

Letters to the Editor

From page 12
 a case of concern. A neighbor who was truly concerned for my family's wellbeing would have crossed the street and discussed the matter with me like an adult. As harmless as this phone call may seem, it could

have resulted in the loss of my children.

I refuse to hide behind closed doors. This disturbing behavior deserves to be addressed and noted, as these two women have obviously not learned the true meaning of being a neigh-

bor. Therefore, I was compelled to write and warn my friends and neighbors. Next time you want to take your children on the lawn mower, wrestle with them in the yard, or give them a toy, just remember that [...] this could happen to you.

to feel like we were being watched, like we were going to steal something. We just don't go no more.

**Anna Cole
 Carol Gamroth
 Vernonia**

Sincerely,
**Kara Kemper
 Vernonia**

A different view of ballot measure

To the Editor:

Like most parents, I hope that my children will always feel safe and secure coming to me about any of their concerns. However, common sense tells me this may not always be true for my family or anyone's family. Therefore, I oppose the ballot measure known as "The Family Integrity Initiative." now being circulated in Columbia County.

This measure would prohibit various services now being provided to our minors by the county, unless parental consent is obtained first. The issue isn't should our children talk to their parents. Of course they should. The issue is should our children be required to talk to their parents before receiving services. I believe that some children find themselves in circumstances that preclude sensitive discussions with their immediate eld-

ers. If this measure passes, some of our children will not have access to the knowledge and caring services currently available in our county. I'm not prepared to be responsible for that happening in my community. Are you?

To that end, I will decline to sign 'The Family Integrity Initiative' and, should the effort make it to our county ballot, I pledge to vote against the measure and I encourage others to do the same.

**Craig Frasier
 Scappoose**

Fire danger causes timberlands closure

Longview Fibre has closed all of its timberlands in Oregon and Washington to all public use, due to extreme forest fire danger in both states.

The gates have been closed and entry points are posted. The company's 574,000 acres in nine Oregon and Washington tree farms, will remain closed to public access until substantial rains alleviate the wildfire threat, according to Senior Vice President David L. Bowden.

Company security patrols will be increased for the duration of the fire season.

Senior Center just isn't the same now

To the Editor:

The senior citizen's place used to be a friendly place to go. I liked to just listen to them Ladies, they always had something funny to talk about when they were younger.

The days when we could go get bread, cakes, pies, stuff like that, the ladies were more than happy to help you with anything, they also never looked at you [as though you] were somebody strange, you was just common folks. I liked to go through the door, and always see Willie. Yes she is my friend, but that has nothing to do with this letter, but now she's gone, and nobody likes to be whispered about behind their back.

People down there are totally different now. We never used

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