

Letters

Dear Editor:

I am writing this letter to share a concern I have that affects all tribal members. As many of you know, to run for a Tribal Council member seat, the constitution only stipulates two qualifications necessary to be eligible: 1) Be an enrolled member of the Tribe; and 2) Be 18 years of age or older. These are not what I would consider stiff qualifications for a very important position. In August 1998 I heard that the Tribal Council authorized funds for training for themselves by an independent company that provides training tailored for Tribal Councils. I was very excited to hear this. I was also very proud of our Council for recognizing that the Tribe, being a well-known organization in the Northwest, its leaders might benefit from training. The Council approved the training topics, the dates the training was scheduled for and a total 25 slots be allotted for additional staff to attend as well. I was very disappointed to attend the first three day session and see that only one Tribal Council member, Val Grout, attended. I understand that there was a meeting in Warm Springs on the first day of the training that some of the Council members attended. However, they made a commitment and they could have sent two or three members to represent them at this meeting. I feel the lack of attendance was wasteful. If they knew they were not going to attend why did they not say so and allow someone to go in their place? I'm sure there was some considerable expense to host this training. The next session is scheduled for the second week in November; ample time for Tribal Council to rearrange their schedules if need be to attend this session. Please join me in encouraging them to follow through on something that is sure to benefit them both professionally and personally and therefore benefit the entire Tribe as well.

Sincerely,

Barbara Lake, Roll # 952

Hello fellow tribal members,

I wanted to let you know we live in Puerto Rico. I was in the states during the Hurricane and my husband was in Puerto Rico. I was very worried for him, and Thank-You Grandfather he is fine. And where we live is doing good too. No electricity and lots of damage, so we will be very busy with cleanup. Living so far away, we are very glad to read our Tribe's information from *The Grand Ronde Review*.

Thank-you very much!

Lori, Barry, Myranda & Reschele Markey
e-mail: ibjiggrd@coqui.net
Ramey, P.R. 00603

Dear Editor:

I work in the Community Resources Division and my two children attend Kindergarten and 3rd grade at Grand Ronde Elementary School. They are both tribal members, as am I. I have a couple of questions and I direct them either to Tribal Council or the Education department, which ever is the appropriate group to respond. What is the budget for the education department? And what is the distribution of that budget?

Second, why do I as a tribal member have to pay for a tribal program for my two tribal children? The Before and After School Care program charges a fee for children to participate. Both of my children enjoy the after school program and the activities that they get to participate in but this year I've had to tell them that they can't participate because I can't afford the payment. I am a single mother with no support from their father. Last year, I was charged for my littlest to attend preschool but wasn't even notified that I was being charged until the bill was over \$600 and now I can't continue in college this term because of this money that I owe.

I'll restate the question: why am I being asked to pay for a tribal program? Where is the funding coming from that goes into the Education department budget? What is the distribution of that budget? Is the Before and After School Care program going to bankrupt the Tribe if tribal members are not required to pay? How much revenue are we looking at here?

I would like the answers to these questions published in this newspaper because I know there are others out there that would like to know.

Thank you. Respectfully submitted,

Pam Warren, Roll # 1081

Dear community,

The Grand Ronde Service Integration Team would like to extend a special thank you to all community members who attended the 3rd Annual Health and Safety Fair, dinner and evening video presentation. Immunizations numbers were up — that's a good thing, as that is the primary reason the Health Fair was created. About 156 student from Grand Ronde Elementary and 70 students from Willamina Elementary attended.

Although participation was down this year and LifeFlight was unable to land due to the heavy downpour, we would like to thank the following people who help make it a success: Tribal Council, Spirit Mountain Casino, and West Valley YMCA for donating adult raffle prizes; the Tribe's Wellness Division and Dental staff; the Tribe's Community Resource Division for sponsoring the evening video presentation focusing on affects of violence on the family (and Sharon's dog "Babe" who filled in for WOLF); ODOT for the Crash Dummy costumes; Sam George and Glen Wilds for being the Crash Dummies; Yamhill County Sheriff's Department for the Museum, fingerprint IDs, and Safe Streets; Willamina Fire District for the big fire truck and the Rescue Unit.

Also to students Beth Bailey, Morgan Fritzinger, Matthew Olson and Maria Hoopingarner, as the Smoky Hacky Cough puppets; Ilene Gay and Glennys Wright for blood pressure checks; Pam Bernards, Sharon Woods, Judy Bowen, Sara Chenea, Annette Morgan, Gayle White, Gretchen Bennett, Ruth J., and Lorraine Hiebert for all the great activities in the gym; and the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of America.

Last, but not least, to Glenda Payne and Ter Wright for making a great dinner; and to Margaret Wilds for providing child care in the evening.

Thank you again and again,

Grand Ronde Service Integration

Ballet Measure 64 could affect tribal lands and economy

Submitted by Jeff Kuust

Tribal Timber and Roads Coordinator

Oregon's General Election is coming up on November 3. Measure 64, if passed, would ban most timber harvesting in Oregon, not just clearcutting. It would hurt Oregon's economy and threaten the health of our forests. It would also take management of our forests out of the hands of scientists, foresters, and biologists and leave it up to lawyers and the courts. Tribal members, especially those who live and work in Oregon, have a stake in the outcome of this ballot measure, because the Tribe's economic well-being depends on Oregon's economy.

If approved, Measure 64 would ban the practice of clearcutting and redefine a clearcut as any forested area with less than 70, 11-inch trees per acre in Western Oregon and no fewer than 60, 10-inch trees in Eastern Oregon. Measure 64 allows government to step in and take away the right of private landowners to cut and sell the trees that they have been tending and growing for decades. This ban would apply to land ownerships in Oregon, whether it be private, State, County, or Federal. Many timber stands across the state have already been thinned to below 70 trees per acre to promote higher-quality, larger, and healthier trees. No more trees would be allowed to be cut from these stands.

If approved, Measure 64 would prohibit the harvest of any tree larger than 30 inches in diameter. Proponents of the act claim that this would preserve genetic diversity of trees and enhance the health of Oregon's forests. However, even if such trees were damaged, diseased, or dead no tree over 30 inches in diameter could be harvested from forestlands impacted by wind, fire, insects, or disease organisms.

Taken from the state's own economic impact analysis, Measure 64 would, if passed, reduce State Government revenue by \$25,000,000 per year. An additional \$33,200,000 would be plucked from funding for schools! Also, there would be a loss to counties and special service districts of \$7,800,000 per year! As if that weren't enough, there would be an estimated one-time state expenditure of \$1,400,000 to implement this measure and an on-going commitment of \$5,000,000 per year!

Measure 64 would also ban the use of herbicide or pesticide sprays, even if a major insect or disease outbreak were to occur and despite the fact that applications of herbicides on forestland are much less frequent than for agricultural lands and most often at lower concentrations.

Measure 64 would require filing of a written plan prior to all harvest operations, which is done for all government timber harvests and many private harvests already.

Measure 64 would increase log imports. The cut-back in harvesting predicted as a result of this measure would squeeze the domestic supply of logs and forest products from the Northwest to a virtual trickle that will not meet the growing demand. This will increase log and/or lumber imports from other countries.

More information about this measure can be obtained on the Internet from the Healthy Forests Alliance web site or visit the Tribe's Natural Resources Division Office. It is important for tribal members to educate themselves on these issues and vote on election day.

THE GRAND RONDE REVIEW

9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, Or 97347

EDITOR: TRACY DUGAN 879-2254
REPORTER: OSCAR JOHNSON 879-2321
GRAPHICS & COORDINATOR:
KIM MUELLER 879-2264

1-800-422-0232 NEWS FAX: (503) 879-2263

E-MAIL ADDRESSES:

tracynews@macnet.com
kimnews@macnet.com
oscar_johnson@journalist.com

NEXT DEADLINE: Tuesday, Oct. 20