

Employees retire from Tribal service at year's end

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

As 2010 wound down, the Tribe lost valuable, longtime employees to retirement.

Linda Mann, a Tribal dental hygienist, has been cleaning teeth at the Tribe since 1993.

"The high points were the different prevention activities, the annual Molar Roller skating party and dental health fair," Mann said. "We always did an annual luncheon for moms with babies under 2. Some that are moms now, I've been seeing them as patients since they were 3 and 4 years old."

"I do enjoy working with babies and toddlers," she added, almost a segue to her next adventure of working with Salem-based Capitol Dental Care two days a week visiting Head Start centers and screening and applying fluoride varnish to Head Start children.

She'll also be working three days a week at the Salem Pediatric Clinic, where she will be seeing newborns to 3 year olds as part of a dental prevention project.

"We started as co-workers," said dental assistant Donnette Spaulding at a farewell party for Mann, "but we have become so much more."

"We're very excited for her," said Dental Director Eric Webster, who noted Mann's professional skills. "She's going to be doing something she's really passionate about."

"She'll be real hard to replace," said Tribal Council member Steve Bobb Sr., "because of the bonds



Linda Mann folds up a Pendleton blanket she was presented by Tribal Council during her farewell party at the Tribal Health & Wellness Center on Thursday, Dec. 16. Mann is leaving her position as a Tribal dental hygienist after working for the Tribe for 17 years.

she's formed with her patients."

"My son was 2 years old when I came here," said Mann. "Now, he is 19."

Joanne Carr, GED coordinator in the Tribe's Education Department, is saying goodbye to more than a job. She is also saying goodbye to her commute.

"Over nine years driving an hour each way," she said.



Photos by Michelle Alaimo

Joanne Carr, left, talks with Kyle Towner (Siletz), a temporary groundskeeper for the Tribe, during her retirement party at Adult Education on Wednesday, Dec. 22. Carr is retiring and leaving her position as Tribal GED Coordinator after nine years of working for the Tribe and Towner has been one of her students.

But Carr also is leaving the Tribe with exciting plans ahead.

"I have through the generosity of my 401K plan and selling my house, and being 65 this summer, and having a little PERS, and getting married in February to an engineer who got a job in Bend after being laid off from HP in Corvallis, who wants to bicycle, kayak and take long hikes along the Deschutes," she said. "We are going to bicycle next summer all along the Oregon coast."

After that, she said, they're plan-

ning a visit to her younger son in Spain, where they'll take out the bicycles again.

Her eldest son is earning a Ph.D at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., and plans to visit the nation's capital include time with granddaughter, Annie, 15 months.

"We sing to her and dance with her," said Carr. "She loves to dance, and does a twirling thing at the park. She's quite a personality." ■

Attention Grand Ronde Tribal Elders

We stated in the last mail out there would be an Elder Committee Election at the December Birthday Meeting/Meal. Due to our need to change the bylaws first, the only election will be at the January General Council meeting. We apologize for any confusion on this issue. ■

Quarter time



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Council members from left, Wink Soderberg, Toby McClary, Chris Mercier and Tribal Council Secretary Kathleen Tom, Gary Larsen, middle, Mt. Hood National Forest Supervisor, Tribal Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy, fourth from right, Jack Giffen Jr., third from right, Steve Bobb Sr., second from right, and Tribal Council Vice Chair Reyn Leno, right, display Mt. Hood National Forest quarters that Larsen presented to them during the Tribal Council meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 22. The uncirculated coins were given to Tribal Council and some Grand Ronde Canoe Family members in appreciation for the Tribe's participation in the quarter's launch ceremony that took place in Portland on Nov. 17.

Call to Tribal landscaping contractors for Chemawa Station

Chemawa Station LLC (CSLLC) maintains a 15-acre commercial property on the SW Quadrant of I-5 and Chemawa Interchange in Keizer. CSLLC is seeking proposals from licensed Landscape Contractors to solicit proposals for Landscaping Services at its Chemawa Station Property in Keizer, Oregon. Landscape contractors that are owned by or employ Tribal members and wish to be included on this list are requested to call Eric Scott at 503-879-2404. Please indicate your business name, address, telephone, fax, name(s) of Tribal members employed and roll number if available. Bids are due Jan. 15, 2011. ■

Notice to Native-owned contractors

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde is seeking Native-owned contractors who would like to be placed on a list for potential construction jobs with the Tribe in the future. Interested contractors should send their contact information to Eric Scott, Tribal Engineer, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347. For more information, contact Scott at 503-879-2404 or eric.scott@grandronde.org. ■

Tribe hosting College Goal Oregon event

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde will host College Goal Oregon from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15, in the Adult Education Building.

The event is designed to help students and others preparing to attend college. Attendees should bring their 2009 federal tax returns, 2010 W-2 forms and other financial records.

The event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact the Tribal Education Department at 800-422-0232, ext. 1345. ■