



Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Tribal member Troy Douglass, left, talks with Portland Area Office Tribal Services Representative Lisa Archuleta and Tribal youth Kris Butler, 9, Forever Butler, 13, Nathaniel Butler, 12, Lela Murray, 13, and Lyjah Murray, 10, during a visit to his store, Ball Was Life, in Portland on Thursday, March 24. Douglass opened the store, which is inspired by his love of basketball, in 2020.

Youth hoops trip



Portland Area Office Tribal Services Representative Lisa Archuleta, center, and Tribal member Troy Douglass, center right, laugh while having a photo taken outside of Douglass’ store, Ball Was Life, in Portland on Thursday, March 24. Along with Archuleta and Douglass are, from left, Tribal youth Lela Murray, 13, Lyjah Murray, 10, Kris Butler, 9, Forever Butler, 13, and Nathaniel Butler, 12.

Kennedy to receive Civil Rights award

PORTLAND – Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy will receive the Oregon League of Minority Voters’ Civil Rights Champions Award during a ceremony to be held Thursday, May 5, at the DoubleTree Hotel in Portland.

“You are being recognized because of your consistent advocacy and intentional efforts to advance the civil rights of all Oregonians in your sphere of influence,” stated a March 1 letter informing Kennedy of the award.

Past recipients of the award include Oregon Rep. Earl Blumenauer, former Oregon Sen. Margaret Carter and former Oregon Bar Association President Liani Reeves.

The award was created in 2010 to recognize Oregonians who have promoted civil rights for all Oregonians.

The May 5 event will have the theme “Health Care & Hunger Relief.” Expert panelists from health care industries and directors of hunger relief programs from across Oregon will be in attendance.

The League of Minority Voters was founded in 2002 as a non-partisan organization to promote the advancement of minority voters’ rights through education, empowerment and mobilization.

Kennedy, who turns 74 on April 3, has served more than 23 years on Tribal Council. ■



Cheryle A. Kennedy

Grand Ronde Station now offering a 30-cent gas discount

Grand Ronde Tribal members, as well as Tribal and Spirit Mountain Casino employees, can receive a 30-cent per gallon discount on gasoline at the Tribally owned Grand Ronde Station convenience store starting on Tuesday, Feb. 1.

There are, however, a few rules. Tribal members and employees must go inside and show either their enrollment card or employee identification card to receive the discount.

Tribal employees started receiving the discount on Jan. 1.

“Your service to keeping the Tribe and casino operational have been invaluable,” General Manager David Fullerton said via e-mail in announcing the discount to governmental employees. “The Tribe wants to reward that commitment by helping you ease the burden of rising gas prices. ... We know that we have a number of employees commuting to and from Grand Ronde for work, and we are aware that rising gas prices create an additional hardship. We hope that this new system will make life a little easier.” ■

APRIL IS FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH

Financial literacy month is a great time to focus on your saving, spending, budgeting, and money management skills. Use the resources below to get started.

TIPS & TRICKS

- Download your banks App for convenient mobile services
- Check/review your credit score: creditkarma.com
- Watch & Learn videos: Oregon State Credit Union’s website
- Check out a book – our Tribal Library just added a variety of “Financial Literacy” books for all ages

INTERESTED IN FINANCIAL COACHING

One-on-one credit counseling, homebuyer education and basic budgeting. ONAC is providing free services by appointment; via phone and teleconference to Tribal members

Contact ONAC (405) 720-0770
Or email communityprograms@grandronde.org for information

STAY CONNECTED

Email communityprograms@grandronde.org.
Receive updates on future finance workshops & resources and enter into our April RAFFLE

Free Financial Coaching Available to Tribal Citizens

Since June 2020, with grant support from the Wells Fargo Foundation, the Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition, Inc. (ONAC) has been offering three types of free financial coaching to tribal citizens across the United States: 1) credit counseling, 2) homebuyer education, and 3) financial management (i.e. budgeting).

Confidential sessions are offered one-on-one, by teleconference (Zoom) or phone call, with a certified credit counselor, homebuyer education provider, and financial educator, Felecia Freeman (*Citizen Potawatomi*). Typically, these sessions will last for an hour and are scheduled at a mutually agreeable time.

Thus far, ONAC has offered this free financial coaching to those participating in ONAC’s other programming. Now, ONAC is offering these financial coaching services to a wider group of tribal constituents.

If you are a tribal citizen interested in free financial coaching, you are welcome to complete the following registration form:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ONACcounselingregistration>.

Once the form has been submitted to ONAC, our financial coach will work with you to schedule a remote session by phone or teleconference. This confidential financial coaching is available to any American Indian or Alaska Native in the United States, regardless of where you reside.

For any questions about these financial coaching services, contact Christy Finsel, ONAC Executive Director, at (405) 720-0770 or cfinsel@oknativeassets.org.