

Spirit Mountain Gaming

Gaming Commission up and running; staff hired

The Gaming Commission is pleased to announce the opening of its offices at 28840 Salmon River Highway in Grand Ronde. Their phone number is 879-2362. The Gaming Commission and its employees have been established in order to regulate the gaming operation on the reservation, govern gaming operations, and perform various other monitoring functions to ensure compliance with tribal and federal laws.

The Commission is made up of a body of 5 members and a staff. The fifth member of the Gaming Commission has been appointed. **William Miles**, of Salem is a retired employee of Oregon State Internal Audit Department.

Three employees of the Commission have been hired. **Lisa A. Albrecht** is the Investigative Auditor. She has approximately ten years of banking experience and has worked in the Internal Audit Department of the Oregon State Lottery.

The Administrative Assistant position has been filled by **Cathy Steere**, a well-known tribal employee. She is transferring from Tribal Policy and Planning. Cathy has considerable experience working as a legal secretary and has worked for the Oregon State Police.

Additionally, **Edward K. Crane** has been hired as an Enforcement Agent. He comes to the Commission from the City of McMinnville, where he worked as a Senior Police Officer. Ed has 25 years experience in law enforcement.

Spirit Mountain Casino: Update

New Hires. Kit Devine has added four new members to her Human Resources staff to help handle the process of hiring personnel and set up the human resources delivery systems for the Casino. They are Darci Muellhaupt and tribal members Mary Brooks, Tom Misfeldt, and Matt Kirkland.

Construction boosts economy. The Spirit Mountain Casino has had a substantial impact on tribal and local community employment even before it opens to the public. Construction contractor Drake/Kraus has employed approximately 90 workers throughout the project, ten of whom are tribal members. Drake/Kraus also has hired two tribe-related subcontractors, Spirit Communications and Ken Schmidt.

Casino skills classes. The Tribal Education Division is working with Chemeketa Community College to offer classes in job skills needed in

the Casino's operations. These include Food Handling, Customer Service, and Cash Handling. Some classes have been conducted in all three areas with more to come.

Tuition for the classes is \$12 for Food Handling and \$45 each for Customer Service and Cash Handling. The Education Division will pay tuition for tribal members.

To get more information, call the Tribal Education Division at 1-800-422-0232.

Cars back on the highway. Completion of the underpass under Highway 18 has resulted in the return of traffic to the permanent roadway after a three-month hiatus. The \$2 million project enables westbound motorists to enter and leave the Casino grounds without making a left-hand turn across the highway. All of the funding for the project came from the Grand Ronde Tribe, and no public funds were used.

Job Fair draws hundreds

The Spirit Mountain Casino hiring process reached full speed on Friday and Saturday, July 14 and 15 as over 1,000 applicants attended the Casino Job Fair. Applicants had a chance to talk to Casino staff for general information and details about specific jobs. Prospective employees then filled out job applications and had a short interview.

The Casino Human Resources Department has started the process of reviewing all applications. In total, the casino will hire 850 people, both full time and part time in 59 different job categories.

HR Director Kit Devine was delighted at the Job Fair turnout and the quality of applicants. "We saw a lot of very good people," she said. "I'm confident that we'll be able to create the professional, people-oriented team that it takes to make the Casino a real success."

Spirit Mountain Board Chairman Mike Larsen said, "We're very happy about the great number of jobs that the casino will provide and about the multi-million dollar impact it will have on local communities."

The job-seekers hailed primarily from the West Valley communities near the casino, including Grand Ronde, Willamina, Sheridan, Dallas, and McMinnville, with good representation from the Salem area. Both tribal members and non members were well represented.

Applicants appeared attracted by above-industry wages and tip opportunities, comprehensive benefit packages (including health, dental, and life insurance) and exciting atmosphere.

In most cases, casino hires will go through a training program prior to starting.

Job Fair volunteers reminded applicants that filling all 850 positions will take a great deal of time and that it might be as late as October before they are contacted. Devine stressed the "everyone who applied will be contacted." Applicants are asked not to call the Spirit Mountain offices to check on the status of their applications, except to report name, address or telephone number changes.

Applications are still being accepted for specific jobs. Those interested should pick up descriptions of the jobs that appeal to them, complete an application indicating the job preferences and return it to Spirit Mountain Gaming. Job descriptions and applications are available at the Spirit Mountain Gaming Human Resources Department, located at 28840 S.W. Salmon River Highway. Phone: 879-2350.



Potential employees of the casino wait in line to be interviewed at the Job Fair.

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