

The North Coast News

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75 cents

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Quinalts vote to recall Mail

By Erin Hart
& Amelia Dickson
The Daily World

Members of the Quinalt Indian Nation voted to oust Vice President Andrew Mail, but retained President Fawn Sharp and two other members of the Quinalt Business Committee at a special general council meeting held at Taholah School gymnasium Saturday.

The other two committee members who survived the recall vote are Treasurer Larry Ralston and Secretary Latosha Underwood.

The general council voted to replace Mail with Gina James, a councilwoman on the business committee. The Quinalt Business Committee, the executive branch of the tribal government, is made up of the president, vice president, treasurer, secretary and seven council members.

Members of the Quinalt General Council, which is composed of all tribal members aged 18 and older, usually gather each March to elect members of the business committee and conduct other tribal business. However, the tribe

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Council hikes mayor's pay \$3,000 a month

By ANGELO BRUSCAS
North Coast News

Ocean Shores Mayor Crystal Dingler was given a \$3,000-a-month salary increase for the final two years of her term by a 5-1 City Council vote Tuesday night.

The increase from her current monthly salary of \$1,000 is then set to revert back to the lower figure at the end of the term under the resolution first proposed by Dingler and then passed in the regular council meeting, with Councilman Ed Engel being the only vote against the raise.

The change in city ordinance reads: "The Mayor shall be compensated for services to the city at the rate of four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00) per month through the remainder of the current four (4) year term of office to December 31, 2015. The Mayor elected to serve a mayoral term commencing on or after January 1, 2016, shall, upon taking the oath of office, be compensated for services rendered to the city at the rate of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per month."

Dingler in effect has been operating much as the city's chief administrator and public works director since taking over the job, which previously had a salary of \$99,600 when the city elected to go to a strong mayor-council form of government.

The former elected mayor, Dean Bunkers, resigned for health reasons in February 2010, and was making the full \$99,600 at the time.

In February 2011, the City Council changed the mayor's job to what was intended to be a part-time position, paying



North Coast News file

Mayor Crystal Dingler takes a tour of Ocean Shores' fresh waterways with Tom Kimzey of the Electric Boat Company this summer.

\$12,000 per year from 2012 on. The idea at the time, according to news accounts, was to use the remainder of the former salary of the position to pay for a city administrator search — for someone who would manage the day-to-day functions of the city. That was abandoned when the city's revenues plunged and several new council members were elected.

Dingler was paid \$8,300 for her first month of service, as she took office at the end of 2011 and assumed the then-mayor's salary; as of January 2012 until now

she was being paid \$1,000 per month.

"It has been almost three years since this was passed, and we do not have a city administrator and the mayor continues to run the city," Dingler told the council.

"The job is the same, if not more, because we have laid off more people in that time," she added in making the raise request, noting it was "something less than half of what my predecessors got."

"I do not need or want benefits, though I could use vision

and dental, like everybody else I have health care," she added of what her request entailed.

The new salary would begin in 2014, and the council could then begin to decide if it wanted to bring a city administrator back into the budget or set the mayor's salary at the higher level, Dingler said.

"We are still struggling as we discussed (in budget discussions) here tonight. But fair is fair. I'm putting in between 40 and 60

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Coastal residents critical of crude oil proposals

By Brionna Friedrich
The Daily World

Although the event went nearly an hour longer than scheduled, about two-thirds of the 80 people at the League of Women Voters' crude oil forum in Ocean Shores stuck around until they were promised more forums to come.

"This is the first of many discussions," said Shannon Vandembush of the League of Women

Voters.

The Nov. 14 forum, co-hosted by North Beach Community TV and the Shilo Inn & Suites and moderated by *North Coast News* editor Angelo Bruscas, featured presentations on crude oil shipping proposals at the Port of Grays Harbor and questions from coastal residents.

Port Executive Director Gary Nelson and Public Affairs Specialist Kayla Dunlap were

joined by Imperium Renewables Vice-President John Gillespie to answer questions about the projects proposed by Imperium, Westway Terminals and U.S. Development.

"I really felt they left a lot of questions unanswered. They didn't build a lot of confidence in their projects," Holly Plackett said after the meeting. "I was very disappointed."

Representing opposition to

crude oil shipping were, Arthur "R.D." Grunbaum and Arnie Martin of Citizens for a Clean Harbor and biologist Lou Messmer.

The questions and statements from the audience seemed generally disapproving of the projects. Alan Bogner of the Governor's Office of Regulatory Assistance and Department of Ecology Southwest Region Director Sally

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Healing with horses

The North Coast News

Facilitator Felisa Holmberg from Humptulips is skilled in helping people achieve life-changing breakthroughs.

As a certified Rolfer, she has combined her "clearing" healing therapy to include therapy with horses as a certified Equine Guided Educator. Through Horses Hope for Humanity she's able to integrate her love of horses with her passion for helping people find healing and purpose.

She will be conducting a special program, "Let Horses be Your Guide," Nov. 23-24 at Nan-Sea Stables in Ocean Shores. To participate, schedule an appointment or to ask questions, call (360) 580-1609; or visit online at: [\[shopeforhumanity.com/\]\(http://shopeforhumanity.com/\)](http://horse-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Describe how you first became involved with horses and how they have impacted you personally over the years?

I was 4 years old when I first laid eyes on a horse and fell instantly in love with a little black and white pony named "Glassy," and from that day forward I lived, ate and breathed and drew pictures of horses. Over the years, horses have taught me to be a better human being, to let go of trauma, grief, fixed beliefs and to expand beyond limitations that find their way to us throughout life. I have found great companionship and solace during difficult times in my life. From a very young age I knew that they



Felisa Holmberg photo

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Felisa uses the experience of being with and around horses in healing therapy.

VOICES

Coastal Socialite: A time to be thankful

Hello, and welcome to that wonderful time of year: a time of trying to remain thankful while anticipating a long weekend with lots and lots of food. Also, a time of shopping pre-sales to find the best deals on stuff we want, I mean, gifts for loved ones. Welcome to mid-November! The Christmas decorations are up in stores, we're setting up our Convention Center for the **Winter Fanta-Sea** arts and crafts event, and some of us have even started playing in our kitchens and have a pecan pie in the oven right now.

As we carry on with our "Turkey Day" preparations, our local Library keeps right on filling our schedules with other things to do.

On Friday afternoon, **Seasonal Library Adventures** brings us some crafty fun at 2 p.m. with Thanksgiving-themed games, and holiday decoration creation.

Following that, we're all invited to watch the family-friendly "Monsters University" on the Library's "big" screen. Ace Hardware and Friends of the Library chip in with popcorn and juice, to make this a complete family fun

time. Grown-ups without kids are welcome – this movie is really heartwarming, as well as being funny. The free show starts at 3:30p.m.

Speaking of shows, the **Driftwood Theatre's** newest production "A 1940's Radio Christmas Carol" opens this weekend. On Saturday night, a cast of eccentric characters will get you in the holiday spirit, with laughs, laughs, and more laughs! It's the first Driftwood show for months without yours truly in it, but I'm

sure they'll do just fine anyway. The cast includes Driftwood's last year's Best Actor award winner **Ben Hohman**, as well as several other talented folks. Director **Kathe Rowe** is a seasoned director, with a great eye for quirky humor, and you may remember Assistant Director **Al Carter** from his stint, either as County Commissioner, or as Dudley the Butler in a prior show. After this weekend, the show will run on Friday and Saturday nights at 7:30p.m. until December 14th, with a special Sunday matinee on December 15th.

Looking for a show a little closer to home? Also on Saturday, our very own **Power & Grace KidFit**

Theatre Group brings us "**Charlie Brown Thanksgiving**" along with a free minestrone soup dinner. Our guess is that the soup will be made during the Power & Grace bean cooking workshop at noon that day – teaching us how to make great meals out of beans and other dry goods. Seating for the Charlie Brown show is limited: email Beachgym@live.com to reserve your seats. The show starts at 5p.m. at the Faith Community Church. Donations toward the KidFit program, which keeps local kids' bodies and minds healthy and active, are accepted (but not required). RealFit Ocean Shores, the group that supports KidFit programs, is seeking folks interested in boxing instruction, as they may be able to start a boxing program after the holidays, if enough people show interest. So far, age range could be from 5-adult. Let them know if you have a little, um, "stress" to work off and think boxing would be a good way to work it off. Fitness programs, including boxing, or working with our area's new personal trainer, Jason Woodman (who can be reached at 206-730-6660), can be wonderful, thoughtful gifts for those who want to be healthier.

Back on the shopping subject, **Shop Ocean**

is ongoing, through the month of December. At any participating business in Ocean Shores, get 1 raffle entry per \$20 you spend. With a Grand Prize of \$500, this is a great reason to shop local for your holiday gifts.

Don't feel like going to the shops? You can find some pretty great gifts (for yourself or for others) at the annual **North Beach PAWS Dinner and Auction** fundraiser Saturday at the Convention Center. Items up for auction have been donated to assist in the care of North Beach pets, so bid away in the knowledge that you'll be helping some furry critter when you win the items you want!

Another way to help critters while getting your holiday shopping done is to pick up some of the Ocean Shores Animal Hospital's **Beauties of the Beach Pet Photo Calendars**. This is the fourth year that local pets have been featured in their own calendar, as a fundraiser for World Vets spay/neuter projects, and we all know that calendars make a great, easy gift.

If you're more excited about wildlife photos than pet portraits, don't worry, there are still a few **Gary Iversen** photo calendars left. Gary can often be found at the **Gallery of Ocean Shores**, when he's not out on Duck Lake photographing local wild-

life.

We do have some pretty amazing critters out here, including a pheasant I've named "Sasquatch" because the autofocus on my camera just can't get past his camouflage, and I've got about seventeen blurry photos of a bird that's standing still. I should learn how to use real focus, but photography aside, this weekend is your chance to learn about the "real" Sasquatch, at **The Quinault Beach Resort and Casino's Sasquatch Summit** this Friday and Saturday.

Once we're done with the weekend fun, let's settle down for some serious decorating, cooking, and cleaning out those dusty back corners behind the couch, because who wants friends or relatives to notice that the dust bunnies are reproducing like bunnies? Better yet, just make your reservation for a Thanksgiving dinner out, whether it be at the **Lions Club**, at the **Waves** restaurant, or for a last-minute going-out decision, check out what they've cooked up for Turkey Day at the **Porthole Pub**.

As always, let me know what you've got "cooking" so I can share it! Email me at coastalsocialite@gmail.com, and I'll probably promote your event too.

Happy Thanksgiving!
Your Coastal Socialite

Letters

Informed by Port/Oil event

I attended the meeting in Ocean Shores on Thursday. I wanted to give a big thank you to the sponsoring organizations for hosting this important event. (The League of Women Voters of Grays Harbor, North Beach TV, Ocean Shores/North Beach Chamber of Commerce as well as North Coast News). Also, a special thank you to Angelo Bruscas who did a great job as a neutral moderator for the evening.

As a result of the presentations and discussions, I came away informed with facts rather than just my assumptions. I know how important new jobs will be to our area, and how much we need the increased tax revenue. But, based on what I learned last Thursday, I am now of the opinion that a) the Port and the proposing companies have not done sufficient preliminary research, and b) there is insufficient benefit at this time compared to the risks we are being asked to accept to our coastlines, fisheries, wildlife and our economy.

Walt Ebel

Food Ball help appreciated

I would like to thank the Ocean Shores Library for joining with the High School in promoting the Food Ball Drive. I think it is a wonderful thing and should go a long way in promoting community interest and working together. You may not be aware of the fact that here on the North Beach there are only two food banks that are still operating and they are the one in Ocean Shores and the one in Copalis Beach. How unfortunate it is that as the number of needy increases, the number of places to go for help decreases. Let us all continue to work together for the good of the entire area.

Respectfully Submitted,

Phyllis Shaughnessy

Mayor

Continued From Page 1

hours a week and that's a lot of work folks," she said.

Engel was the lone voice of opposition, although several council members said they were not sure they could support what amounted to a 300 percent increase or the sunset clause that would reset the salary back to \$1,000 a month after Dingler's term was over.

"Nobody wanted a city administrator, if you go back through your records," Engel said. "Just like me, you took your oath of office knowing full well what your pay was going to be and what the job would entail. So I don't know how to put it. I was stuck with my wages, I think you are stuck with yours until the end of your term."

Lillian Broadbent noted the city went so far as to have a professional headhunter look for a city



North Coast News file

Crystal Dingler on her first day in office as mayor of Ocean Shores.

administrator at one time.

"The intent was that once the mayor got his feet under him, that we would hire a city administrator," Broadbent said. She noted

that the appointed interim mayor serving after Bunkers left office, Garland French, resigned when he tried to have the mayor's salary reduced — but was advised he couldn't do that legally — so that money could be used to hire an administrator. That led to the council changing the salary.

Several members of the public spoke in favor of the increase after the council agreed they were no longer interested in hiring a city administrator.

Jess Owen noted the mayor's current salary is equal to about \$5.87 a hour at 40 hours a week.

"McDonald's can't hire people for that," Owen said. "The mayor needs to be compensated, at least for the full-time work she performs."

Patricia Wright, executive director of the Ocean Shores/North Beach Chamber of Commerce, suggested the mayor's salary stay the same but that she be compensated for the other jobs she performs.

"You have done an outstanding job as mayor," said Holly Plackett, a member of the Planning Commission. "You and I have differed on many issues over the last two years that you have governed, but I still think you have done an outstanding job and \$1,000-a-month salary is much too low."

Mike Doolittle, owner of Playtime Family Fun Center, said the current salary was an embarrassment for the city.

"I'm almost ashamed, when I've had this discussion, about what our mayor is paid," Doolittle said. "... Somehow we need to be able to compensate for all the additional effort and work our mayor is putting in."

"From what I've seen mayor, you've done a fantastic job," added Dottie Ann Blakemore.

After the public comment, Councilman Dan Overton moved to adopt the raise without the wording in the written ordinance's summary background that covered the issue of a city administrator. His motion was seconded by Jackie Farra, and approved by Randy Scott, Ginny Hill and John Schroeder. Councilman John Lynn was absent.

"It's time to take action," Hill said, noting the mayor herself earlier refused to push for a raise when the city was facing more difficult economic times. She questioned the size of the raise, but ultimately agreed to it as long as there was not to be a city administrator added on.

"It is really our charge over the next two years to figure out where we go from here," Overton said.

Dingler noted that even with the raise, her pay would come out to be equal to about \$24,000 a year for her term in office and service.

"I don't have a problem with you getting a wage increase, I really don't," Engel said before the final vote. "But at the same time I feel most of these council members up here do a horrendous amount of work, too ..."

"You are opening Pandora's box is what I'm seeing."

Dingler thanked the council after the vote, adding: "And I will continue to do my very best for the city."

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LOCAL NEWS

Quinalts: Vice President Andrew Mail recalled, other three officers retained

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called a special general council meeting after tribal member Coni Wilson collected enough signatures to force the recall vote on Sharp, Mail, Ralston and Underwood.

According to the Quinalt constitution, adopted in 1975, a recall election can be called if 50 enrolled members sign a petition. A quorum of 50 tribal members must be present at the time of voting for the election to take place. About 300 people attended the Saturday meeting, and non-tribal members — including the media — were not allowed entry.

The meeting, which began at about 9:30 a.m., got off to a rocky start when tribal members voted consultant James Mills out of the meeting. Mills owns

Creating Stronger Nations, a company that offers training to tribal nations. He said this was the first time in 23 years that he had been asked to leave the meeting.

"They voted me out. That's the will of the people, you can't argue with that," Mills said.

Members of the general council also voted down the prepared agenda and didn't approve a new one until about 12 p.m.

Once discussion began, Wilson read a prepared statement to the assembled tribal members. She later sent a copy of the statement to *The Daily World* via email.

"I know that there are members that will hold this against me for the rest of my life. My struggle came down to do I continue to be complacent and ignore the violations and issues

and hope they resolve themselves or take some kind of action," Wilson's statement read.

She outlined a list of questions for the general council to consider: Who is responsible for monitoring constitutional compliance? Are elected officials above the law? How many commissions that were enacted as governmental checks and balances have been disbanded?

Tribal members present at the meeting had different ideas of what should happen. Jean Ramos, an enrolled Quinalt member who has been publicly critical of tribal government, said the general council spent much of the afternoon debating whether or to recall Sharp, Mail, Ralston and Underwood, or throw out the entire business committee.

"I just want them to

take care of our people, the people who do without," Ramos said.

Chuck Sampson, another tribal member, chastised Sharp as she walked into the gymnasium, asking her to remember his advice. He said that he had previously told her to resign before the recall vote, and instead run as a Democrat in Washington's gubernatorial race.

Sharp also had vocal supporters in the crowd, including tribal member Lewis Sexton. Sexton said he is proud of the president and business committee's efforts to protect the environment, citing the Quinalt Indian Nation's successful attempts to derail two proposed crude oil shipping facilities on Grays Harbor.

The state Shorelines Hearings Board recently sided with the tribe in an appeal, ruling that the state

Department of Ecology and the City of Hoquiam failed to account for all environmental impacts and hazards when issuing shoreline substantial development permits. The ruling won't prevent the two companies, Westway Terminal Company and Imperium Renewables, from building crude-by-rail facilities, but the process has been delayed.

After hours of discussion, the general council voted on their leaders' fates that evening. According to a press release from Sharp, 63 percent of the council voted to keep the president in office.

"I deeply appreciate this vote of confidence by the Quinalt membership," Sharp said. "It stands as evidence that the members of our nation support the priorities we have established and the direction

we are headed. We are a nation that stands for effective government, a strong and growing economy, a healthy environment and the heritage, rights and aspirations of our people."

Wilson said that she was disappointed the results of the election, and that the outcome may have been different had a strong candidate decided to run against Sharp. Wilson said she was happy the council voted to install James as vice president.

"I look forward to the change at the table with Gina James as vice president," Wilson said. "She is an honest politician and will provide a stable environment to the administration."

The Quinalt Business Committee will appoint a tribal member to fill James' vacated council seat.

Holmberg

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were very special creatures and I was always curious about how the horses' behavior would change with different people handling them. Horses reflect their handlers, angry people seemed to have horses that reflected them, people with poor boundaries had horses with poor boundaries, etc.

All my life's trainings and experiences have prepared me to found Horses Hope for Humanity bringing personal growth, healing and life transformation to others.

I want people to know that all animals have value and purpose just like we do. Both my horses needed homes when they came into my life and I had no idea at the time why these two challenges presented themselves to me. One was very emotionally traumatized and needed a lot of time and care to learn to trust. He taught me so much about healing, letting go and moving forward and I had to step up my handling and training skills as well. His calmness and sensitivity make him great for this program. The other horse came into my life when I received a phone call from the Thur-

ston County Rescue Program asking me to adopt this unruly, untrained little horse they had not been able to find a home for. I wasn't sure why I answered "yes" without hesitation and after arriving to pick him up, it only took a few minutes to see why he hadn't been adopted, but for some reason it didn't stop me from bringing him home. Within a very short time into his training I found there was a really good minded horse under all that unruly behavior, but it wasn't until I started doing this EGE work that I would find out just how special he really is.

Who is Horses Hope for Humanity for and who benefits from participating?

HHFH specializes in Equine Guided Education, a gentle, guided learning process that draws on the intuition, empathy, and acceptance of horses to help participants make challenging life transitions, achieve their goals, and find more meaning in their life. Our programs are great for anyone who is looking to: Discover their passion and purpose

Build stronger personal and business relationships

Heal old traumas and limiting beliefs

Communicate better at home and at work

Tap into their intuition in order to make wiser life choices

Horses Hope For Humanity has a strategic alliance with "Empowerment Through Connection" a 501-c3 organization in Washington State. Donations can be made through Empowerment Through Connection and flagged for HHFH where those donations will fund special programs for those in need, focused on teens and Women in Transition Grays Harbor County.

Donations can be mailed to Felisa at P.O. Box 198, Humptulips, WA 98552

Can you participate even if you have never been around horses or animals before?

Absolutely! There is no prior horse experience necessary in order to participate in Equine Guided

Education.

Describe some of the experiences you have seen in participants in the program and how it helped them?

I've experienced the release of grief to experiencing my true heart's desires, reflected back to me through the horse's eye and heart. My clients have also experienced their own truth, grief and clarity on life choices and transformation.

Here's one of my personal experiences I've had with the horses. During a workshop I was participating in, on our lunch break, I got a call from my son that his father had died. I felt the depth of my son's pain but I was several states away from him and from home. I didn't tell anyone because another participant simultaneously got a call that her friend passed away; she took it real hard and ended up leaving the workshop. I didn't want to disrupt the workshop so I decided to keep it to myself and I returned from lunch holding grief about my son and everyone that loved his father. When I walked into the arena a horse walked up to me, put her lips around a ruby stone that was in my pocket, which represented healing hearts to me, then, touched my heart area with her nose and grief just poured out of me in a way that I've never experienced before. Then, another horse walked up to me and stayed with me until the grief was gone, and I mean it was gone, I was left in complete peace and

calmness and they both turned and walked away.

How does the experience with the horses help in building better personal relationships?

EGE works with horses in the self-development process because they allow us to discover the intuitive landscape of our inner-workings and explore how it relates to our personal and professional goals. In this experience, the horses mirror us, responding to our energy. This process allows us to gain profound insights into where we are in alignment with our values and intentions. It also helps us identify where old stories, beliefs or habits interfere with our ability to have successful relationships or live our life's purpose. Through interactive exercises with horses we refine our goals and establish more effective ways of being in our lives.

Describe your background and programs that will be ongoing in Grays Harbor and elsewhere?

My journey led me all over the country becoming certified in many modalities not knowing at the time that all these experiences were preparing me to do this work with the horses. During all these years, horses have never left my side and now it has come full circle bringing me back to my first love, horses!

I'm incorporating a lifetime of training and personal growth into this work with the horses and developed a unique program where I incorporated "Clearing" into the horse program. I'm certified in "Clearing" too and it works really well with the horses and without the horses, which has enabled me to do regular ongoing work with people before or after the horse experiences. Much of the Clearing work can be done over the computer, using Skype, which I find to be an important resource for my out of town and out of state clients.

Clearing is based on the observation that inner conflicts and states of unhappiness come about as a result of stuck communications. Clearing is a great, ethical method for helping you go beyond the barriers you experience to fulfilling life. Whether you want to focus on current problems or simply forward a life project, Clearing is a step that can take your life to the next level. Try it!



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