

## Elder open house



Photos by Michelle Alaimo

Steve Soderberg checks out a washer and dryer in a unit of the new phase II of Tribal Elders Housing during an open house held on Thursday, Oct. 18. Twenty regular units and three grandfamily units make up phase II and the first tenants were planned to be moved in by the end of October.



Tribal Council Chairman Reyn Leno speaks during the open house for phase II of the Tribal Elders Housing on Thursday, Oct. 18.

## Tribal Court closure

Beginning Sept. 7 and throughout the remainder of the year, the Tribal Court will be closed to the public from 8 a.m. to noon Friday to allow time for staff to complete administrative projects.

Thank you for your patience. ■

### Committee & Special Event Board meeting days and times

Below is the most current information on the meeting days and times for Tribal Committees and Special Event Boards:

- **Ceremonial Hunt Board** meets as needed. Chair: Shonn Leno.
- **Cultural Trust Board** meets at 4 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in Modular No. 2. Chair: Perri McDaniel.
- **Culture Committee** meets at 1 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month in Modular No. 3. Chair: CeCe Kneeland.
- **Education Committee** meets at 5:15 p.m. on the first Monday of the month in the Adult Education Building. Chair: Tammy Cook.
- **Elders' Committee** meets at 10 a.m. the third Wednesday of the month in the Elders' Activity Center. Chair: Gladys Hobbs.
- **Enrollment Committee** meets quarterly in Room 204 of the Governance Building. Acting Chair: Robert Schmid.
- **Fish & Wildlife Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the Natural Resources Building. Chair: Harold Lyon.
- **Health Committee** meets at 10 a.m. the second Wednesday of the month in the Tribal Wellness Center. Acting Chair: Patti Tom-Martin.
- **Powwow Special Event Board** meets at 5 p.m. the first Thursday of the month at the Tribal Community Center. Chair: Dana Ainam.
- **Rodeo Special Event Board** meets at 6 p.m. the first Thursday of the month at the Tribal Rodeo Office. Chair: Harold Lyon.
- **Social Services Committee** meets at 4 p.m. the second Monday of the month in the Social Services Conference Room. Chair: Jenny Sanchez.
- **Timber Committee** meets at 5 p.m. the second Thursday of the month at the Natural Resources Building. Chair: Bob Mercier.
- **Veterans Special Event Board** meets at 4 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of the month in the Elders' Activity Center. Chair: Gene LaBonte.



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Elder Arlene Kautz takes a photo of an informational sign about Tomanowos during the Tribe's private ceremony with the meteorite at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City in June. A piece of Tomanowos was auctioned off for \$2,000 on Sunday, Oct. 14, in New York City by meteorite collector Darryl Pitt.

### Portion of Tomanowos auctioned off Meteorite collector Darryl Pitt sells piece for \$2,000

By Dean Rhodes

*Smoke Signals* editor

A slice of Tomanowos — the Willamette meteorite that is a sacred object to the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde — was auctioned off for \$2,000 on Sunday, Oct. 14, in New York City by meteorite collector Darryl Pitt.

Pitt auctioned off pieces of his collection known as the Macovich Collection of Meteorites that included two pieces of Tomanowos — a smaller piece and a 28-pound slice of Tomanowos. The larger piece, which also was up for sale, did not find a buyer.

A similar auction in 2007 reignited Tribal ire regarding trafficking in pieces from the sacred meteorite and produced no takers.

Pitt obtained his pieces of Tomanowos in 1998 when he traded New York City's American Museum of Natural History a half-ounce piece of a meteorite from Mars. The trade occurred before the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde staked a claim to Tomanowos in November 1999, citing the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990.

Tomanowos fell from the sky more than 10,000 years ago and eventually settled in what is now West Linn. Clackamas Tribal people believed the meteorite created a union between the sky, earth and water when it rested in the ground and collected rainwater in its crevices and basins.

In 1906, a New York philanthropist purchased Tomanowos for \$20,600, shipped it to New York City and donated it to the American Museum of Natural History, which is where it had resided ever since.

In 2000, the Tribe and museum reached an accord that keeps Tomanowos in New York City and allows annual ceremonial access to Grand Ronde Tribal members, as well as acknowledges the meteorite's religious importance to the Tribe.

Once the museum was notified of Tomanowos' sacred importance to the Grand Ronde Tribe, it stopped trading pieces of it for other space collectibles. ■

### ATTENTION TRIBAL MEMBERS

#### COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL EVENT BOARD VACANCIES

The following Committees and Special Event Boards have vacant positions.

**Education Committee** 1 Vacancy

Please send completed applications to Stacia Martin, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347.

### Transportation to Grand Ronde for Tribal members

The Portland Office has transportation day to Grand Ronde once a month for medical, dental appointments or enrollment cards. We need a minimum of 3 people to sign up. Please call Lisa

503-235-4230

We will leave at the Portland Office at 8 a.m.

Please call in advance for the scheduled monthly date

