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SMOKE SIGNALS

A Publication of the Grand Ronde Tribe

January 15, 1996

Casino, Public Works were focus of General meeting

By Tracy Dugan

The January 7 General Council meeting featured program reports from Bruce Thomas, John Mercier, and Francis Somday.

Bruce Thomas, president of Spirit Mountain Gaming, Inc., reported on the status of the casino after two and a half months of operation. He said that the casino is doing well, and that a large percentage of the casino's clientele are from Oregon's metro areas like Portland and Salem, while a slightly smaller percentage are from local towns and communities. Bruce also said that when the Siletz casino in Lincoln City opens, it might affect Spirit Mountain Casino business a little, because of the business the casino receives from weekend vacationers.

"About twenty-five percent of our visitors are people on their way to the coast," he said.

There are still those who travel from out of town whose sole destination is the casino.

"We have great employees and a nice facility," said Bruce. "That will keep people coming."

Spirit Mountain Development Corporation is also planning an RV park which will accommodate 150 spaces and cover 16 acres on the west side of the casino.

Casino expansion will begin this month and will include banquet facilities, a steak house/lounge, and a children's play area. (See story, page 4.)

A question was asked about the casino's ad campaign, and what the feedback has been. Bruce said that a survey was conducted at Lloyd Center (a Portland shopping mall) asking shoppers to view television commercials from three different casinos and rate them. Although Spirit Mountain

ELDERS! Important information needed

As you are aware, the tribal members have identified Health Security as a high priority in determining service for members. In response to this, Tribal Council has begun the process of looking at some kind of health coverage for all members, regardless of place of residence. This investigation is well under way and results of the research will be shared with all members within the next few months. Because of the large number of tribal members and the very wide range of places of residence, we are going to try phasing in any new services to different parts of the population.

We are looking at beginning the new health service with a health supplement program for elders. The current research shows a number of different programs available which would supplement Medicare coverage for those 65 and over. As part of this research, we must determine the current coverage for tribal seniors. A letter has gone out to those for whom we have an address which requests certain information about their current coverage. **IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT THIS INFORMATION BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO US AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.** If you receive a letter, please complete it and return it to us. If you have not received a letter, please contact Valorie Sheker, ext. 2490 at 1-800-422-0232 and one will be forwarded to you.

We will be supplying more complete information on the elder coverage as soon as we get the results of this request for information.

Members have supplied similar information in the past to the Tribe, which enabled us to complete an initial study. **BUT, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE RECEIVE CURRENT UPDATED INFORMATION. THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE.**

The following is a list of those elders for whom we do not have a current address. If you know any addresses for

someone on this list, please call Margo Mercier 1-800-422-0232 ext.2253. Thank you for your help.

Date of Birth	Last Name	First Name	Mid.
11/20/1896	Bellinger	Maude	
09/01/1917	Bueno	Lavina	V.
07/11/1911	Cataffa	Josephine	
03/01/1923	Copeland	Josephine	
01/12/1927	Copeland	Teresa	
04/28/1908	Dowd	Dorothy	
07/13/1913	Dowd	Elizabeth	Ann
12/30/1914	Dowd	JoAnn	
06/19/1910	Dowd	Mary	P.
03/23/1931	Dowd	Theodore	F.
03/31/1900	Gilman	Archie	E.T.
04/02/1899	Gilman	Charles	O.F.
01/11/1918	Gregg	Bobby	M.
09/27/1896	Hamilton	Frank	A.
09/12/1902	Hamilton	George	M.
03/04/1893	Jeffries	Harry	A.
12/23/1917	Jones	Harold	W.
01/01/1905	Knighton	Clissie	
01/01/1928	Langley	Franklin	
04/09/1922	Michelle	Nora	M.
04/19/1922	Michelle	Norma	
07/13/1905	Olney	John	Kane
06/08/1908	Pellum	Marie	
06/17/1926	Petite	Delores	
02/18/1908	Seward	Mary	L.
03/03/1926	Sorenson	Clyde	
03/07/1922	Taylor	Beatrice	
01/01/1900	Taylor	Thomas	
05/17/1918	Thomas	Mathilda	
07/30/1905	Tipton	Gerald	O.
12/27/1912	Tipton	Henry	
03/21/1919	Willing	Charles	



TEAM PLAYERS: The After School Club plays basketball at the Grand Ronde Grade School every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon. For more information about youth activities, turn to page 3. Pictured from left: Duane ManyHides, Samson George, Vernon Kennedy, Jack Provost, and Anthony Sabin.

General Council Meeting

- February 4, 1996
- 11:30 a.m.
- Tribal Community Center
- Meal Provided
- All Welcome to Attend

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