

Tribal Council issues statement regarding passage of Measure 91

Marijuana use, possession still illegal on Reservation

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

Although Oregon voters passed Measure 91, which will make possession of marijuana legal in July, the Grand Ronde Tribal Council issued a statement on Nov. 17 reminding employees and Tribal members that the measure does not apply to the Tribe.

“On Tuesday, Nov. 4, Oregon voters approved Measure 91,” the statement says. “It allows adults 21 and older in Oregon to possess and grow marijuana under state regulation. The measure will take effect July 2015. Measure 91 does not apply to the Tribe. The Tribe is a sovereign nation. The Tribe is a ‘drug-free workplace.’ Marijuana use and possession is still illegal under federal law, and many of the Tribe’s federal grants require us to be a drug-free workplace.

“This said, the Tribe has been examining its position on marijuana use. The Tribal Council has met with senior Tribal staff, the United States Attorney and members of the Oregon congressional delegation to discuss the impacts of Measure 91. The Tribe will continue examining the issue of marijuana use in the coming months. For now, and until the Tribal Council decides otherwise, the use and possession of marijuana on the Grand Ronde Reservation is illegal.”

Oregon voters approved the measure 55.6 percent to 44.4 percent, joining the states of Alaska, Washington and Colorado is allowing recreational use of the plant.

When Measure 91 goes into effect, Oregonians will be allowed to possess up to 8 ounces of dried marijuana and up to four plants. ■

Preschool celebration



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Preschool boys practice drumming during Early Childhood Education’s Preschool Restoration Celebration held in the Tribal gym on Thursday, Nov. 20. The children were given elk stew to try, sang in English and Chinuk Wawa, danced and were read “Good Night Grand Ronde” in English and Chinuk Wawa.

Tutors available

Youth Education K-12 staff will be available on Monday, Dec. 15, to support parents, teachers and youth during the Willamina School District’s Parent-Teacher conferences. Contact your child’s Tribal tutor at Youth Education by calling 503-879-2101 if you would like them to be a part of your scheduled meeting. ■

Board accepting applications

The Tribe’s Cultural Trust Board is beginning its 2014-15 grant-making round for grants ranging from \$250 to a maximum of \$1,000 available for Grand Ronde Tribal members to use for cultural projects or activities that support the understanding, practice and preservation of traditional Tribal heritage and culture. The grant-making round opened Friday, Oct. 31, and closes Monday, Dec. 15. Interested Tribal members can pick up an application at the front desk in the Governance Center or mail the Cultural Trust Board at Grand Ronde Cultural Trust Board, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347, to have an application mailed to you. Completed applications must be received by noon Monday, Dec. 15. The project is supported by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and funded by Oregon Cultural Trust, which invests in Oregon’s arts, humanities and heritage. ■

Tribal Council Christmas Party
Sunday, Dec. 7, 2014
@ the Tribal Gym

Master of Ceremony: Reyn Leno
 Reading with Children: Marion Mercier

10:30-11:30 a.m. Visit with Santa
 12:15 p.m. Lord’s Prayer by Royalty
 Invocation by Tribal Council: Cheryl A. Kennedy
 Meal Served
 Door Prizes
 2:30p.m. Children Singing