

Mobile unit delivers free dental care

Community calendar

Clara Kay visited the emergency room twice for extreme pain from two infected teeth and was advised to visit a dentist.



Health Buzz
Linsay Olesak
Daily Courier reporter

Not having insurance or money to afford dental treatment, a 40-foot recreational vehicle housing free dental services rolled to her rescue.

The mobile service visits Grants Pass one Saturday a month, and offers tooth extractions or fillings to adult patients who meet the criteria.

"The infection was starting to go into my jaw bone," said Kay, who's typically nervous around dentists but was impressed with the calm and attentive services she received. "Not having any finances to go to the dentist and have them taken out, this was a life-saver."

The dental RV, a service offered through Medical Teams International, based in Portland, in partnership with the Retired Senior Volunteer Program of the United Community Action Network and Pathways to Care Network, is stocked with two full-service dental stations, sterile tools and X-ray capability.

"The emergency room is seeing a lot of patients with dental emergencies and they can't afford to go to a dentist," said Joy Kilishek, RSVP director in Grants Pass.

"We want to raise awareness to the community so they know there is a free mobile dental clinic."

Criteria requires that the patients be within the 200 percentile of the federal poverty guideline, which is \$21,660 for one person and ranges to include family members.

"We have a chart and when people call in, we verify that they fall under the guidelines," Kilishek said, adding that the mobile clinic serves 10 scheduled patients per visit.

During the first visit by the RV in June, Dr. Matt Johnston, a local dentist, did 16 extractions and six fillings for the community.

"It was pretty exciting to see how much need in the community there is and everyone was so appreciative of the service," said Kilishek.

Local dentists and dental assistants volunteer to staff for the mobile clinic.

Even though the services are free, Kilishek said there's a \$700 fee each month to bring the RV to Grants Pass.

"The fee we get charged is to help offset driving the 40-foot vehicle down and provided necessary services for the dentists," Kilishek said, adding that Pathways to Care Network provided the initial



KEVIN LAUNIUS/Daily Courier

Mobile Dental Clinic manager Tim Semrau, left, looks over notes as local dentist Dr. Matt Johnston and assistant Kendra Arnold work on a patient in the mobile dental RV while it was parked in Grants Pass recently. UCAN/RSVP has started the free dental service once a month for those in need. Dental staff volunteer.



KEVIN LAUNIUS/Daily Courier

The mobile dental RV program is based in Portland. The RV is set to arrive here monthly.

monthly fee, but she is still looking for partners to keep the program coming to Grants Pass.

"We committed to the program because we know it needs to be here but we don't have funding for it every month," Kilishek said. "If we all pool our resources, we can serve more people for less money."

The mobile dental clinic, which parks in the RSVP rear parking lot at 1505 N.W. Washington Blvd., will be back in Grants Pass on Aug. 21.

To set up an appointment, verify criteria, or volunteer

funds or services, call Kilishek at 541-956-4472.

■ SPECIALISTS NOW SEEING SCANS. Specialized radiologists of the Medford Radiology Group are now interpreting all scans for Southern Oregon, and locally, the Grants Pass Imaging and Diagnostic Center.

Each radiologist has a subspecialty in different areas of the anatomy such as the brain, heart, cardiovascular or orthopedic, said Shannan Widboom, spokesperson for Medford Radiology Group.

Such scans include CT scans, MRIs, MRAs, X-rays,

bone densitometry and sleep studies.

"This means Grants Pass Imaging patients get higher quality interpretations and faster turnaround," Widboom said. Images are read and results are determined within two to four hours after the scan, enabling patients to get care more quickly.

"X-rays shown through light are a thing of the past. We now look at images through extremely expensive monitors."

■ NEW DENTIST IN TOWN. Dr. Michael Goode joined the team early this month at the private dentist practice of Dr. Forest Rea, DDS.

Goode graduated from Ohio State University College of Dentistry. While attaining his dentist practitioner's license, he completed advanced training in periodontics and implants.

Other restorative areas of interest include sedation dentistry, pediatrics, crown and bridge, endodontics, Invisalign, cosmetic dentistry including veneers, and general family dentistry.

"Dr. Goode's variety of services will provide us with the opportunity to keep most of your dental treatment in-house," said Rea, in a letter announcing the new member to the dental family.

The dental office is open Tuesday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call 541-471-1990.

■ NICU RECEIVES FUNDS. Three Rivers Community Hospital Auxiliary donated \$45,000 to assist in funding the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit expansion project at Rogue Valley Medical Center and to purchase bladder scanners for TRCH.

The NICU serves nine counties in Southern Oregon and Northern California, and is the only neonatal care offered in the region.

"Our babies will have to go to Eugene or Portland without our local NICU," said Pat Shipley, president of the TRCH Auxiliary. Shipley said the auxiliary's biggest fundraiser is the volunteer-run gift shop, which raises \$45,000 to \$50,000 annually for the hospital.

"This year, we chose two items that were not on the hospital's budget," said Shipley.

The two bladder scanners purchased for TRCH will allow nurses to determine whether or not a patient requires a catheter.

"They use ultrasonic waves and measure the amount of urine in the bladder," said Robin Hood, clinical manager of the Post Anesthesia Care Unit at TRCH. "They are going to benefit us tremendously. One reason is that they will reduce the time the patient is in the hospital, which will save our patients money and make satisfaction scores go up."

Reach reporter Linsay Olesak at 541-474-3722 or lolesak@thedailycourier.com

Kennel club honors top sportsman, member

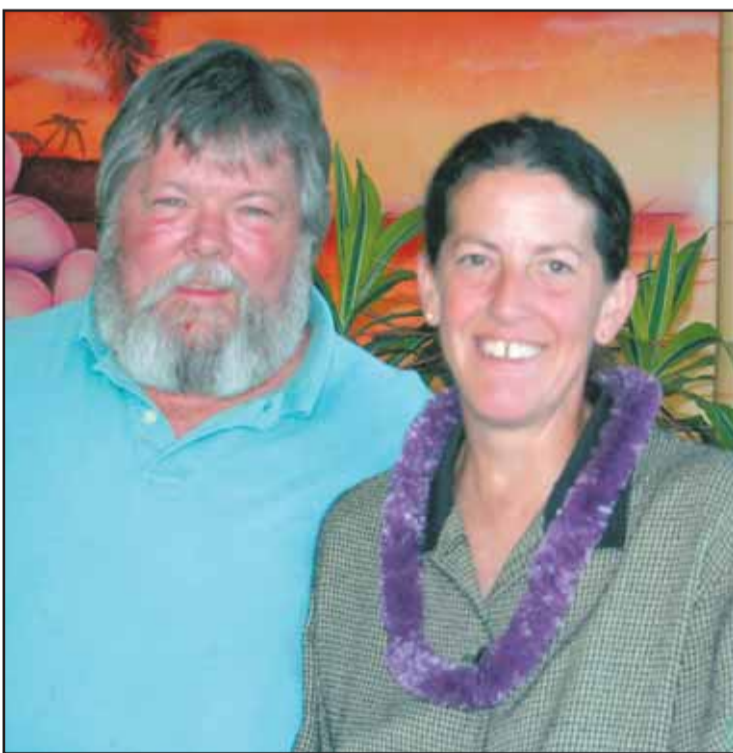
Scott Lyter, Ann McGlooin win distinctions

Scott Lyter has been named the American Kennel Club sportsman of the year and Ann McGlooin was named the Rogue Valley Kennel Club's member of the year.

The awards were presented at the local club's annual banquet on July 18 at the Orchid Grill.

Lyter volunteers at various kennel club events, including the fall Responsible Dog Ownership Day at Riverside Park, and he participates in animal assisted therapy and canine ambassador events.

He teaches conformation and obedience handling classes in Grants Pass and Selma, and, as the Rogue Valley Kennel Club's membership chairman, he has brought many new members into the organization.



Scott Lyter, left, and Ann McGlooin are the Rogue Valley Kennel Club's top award winners.

McGlooin received a plaque for her service as the club's 2008/09 president, and another for her service as a volunteer

with Josephine County Search and Rescue, assisted by her Sussex spaniels, Beryl and Connie, and their participation in AKC performance events. McGlooin is also the breeder and co-owner of the No. 1 AKC conformation Sussex spaniel in the nation for 2009.

Viola and Tom Brown, owners of the number one Saint Bernard for the second year in a row, received awards for several obedience and therapy titles.

Karen and Paul Bodeving earned honors for two AKC champion Saint Bernards along with Rally and Weight Pull titles.

Joni Morningstar received an award for multiple shiba inu champions. John McLaughlin's Irish setter was recognized as an AKC champion. Susan and Scott Lyter's Doberman pinscher, Rocky, received the award for high scoring obedience dog in trial and was recognized as an AKC champion.

New member Fay Spears received recognition for rally, agility and obedience titles on

her Australian shepherd.

Other members received wooden silhouettes of their breeds for various titles and certificates for Canine Good Citizens.

High-paid California council slashes pay

BELL, Calif. (AP) — Under pressure from outraged residents and facing a probe by the California attorney general, the beleaguered City Council of this small blue-collar city voted Monday to slash its salaries by 90 percent, and two members said they will not seek re-election when their terms are up.

The council voted unanimously to set every member's salary at what Councilman Lorenzo Velez is paid — about \$8,000 a year. The other four council members have been making about \$100,000 a year for their part-time service on the

City Council of this largely working-class city of about 40,000 residents southeast of Los Angeles. About 17 percent of Bell's residents live in poverty.

The move came days after a scandal erupted over the pay of council members and other city officials. The city manager, who made nearly \$800,000, has already resigned. And Attorney General Jerry Brown on Monday revealed he had subpoenaed hundreds of city records.

Mayor Oscar Hernandez said he would take no salary for the rest of his term and apologized.

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