



SMOKE SIGNALS

A Publication of the Grand Ronde Tribe

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Tribe's New Housing Comes To Life



Photos by Brent Merrill

A Place To Call Home — The Tribe's new residential community is expected to be complete by June of this year and is coming to life more each day. The community consists of 36 houses — with one to five bedrooms, grouped around a covered central meeting place. **More photos on page 7.**

As The Grand Rondes Get Ready To Celebrate 20 Years Of Restoration, The Tribe's Community Fund Will Kick It Off With A Celebration For Reaching The \$20 million Mark For Giving

By Ron Karten

On May 13, the Portland Art Museum will host some 500 guests of the Spirit Mountain Community Fund to celebrate the \$20 millionth dollar of giving.

"The most important thing (about it) to me is in the beginning we made a commitment to giving back to our community and the \$20 million mark shows that we stood by our word," said Reyn Leno, Vice Chairman of the Grand Ronde Tribal Council.

Two hundred fifty four recipient organizations of the Fund's 347 grants since 1997 will be there,

whether in person or in spirit, as will Tribal Elders, Tribal officials, staffers and decision makers throughout the state to honor this community landmark. Many have played an important part in making the Community Fund successful.

Tribal Council member Val Grout called it a "privilege to share with the community and the surrounding area."

"It has brought the Tribe to the forefront of Oregon as a partner showing our commitment to the

Fund continued on page 3

"BEST BET" LANDS NEW SPIRIT MOUNTAIN CASINO CEO

■ Tribe's showcase business lures Douglas Pattison to take over.

By Ron Karten

He brings to Grand Ronde the best of New Joisey, Memphis and Miz-ssippi, and professional successes from both corporate — and Indian-owned casinos. The names and places on his résumé — Atlantic City, Caesar's World, Sands, Golden Nugget, Aruba — shine as brightly as the lights out in front of the properties he has helped make successful.

Pattison said that he's worked in so many parts of the country with specific and well-known dialects that now, it's hard to tell where he's from. But his friendly, soft-spoken and accommodating manner make it easy to see why he would be welcome anywhere.

"His talents are what we are looking for," said Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryl Kennedy.

"He seemed to me like a solution."
CEO continued on page 3



Photo by Petra Tinda

Ready To Go — New Spirit Mountain Casino CEO Douglas Pattison brings an impressive string of top-notch experience to Grand Ronde to begin his new duties as the man in charge.



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