

Bobb, Hooley join Community Fund Board

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

Grand Ronde Tribal Council member Steve Bobb Sr. and former Oregon Congresswoman Darlene Hooley have been appointed to the Spirit Mountain Community Fund Board of Trustees.

Spirit Mountain Community Fund, the philanthropic arm of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, has eight appointed trustees: three Grand Ronde Tribal Council members, three community members, a Governor's appointee and a Spirit Mountain Casino representative.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for distributing 6 percent of profits from the Tribe's Spirit Mountain Casino to charitable organizations in 11 counties and the nine federally recognized Tribes in Oregon.

Hooley, who retired from Congress in 2008, fills one of the community member positions and replaces Kris Olson, who served on the board since its inception in 1997.

Hooley began her career as a teacher and quickly became involved in politics. Her political career included being elected to the West Linn City Council, Oregon Legislature and then to Oregon's Fifth Congressional District, where she served 12 years in Congress.



Tribal Council member
Steve Bobb Sr.



Former Oregon Congresswoman
Darlene Hooley

She also has been a passionate advocate for veterans' issues and, as a former teacher, has a deep love of education and social policies that affect children.

Hooley has two children and lives in West Linn.

Bobb, 60, is a Grand Ronde Tribal member and Elder, and was raised on his grandparent's farm in the local area.

He is a talented artist who balances his duties as a Tribal Council member with his passion for painting, sculpting and other media. For more than 30 years, he has worked as a sign painter, fabricator and designer.

Bobb has been married to his wife, Connie, for 42 years and together they have three children and 12 grandchildren. As a former Marine Corps member and Vietnam veteran, he participates on the local veterans' committee and designed the West Valley Veterans' Memorial that graces the Grand Ronde Tribal campus.

The Community Fund's other trustees include:

- Sho Dozono — Board chairman and owner of Azumano Travel in Portland, Ore.;
- Camille Mercier — Board vice chairperson, Grand Ronde Tribal member and Human Resources director at Spirit Mountain Casino;
- June Sell-Sherer — Board secretary, Grand Ronde Tribal member and Grand Ronde Tribal Council member;
- Kate Brown — Secretary of State and former state legislator;
- Reyn Leno — Grand Ronde Tribal member and Grand Ronde Tribal Council vice chair;
- Henry "Chip" Lazenby — General counsel at Portland State University.

Spirit Mountain Community Fund recently surpassed the \$49 million giving mark in its 12 years of existence, according to Tribal member and Community Fund Director Shelley Hanson. ■

Community Fund gave 76 grants in Multnomah County

GENERAL COUNCIL
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maintaining their ongoing operating budgets during these turbulent times."

According to a Summary Report, the Community Fund gave the most grants to agencies in Multnomah County, with 76 grants totaling \$1.4 million. By category, the Community Fund predominantly awarded funds to agencies supporting Health (57 grants; \$1.2 million), Public Safety (20 grants, \$822,961) and Education (48 grants, \$762,340).

The Tribal Grants Program gave \$75,000 to the Burns Paiute Tribal Farmland Economic Development Project, \$45,000 to the Siletz's Oregon Tribal Culinary Project, \$39,440 to the Umatilla's Language for the Community Project, \$38,400 to the Coquille's Education/Library Facility Phase One Planning, \$23,000 to the Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Tribal Hall Historic Preservation Project, \$65,000 to the Grand Ronde Indian Child Welfare addition and \$13,500 to the Klamath's construction of Tribal administration storage units.

Community Fund Board of Trustees Chairman Sho Dozono and Tribal Council Vice Chair and Board of Trustees member Reyn Leno honored Tribal Elder and former Tribal Council Secretary Jack Giffen Jr. for his six years of service on the Community Fund Board of Trustees.

Hanson also showed a video that highlighted four agencies that receive Community Fund grants — Sisters of the Road Café, Children's Cancer Association, Stand for Children and the Children's Healing Art Project.

"I want to thank the Tribe and



Photo by Dean Rhodes

Former Tribal Council Secretary Jack Giffen Jr. was honored by Spirit Mountain Community Fund Board of Trustees Chairman Sho Dozono, left, and Tribal Council Vice Chair Reyn Leno, right, during the Dec. 6 General Council meeting held at the Community Center. Giffen was honored for his six years of service on the fund's Board of Trustees. Leno also is one of three Tribal Council members who serve on the board, which distributes 6 percent of Tribal casino profits to charitable organizations and other Oregon Tribes.

Tribal Council for the generosity of the Tribe," said Dozono, a Portland businessman. "As an outsider from the Portland area, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart."

In other action during the General Council meeting:

- Tribal Council honored Tribal Elder Nora Kimsey, who turned 101 on Dec. 2. Tribal Chairwoman Cheryl A. Kennedy presented Kimsey with a lifetime certificate that will allow her to eat for free at Spirit Mountain Casino's restaurants, as well as awarded her a trip to Lincoln City. Tribal Council also arranged for a birthday cake.
- Tribal Elders Cherie Butler, Samantha Dala, Linda Brandon, Louise Medeiros, Margaret Provost and

Lana Takhar were nominated to run for four open seats on the Tribal Elders' Committee. The election will be conducted during the Jan. 10 General Council meeting at the Tribal Community Center in Grand

Ronde.

- Tribal Elders Eugene LaBonte and Louise Coulson and Tribal member Sydney West won the \$50 door prizes and Tribal member Khani Schultz won the \$100 door prize. ■

Powwow seeking vendors

The second Gathering of Oregon First Nations Powwow set for Saturday, Jan. 30, at the Oregon State Fairgrounds in Salem is seeking Native American vendors.

For more information, contact Mona Fisher at 800-922-1399, ext. 1230, or 541-444-8230, or send her an e-mail at monaf@ctsi.nsn.us. ■

Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority



Change in Housing Down Payment Assistance Grants

The Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority Board of Commissioners recently revised the Down Payment Assistance Policy related to grants to multiple Tribal member households. Contact GRTHA for a copy of the revised policy at 1-800-422-0232, ext. 2401.

Free energy kits to Tribal members

The Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority is pleased to make available free energy kits to Grand Ronde Tribal members nationwide. Call for an application, 1-800-422-0232, ext. 2401.

ONE PER HOUSEHOLD