

Tribal, Community Members Join Forces To "Watch" For Drug Activity In Grand Ronde

"I don't want to see anymore of our Tribal members die because of meth."

By Toby McClary

Community members, Tribal members and members of local law enforcement have joined forces to create the Grand Ronde Coalition for a Drug Free Community. The coalition is "a group of concerned community members who are tired of the drugs and the effects they are having in our community. We work with a variety of organizations to help fight the war on drugs in our community and the communities around us," quoted from a coalition flier.

The coalition began in June of 2005 when concerned members contacted the Tribe's Social Services Department and asked for assistance in an attempt to stop methamphetamine use. After several meetings, the group decided to work with local law enforcement and other local organizations and meet twice a month, share information regarding methamphetamine usage and distribute information among the community.

All of the members of the coalition are either recovering addicts or have suffered from the effects of methamphetamines or methamphetamine users. The coalition meetings are closed to the community due to the safety of

its members.

Tribal member and coalition President Lori Walker said she had begun noticing "unusual activity" since moving to Grand Ronde two-and-a-half years ago.

"We can't have this out here," said Walker. "I don't want to see anymore of our Tribal members die because of meth."

Walker, who has struggled with meth addiction herself, has now been sober for 23 years. She explained that after being introduced to it, she became "instantly addicted."

"Within a year of my addiction," said Walker, "I had lost everything I owned."

After learning of her pregnancy 23 years ago, Walker decided that she needed to stop using. She said that she disassociated herself with everybody except her family and concentrated on motherhood. But Walker also remembers how easy it was to fall to drug use and shows compassion for those who now suffer from it.

"I understand what they're going through," said Walker. "I've been there and I do take it to heart."

Walker and the coalition have re-



Photo by Toby McClary

"Not On My Watch" — Members of the Grand Ronde Coalition for a Drug Free Community participate in a "Night Walk" which consists of hanging information about methamphetamines throughout Tribal housing developments on Thursday, April 20.

cently been going on "night walks" distributing information on meth and its effects. On Thursday, April 20, the coalition and representatives from both Yamhill and Polk County Sheriff's Office hung bags full of reading material on doorknobs throughout Elder housing as well as the other Tribal housing developments.

"We want to make Grand Ronde a

safer place to live," said Walker. "We want a better place for our kids and grandkids."

If you are interested in becoming part of the coalition you may contact the liaison officers.

Polk County: Detective Michael Holsapple: 503-623-9251 ext. 1370.

Yamhill County: Sheriff Derek Trombla: 503-434-7456 ext. 7666. ■



America's Hometown Art Museum
The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
& The City of Milwaukie



PRESENT

NATIVE VIEWS

INFLUENCES OF MODERN CULTURE

A Contemporary Native American Art Exhibition

Visit Artrain USA and discover the richness, complexity and breadth of Native American art. Examine varying perspectives on our society through the eyes of Native artists. See exciting, interactive artworks on computers as well as traditionally woven baskets using modern designs and materials. This engaging exhibition also includes paintings, ceramics, sculptures and much, much more.

Tour *Native Views: Influences of Modern Culture* in Artrain USA's three galleries onboard custom-renovated 1940's vintage railcars. Visit the studio artists and take home a souvenir from the gift shop. People of all ages and experiences will enjoy their visit.



Daybreak
Joe Maktima (Hopi/Laguna Pueblo)
Acrylic and metal leaf on paper, 2003

CLIMB ONBOARD ARTRAIN USA



Friday, May 19 12pm - 5pm
Saturday, May 20 10am - 5pm
Sunday, May 21 10am - 5pm

Located in Milwaukie at the intersection of Harrison and 26th Streets
(parking available on 26th St.)

Admission is FREE. DONATIONS are encouraged.

For more information, please call Grady Wheeler at (503) 786-7503

Great Art! Great Fun! A Great Time For Everyone!

Artrain USA, *Native Views: Influences of Modern Culture* and its national tour are supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.

Happy Birthday

Howard

Davis

April 24

Love, Aunti Marge,
cousins & your family.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

INTERNAL OPENINGS

- **Driver**
Community Counseling
Grade: 3
Closing Date: May 22

*Application materials must be received in Human Resources by 5 p.m. on the closing date.

Internal applicants are

1. Current Regular Employee, past their six-month Introductory period, receiving at least a "meets expectations" on most recent performance evaluation and not under disciplinary action or performance improvement within the previous six months.
2. Grand Ronde Tribal members
3. Spouse of a Grand Ronde Tribal member or
4. Parent or legal guardian of Grand Ronde Tribal member children

Internal recruitment

For those individuals meeting minimum qualifications an interview will be given in the following ranking order:

1. Grand Ronde Tribal members
 - a) Qualified Grand Ronde Tribal members who show they meet the minimum qualifications of the position during the course of the interview process will be given first consideration for hire and the recruitment process will end
2. Tribal member spouses, parents and/or legal guardians of Grand Ronde Tribal member children
3. Current regular employees

Drug-Free Workplace Policy

- Effective January 1, 2004, all employees are subject to random drug and/or alcohol testing.
- All pre-employment offers.
- When there is reasonable suspicion.
- Post accident.

For a detailed job description, please contact the Tribe's job line at 503-879-2257 or 1-877-TRIBEGR

www.grandronde.org