May 6

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde College & Career Fair will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, May 6, in the Tribal gymnasium.

The fair is free and open to the public.

Attendees will meet with employment representatives, college and university representatives, trade and apprenticeship programs, vocational programs, volunteer organizations and community outreach organizations. There also will be break-out sessions on admissions, financial aid, careers, internship opportunities and what employers are looking for in employees.

For more information, call Tribal Academic Adviser Trinity Minahan at 503-879-1478.

Reibach contributed music to the film

DVD continued from front page

from the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde during its production.

Tribal Lands Manager Jan Michael Looking Wolf Reibach, an award-winning Native flutist, has a small part as Looking Wolf. His big scene involves playing "Rabbit Song" on Native flute while the late Floyd Crow Westerman (Lakota Sioux) talks around a beach campfire with Julie (Suzanne Marie Doyon) about going on a traditional vision quest.

Reibach contributed music to the film and his compositions "Ocean Music" and "Teardrops" are listed in the credits.

Grand Ronde Tribal member Leah Brisbois plays a 16th century Indian girl who watches as the Spanish pirates bury the gold and execute the black slave. The legend begins from her eyewitness account.

Vernon Kennedy (Burns Paiute), who works for the Tribal Health Department as a Prevention Wellness specialist, and Grand Ronde Tribal member Maria Ramirez perform a Native dance with Brisbois and Reibach during the vision quest scene.

And behind the scenes, Tribal Chairwoman Cheryl A. Kennedy and Tribal Elder Jackie Provost receive credit for providing Indian dance regalia. The credits also thank the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde for its help in the making of the movie.

Another Grand Ronde connection involves Westerman's character's name, Standing Elk. When co-pro-

ducer Richard Doyon got to know Reibach, he learned about Reibach's uncle, Michael Harris Standing Elk Reibach, who passed on in 2005.

Doyon, who also wrote the script with his wife, director Jane Beaumont Hall, named Westerman's character Standing Elk.

"The Legend of Tillamook's Gold" was shot in many Oregon locations, including Manzanita, Vernonia, Garibaldi, Wheeler and Nehalem.

Since its filming, the independent feature — the Doyons sold their summer house in Manzanita to raise almost \$1 million to make the film — was picked up by mini-studio Maitland Primrose Group, based in Phoenix, Ariz., and distributed. It made its commercial debut at a Mesa (Ariz.) movie theater.

Ted Chalmers, vice president of distribution for Maitland Primrose, told the *East Valley Tribune* in March 2008 that the company thought "Legend" would be a "sleeper theatrical hit," considering it featured such recognizable character actors as Max Gail (Wojo from "Barney Miller") and Brian Thompson ("Cobra").

Since its release, "Legend" won Best Family Film at the Newport Beach Film Festival and Best Children's Film at the Tiburon International Film Festival.

It is available for purchase on DVD at amazon.com and will be shown on the Starz Kids & Family cable channel at 4:40 p.m. March 11 and 1:05 p.m. March 12. A copy of the DVD also is available for check-out at the Tribal Library. ■

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Please join us for a new grandparent support group at a different time and place. We will meet the third Thursday of each month. The February topic of discussion will be "Interventions: Parenting young children."

Hope to see you there.

Support Group

Date: Thursday, Feb 19, 2009

Time: 10:30 A.M. - Noon

Place: Elder Activity Center

Speaker: Jeffery K. Lukehart, Ph.D. from the Center for Successful Living Northwest Senior & Disability Services

Present to answer questions: Dawn Cottrell from Yamhill County Health & Human Services Family & Youth Programs

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