

Letters

Dear *Smoke Signals*:

Congratulations to Toby McClary, Cheryle Kennedy and Val Sheker. I felt that all the candidates were very respectful of each other. As a Tribal member, I greatly appreciate that.

I would like to thank Heather Jones, Tom and Debe Linton, Darrell Mercier and Mark Mercier for allowing me to post my signs on their properties during the 2009 Tribal Council election.

I would also like to thank my uncle, Tim Linton, for his help in transporting and putting up my election signs.

I would also like to thank everyone who gave me support, encouragement and voted for me. Special thanks to my parents, Bill and Diane Giffen; my son, Sean O'Leary; my aunts and uncles, Tim and Caroline Linton and Tom and Debe Linton, for encouraging me and believing in me. My husband, Lyle Marrington, also deserves a special thank you as he is gracious enough to allow me to follow my responsibilities, my dreams and my heart.

Deborah Marrington
Roll #181

Dear *Smoke Signals*:

Hello, my name is Halona Butler. I am an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and I am the 2009-10 Senior Miss Grand Ronde.

My parents are Cindy Watkins (Grand Ronde Tribe) and stepfather Michael Watkins and Leland Butler Sr. (Siletz/Yurok Tribes) and stepmother Vickie Butler. I am the granddaughter of Bonnie Mercier (Grand Ronde Tribe) and Reggie and Lillie Butler (Siletz/Yurok Tribes). I have three younger brothers, Leland, Bobby and Isaac, and two younger sisters, Tia and Victoria, and "lots" of cousins! I enjoy being a positive role model for all of them.

I am 17 years old and a senior at Willamina High School. I am involved in Native Youth Leadership, Native Club, the Siletz Nadosh (feather dance), Canoe Family, the round dance and have worked for the Tribal preschool for the past four years. I have taken the language classes at the Tribe two nights a week and worked in the kindergarten immersion classroom and the pre-school immersion classroom.

I am the lead backup singer for the Westcoast Boyz, a drum group made up of youth from Grand Ronde and Siletz. I travel to powwows with my family as often as I can with our school schedules and my brothers sports schedules. Last year as the Grand Ronde Veterans' Senior Queen, I traveled to more than 25 events including powwows in Washington, Nevada and Montana. This year my goal as being the Senior Miss Grand Ronde is to travel and represent my Tribe and my family at even more events!

My family has had me actively involved in my native culture my whole life. It is what I have grown up knowing. And everything we do, the family does! I love it and am so proud. Thank you to my family (and extended family) for all of their support they have given me in everything I do, no matter how tired or wore out they get, they are always there for me! I am so thankful to have such a rich and incredible heritage and it is a tremendous honor to be representing my Tribe, our Elders, our ancestors, all of family and myself in a positive way.

Hayu masi (many thanks)

Halona Butler
Roll #2931



Halona Butler

Oregon launches toll-free Adult Learner Resource Line

The state of Oregon has launched a toll-free Adult Learner Resource Line (1-877-84U-4NOW or 1-877-848-4669) and Web site (www.OregonOpportunities.gov) for Oregonians interested in returning to college, or enrolling for the first time. Funded through a \$1.4 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education, the Adult Learner Line is specifically for Oregonians ages 25 and older who are interested in going to college, but need some help and direction on how to enroll, seek financial aid and generally navigate the process. The Adult Learner Line and Web site are just one component of the College Access Challenge Grant Program (CACGP) funded last year through the federal government, which is directed at increasing awareness of and access to postsecondary education in Oregon.

The Adult Learner Line and Web site are supplemented by other Oregon-based resources, such as OSAC's financial aid Web site, www.GetCollegeFunds.org, which helps Oregonians understand the types of aid available to them, deadlines for applying and other college-related information. ■

Donations needed

The Grand Ronde Community Resource Center has a few fundraisers and other projects planned this year and is seeking donations, etc., for the following:

- **Community Cookbook:** Looking for your favorite recipe. If you have a recipe you'd like to share, please e-mail it to grrcc@hotmail.com or mail to GRCRC, P.O. Box 55, Grand Ronde, OR 97347. Please include the name of dish, recipe, your name for publication in the cookbook and a phone number to contact you if there are any questions.
- **Food Preservation:** The center is still seeking food dehydrators for its food preservation program. If you have one you'd like to donate, please e-mail or call and leave a message at 503-879-5731.
- **Coupon Program:** The center is looking for food and non-food item coupons for its coupon program. ■

Sho Dozono elected chairman of Spirit Mountain Community Fund Board of Trustees

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

Portland businessman Sho Dozono, an original member of the Spirit Mountain Community Fund Board of Trustees and most recently board vice chairman, was elected board chairman on Monday, Sept. 28.

Dozono began serving on the Spirit Mountain Community Fund Board of Trustees on May 6, 1997. He succeeds outgoing Board Chairwoman Kris Olson and his term as chairman will run through Sept. 30, 2010.

Spirit Mountain Community Fund is the philanthropic arm of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, which donates 6 percent of profits from Spirit Mountain Casino to aid organizations in a 10-county region of northwestern Oregon.

Since its inception in 1997, Spirit Mountain Community Fund has invested more than \$48 million in the local community, aiding organizations involved in health, arts & culture, education, historic preservation, public safety and environmental preservation. In 2008, Spirit Mountain Community Fund also started awarding grants to the nine federally recognized Tribes in the state of Oregon.

Dozono, 65, is chief executive officer and owner of regional travel agency Azumano Travel. He has a long history of participating in community and business activities, including being chairman of the Portland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and spearheading the creation of the Portland Schools Foundation.

Dozono will head a board that includes Grand Ronde Tribal Council Vice Chair Reynold Leno, Grand Ronde Tribal Council member June Sell-Sherer, Oregon Secretary of State Kate Brown, Grand Ronde Tribal member and Spirit Mountain Casino Director of Human Resources Camille Mercier and Portland attorney Chip Lazenby.

The Grand Ronde Tribal Council is scheduled to appoint in October a Tribal member to replace outgoing Board of Trustees Secretary and former Grand Ronde Tribal Council member Jack Giffen Jr.

The Board of Trustees will elect a new vice chair and secretary at its Oct. 30 meeting. ■



Sho Dozono

Streams of Language, Memory, and Legends

2009

Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums Conference

October 20-22, 2009 * Portland, Oregon

Registration required — <http://www.tribalconference.org/>