

Letters

Movie crew found GP's friendliness remarkable

We descended upon your community before Thanksgiving from Sacramento and Los Angeles to film our feature "Rogue River." We thought we were prepared for just about anything, but what we were not prepared for was the cold weather and the kindness of so many. You welcomed us with open arms, even though we are from California!

In our short stay, we feel we made some incredible friends in your community. The list of friends and help is long. One woman and her family made an incredible Thanksgiving feast for 25 strangers, delivered delicious cookies to the set and provided another home for us to shoot. Others provided catering, vehicles, vehicle maintenance, vehicle repairs, a boat, landscaping, road finishing work, a golf cart and directors' chairs. Help was only a phone call away.

Many of the area restaurants became favorites of ours, and we made several emergency runs to stores there for supplies. Wonderful articles were written about our filmmaking journey.

The friendly faces and small town chivalry will be missed.

JO HASKIN
Producer

Monitor your phone bills for fraudulent charges

Business owners need to beware when it comes to their phone bills.

We noticed an extra \$34.95 charge on our phone bills for three of our businesses starting in November. When we called to object, the customer service representative did remove the charges, but they were placed on our bill without anyone authorizing the services being billed. In all three cases, the services were for Internet and Web

Letter policy

The Daily Courier encourages letters from readers. They must be signed, and a full street address and phone number must be provided.

Street addresses will not be published, except on request. Phone numbers are for verification only and will not be printed. If you do not have a phone, you must hand-deliver your letter to the news room of the newspaper office.

To avoid confusion over people with common or similar names, writers must provide a full name or middle initial and indicate the name they are known by. On extremely rare occasions and on very sensitive topics, names of letter writers may be withheld.

Letters should be no longer than 250 words, and may be edited for grammar, content and length.

Letters must be addressed to the editor, and cannot be copies. They cannot be returned. To give all readers a fair opportunity, writers are limited to one letter every 30 days.

Mail letters to Letters to the Editor, The Grants Pass Daily Courier, P.O. Box 1468, Grants Pass, OR 97528, or send e-mail via the Internet to news@thedailycourier.com.

site products we neither bought nor wanted.

For the last instance, the number listed for "questions and rates" connected, and after I made several selections on my phone, the call disconnected. So I called the customer service billing number and talked to someone there. He was polite and removed the charges, because, as I told him, we never authorized the purchase of the services. Then at the end of the call, he tried to sell me Internet and Web site services, the same services I just called him about to cancel because we never bought them in the first place. This practice stinks!

In all, the calls used up an hour of my time to correct something that never should have happened in the first place. I filed a complaint with the Public Utilities Commission and hope it investigates and then prosecutes the perpetrators of this dishonest activity.

I am writing to caution everyone to check their phone

bills and make sure they are not paying for these fraudulent charges.

KATHY CHMELIR
Grants Pass

Measure 67 passage would drive away jobs

There is much misinformation being circulated concerning Measure 67, which refers House Bill 3405 to the voters for approval.

First, Oregon corporations do not pay only \$10 in income tax as some TV ads try to lead us to believe. The \$10 is only the minimum they must pay, even if they make no profits or actually lose money during the tax year. In reality, taxing Oregon corporations further will drive them and the jobs they provide our citizens to other states, or worse, to other countries. Small companies struggling to start up in the state and to provide much needed jobs cannot afford an increased expense in the form of higher minimum taxes. We need

to allow them to get established and become income producers that then can be rightfully taxed to bring in much more than the proposed \$150 annual minimum tax.

Second, House Bill 3405 also provides for a tax on gross sales. In other words, if a corporation sells something, it pays a tax, even if it never meets expenses and loses money for the year.

Third, this tax is retroactive to Jan. 1, 2009. Struggling start-up companies are being blindsided by a tax they never had the opportunity to plan and save for. Their only remedy is bankruptcy, which takes income out of the state coffers.

Let's vote no on these job-killing taxes and allow business to grow in Oregon, where we need jobs now.

GARY SPANGLER
Grants Pass

Fat cats depending on us to protect their accounts

By God, the rich need more money! In the name of all that is holy (or perhaps not), please vote "no" on Measures 66 and 67. The wealthy of Oregon — and the Swiss bankers who depend on them — are counting on you.

Oh, and, uh, how's that "trickle down" been working out for you lately? Right. Thought not. But please vote "no" on 66 and 67 anyway. We promise to refund some of your hard-earned money, um, pretty soon.

PHIL NEWTON
Murphy

Look at who backs 66 and 67, and you will too

The Voters' Pamphlet lists 68 organizations in support of a yes on Measures 66 and 67. Among them are AARP, the Elders in Action Commission, Attorney General John Kroger, Oregon district attorneys, Oregon

Alliance for Retired Americans, Oregon Religious Leaders for Tax Fairness, Ecumenical Ministers of Oregon, Oregon Center for Christian Values, Oregon Firefighters and Police Council and the Oregon State Council for Retired Citizens. You can join them by voting yes on Measures 66 and 67.

In business, we depend on public schools to educate our future employees. We have a choice; we can do the right thing. Protect the things I value most: our children, our schools, our small businesses and the health of our communities.

PAULIE BRADING
Medford

Measures fairly painless way to fund necessities

Jim Dittmer recently wrote to "say no to 66 and 67," because "a large number of families on the edge of financial collapse"

would suffer disaster. Sorry, but being on a fixed pension that goes down every year because of increasing health care deductions, I find it difficult to feel a great deal of compassion for those people making over \$250,000 per year who are facing "financial collapse." I will vote yes on this bill.

Further, increasing taxes on a business from 83 cents per month to \$12.50 per month is not going to cost us any jobs. That is ridiculous, and special-interest groups are attempting to mislead us about both of these bills. I will likewise vote "yes" on this bill.

Please help out our schools and public safety by voting yes on both 66 and 67.

These are relatively painless ways to move forward without penalizing those with the least income.

RICK THOMAS
Grants Pass

Grants Pass Daily Courier

"The theory of a free press is that truth will emerge from free discussion, not that it will be presented perfectly and instantly in any one account."

— Walter Lippmann

Published by
Courier Publishing Company
409 SE 7th St., Grants Pass, OR 97526

Phone: 474-3700
Established on April 3, 1885
Published daily except Sunday and holidays

John E. Voorhies.....President
Dennis Mack.....Publisher
Dennis Roler.....Editor
Debbie Thomas.....Advertising Director
Eileen Widdison.....Circulation Director
Randy Omdahl.....Production Manager



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