

Community Fund Will Kick It Off With A Celebration For Reaching The \$20 million Mark

Fund continued from front page
people of Oregon," said Tribal Council member Ed Pearsall.

The Fund has given away more than any other Tribal grant program in the state, and more even than all the others combined.

"It means that more kids can read, and more families have had life-and spirit-saving health care, have roofs over their heads, have books in their libraries, food in their stomachs, more wives and children are safe from abuse, more school children have had opportunities to see life-building experiences like the Anne Frank exhibit, the A.C. Gil-

bert Discovery Village and the Portland Children's Museum," said Community Fund Director Angie

extensive and exciting Indian collection in the Northwest. If a person or an organization can be judged by the good it leaves behind,

"I think what an awesome point we are at to come from the point of extinction to (now) be able to help when there's a need. Just monumental."

**~Cheryle Kennedy,
Tribal Council Chairwoman**

Blackwell. "Farmworkers will soon have an education center, Tribal members have opportunities to work in the nation's capital and the Portland Art Museum has the most

it makes me so proud to be a part of the Spirit Mountain Community Fund."

The event will emphasize diversity, a guiding principle of the Com-

munity Fund from the start and guests will see that diversity in the entertainment that will include the Hispanic Milagro Theater and Japanese Taiko Drums. It also will be seen in the catering by Portland restaurateur Salvadore Molly's.

Checks will be presented to the Community Fund's latest recipients, recipients whose awards will bring the Fund to the \$20 million mark.

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CASINO LANDS WELL-VERSED AND SOFT-SPOKEN CEO

CEO continued from front page

tion-finder rather than a fingerpointer," said Tribal Council member Ed Larsen. "It's easy to find the faults, harder to come up with solutions."

"Number one, I think he was highly qualified, lots of experience," said Tribal Council member Bob Haller. "I think he has the right attitude that will fit in with the casino and the people here."

Pattison's recent position as Chief Executive Officer of the Silver Star Hotel and Casino owned by the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, is only one example in a 20-year career that also has included ten years at the famous Sands casinos, properties owned by the Hollywood Casino Corporation and the Pratt Hotel Corporation. He was responsible for transitioning the Silver Star from a casino operated by a management contract to self-management.

"I was familiar with the Silver Star," said Larsen. "I've heard a

lot of good things about it."

"How we treat our customers and employees is very important," said Pattison in an interview following his selection by the Tribal Council. "It's also important to keep putting money into the property, to keep it clean and to maintain the high quality of food and customer services."

Asked about competition and potential competition from neighboring facilities, he said, "I've worked in an environment with heavy competition — Atlantic City — and the key is customer loyalty, which you gain through customer service and how customers view their experience here."

"I'm just looking forward to a good working relationship with him," said Tribal Council member Jan D. Reibach. "I think he's going to be an asset to us."

"It really is a great property to



Photo by Peta Tinda

Getting To Know Each Other — The new CEO at Spirit Mountain Casino — Douglas Pattison — finalized the deal during a recent meeting with the Tribal Council in Grand Ronde. Pattison met with council members (from left to right) Val Grout, Ed Larsen, Chairwoman Cheryle Kennedy, Vice Chairman Reyn Leno, Council Secretary June Sell-Sherer, Ed Pearsall, Pattison and Bob Haller (not pictured — council members Val Sheker-Robertson and Jan D. Reibach).

begin with," said Pattison. "My goal is to keep it the number one tourist attraction in the state."

"I just overall think he was the best bet. I don't think we could have done better," said Haller.



College & Career Fair —

The college and career fair, held at the Tribes' Gymnasium on April 3, was a chance for students from all over to get a head start on higher education. Over 30 vendors from schools and universities participated. Over 300 students attended the event. The Tribal Education Division coordinated the event.



Photos by Peta Tinda



Tasty Burritos —

Joanne Beeks, Navajo Tribal member out of Arizona sells breakfast burritos around the Tribal Offices on Fridays. Here, she sells a burrito to Amy Whisler of the Member Benefits Department. Beeks averages 30 sales a day. She also sells at pow-wows, rodeos and other events throughout the community. She will be at Delta Park in Portland on Father's Day weekend selling there. Her business is called Dine' Tacos.



Photos by Justin Phillips