

BURIAL FUND ORDINANCE OPEN FOR COMMENT

Tribal Council, in consultation with the Tribal Attorney's Office, is considering amendments to the Burial Fund Ordinance. Proposed amendments were given a First Reading at the Jan. 30, 2013, Tribal Council meeting. Following public notice and review of Tribal member comments, Tribal Council proposed additional amendments to the Burial Fund Ordinance, which are summarized below in italics. Proposed amendments were given a Second Reading at the March 5, 2014, Tribal Council meeting.

The primary purposes of the proposed amendments are as follows:

- (1) Clarify that the Burial Benefit does not include reimbursement for prepaid funeral expenses prior to death;
- (2) Define "Child" as a child who is age 25 or younger and natural, adoptive or step-child of Tribal member;
- (3) Set forth types of required family relationship evidence to include birth or marriage certificates, orders of adoption, proof of paternity or other documented evidence required by the Enrollment Office;
- (4) Allow application for Burial Benefit by written or verbal application and specify that death certificate and invoice from funeral provider are required;
- (5) Increase stated Burial Benefit from \$3,500 to \$5,500;
- (6) Increase stated Reception Benefit from \$150 to \$300;
- (7) Make technical updates, such as changing references from "Vital Statistics" to "Enrollment Department" and capitalizing words;
- (8) Define "Spouse" as legally married spouse under the applicable Tribal, state or foreign law in which the marriage was entered; and
- (9) Provide that a portion of the Burial Benefit may be applied to the purchase of a Tribal blanket from the Tribe for the funeral service.

Tribal Council invites comment on the proposed amendments to the Burial Fund Ordinance. For a copy of the proposed amendments please contact the Tribal Attorney's Office at 503-879-4664. Please send your comments to the Tribal Attorney's Office, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347 or by e-mail to legal@grandronde.org.

Comments must be received by April 15, 2014.

EARLY EYE EXAMINATIONS ARE IMPORTANT

There are several vision problems that are commonly found among preschool and school-age children. According to the National Eye Institute's Vision in Preschoolers study, amblyopia, or lazy eye, affects 2 percent to 5 percent of preschoolers. Strabismus, in which eyes cross in or turn out, affects 3 percent to 4 percent of preschool children. In addition, the study found that 15 percent to 20 percent of preschoolers had significant refractive errors (needed glasses).

Recent studies estimate that 64 percent of children age 5 and younger have never had their vision screened by a health care professional. Even more alarming, an estimated 40 percent to 67 percent of children identified with vision problems during school screenings do not receive the recommended follow-up care by an eye care professional.

Poor vision can interfere with a child's ability to learn. It has been estimated that 80 percent of what children learn comes through their visual processing of information. And according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, impaired vision can affect a child's cognitive, emotional, neurologic and physical development by potentially limiting the range of experiences and kinds of information to which the child is exposed.

Early detection of vision problems is important not only for developmental reasons, but research has shown that optimum treatment for eye conditions such as lazy eye, crossed eyes or eyes that turn outward requires early detection, preferably before age 5, otherwise irreversible visual deficits, including blindness, may occur. Amblyopia, the leading cause of vision loss in young Americans, and strabismus affect more than 350,000 children entering school each year.

Having 20/20 eyesight does not mean that a child has perfect vision; it means that they see clearly at a distance of 20 feet. There are many components of good vision including near vision tasks, such as reading, doing written assignments or computer work. In addition, the ability to read requires the eyes to work as a team and to both move appropriately to gather accurate information. A comprehensive eye exam evaluates these skills and a number of additional skills that are critical to a child's ability to learn.

Due to the importance of early diagnosis, the Grand Ronde Optometry Clinic has partnered with our Head Start program to provide yearly comprehensive eye exams to diagnose and treat eye/vision problems for all children, newborns to age 5.

The Optometry Clinic is here to meet your eye care needs. Please call 503-879-2097 if you need to schedule an appointment. ■

Elders' phone numbers wanted

The Tribal Elders Committee is compiling a volunteer phone list of Elders. If you would like to submit your phone number and address to be available to other Elders, send it to elders.committee@grandronde.org or leave a message at 503-879-2231. ■

Strengthening Families

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Parenting Program for Parents and Youth Ages 10 - 14

Strengthening Families Program

A group for you & your youth to spend quality time together. Each evening is interactive and fun as you learn tools to make a successful transition into the teen years. Youth learn how to effectively negotiate and communicate with parents and friends. While parents learn what is developmentally appropriate for teens so they can set limits and grant privileges.

Led by: **Cristina Lara, Carmen Mercier, Amber Mercier & Amber Amouak**

For parents AND youth 10 to 14 years old
There is no tuition - the class is offered for **FREE!**

Seven Wednesdays, April 23 - June 4

CTGR Adult Education
9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347
5-7:30 P.M. (Dinner served starting at 5 p.m.)

FREE DINNER AND CHILD CARE!!!

Space is limited and you, MUST register to attend.

Interested? Register at

www.midvalleyparenting.org

or call Cristina Lara 503-879-2040



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COMMERCIAL FIREWOOD SALE SEALED BID OPENING ON THE GRAND RONDE RESERVATION

The Natural Resources Department of the Grand Ronde Tribe would like to invite Tribal members to consider bidding on the 2014 Eads Bowl Firewood Cleanup Permit sale. This permit would allow the commercial removal of residual firewood from along the 510E-2, 510E-3, 510-E3A and 510E3-B Roads on the Reservation. The permit area is generally located in the west 1/2 of Section 17, T5S, R8W, Willamette Meridian Yamhill County, Oregon, on the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation.

There is an estimated 10 cords to be sold for a lump sum price to the highest bidder. All interested bidders should pick up a map of the area from the Natural Resources Department and make their own evaluation of the firewood cutting area that is available to bid on. The minimum bid for this sale is \$200 and that buys the purchaser all firewood within 30 feet of roads and landings in the approved cutting areas. The stated volumes for the above timber sale are estimates and are not guaranteed. The firewood permit will be good for a period of three months from the date of the contract approval and no extensions will be granted.

Opening of sealed bids will take place at the Grand Ronde Natural Resources Office located at 47010 S.W. Hebo Road, Grand Ronde, Oregon, at 2:30 p.m. local time on April 3, 2014. In the event of a tie, the bidder whom delivered their bid first shall be the winner. For full information concerning the firewood, sample permit and conditions of the permit, and bidding instructions, contact the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Natural Resources Department, 47010 S.W. Hebo Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347, or by telephone 503-879-2424. ■