

## Business survey under wraps

The Hood River County Chamber of Commerce this week declined to release the results of survey regarding the Tribes' proposal to build a casino in the Gorge. The survey, mailed to 300 business owners in the county, asked whether the Chamber of Commerce should take a role in the casino issue.

Chamber Executive Director Craig Schmidt said the survey and discussion will be taken up at the business group's August meeting.

The survey aimed to demonstrate whether or not the business community of Hood River, like many residents there, is opposed to the Tribes' plan to develop a casino near the town.

The Tribes in the past tried to accommodate the local sentiment, by proposing to develop the Gorge casino at Cascade Locks. The governor blocked this idea.

In the past, the City of Hood River adopted a resolution opposing the casino plan. The county adopted a similar resolution, based on a referendum, opposing the Hood River site, but recommending Cascade Locks.

## Casino plans ...

Continued from Page 1

Nevertheless, most people in Hood River County would still rather see a casino developed at Cascade Locks, rather than near Hood River.

Tribal officials also favor the Cascade Locks site, in part because the community there is receptive to the idea, and also because a casino at Government Rock would possibly generate more revenue, as it would be closer to the Portland market.

The Tribes, though, have no plans to try to persuade Gov. Kitzhaber to change his decision regarding the Cascade Locks casino idea. The Tribes tried once to win the governor's approval, and are not inclined to do so again: "The Tribes are not going to beg," Clements said.

Instead, he said, any attempt to gain approval of a tribal casino at Cascade Locks would have to come from residents of Hood River County.

Toward this goal, local officials of Cascade Locks, along with business owners in the town, are organizing an effort to lobby the governor to reconsider. Hood River County Commissioner Carol York is also part of this effort. York said her hope is that residents of the town of Hood River will add their support.

An important part of gaining this support, she said, is convincing residents that the Tribes are moving forward with the plan to develop the Hood River site. A significant number of people in town, she said, still don't believe it will happen.

In Cascade Locks earlier this week, tribal officials gave their assurance that Hood River plan is real. "There should be no doubt that we will build there," said Tribal Councilman Joe Moses.

Councilman Raymond Tsumpti said, "We will do what the law allows, which is to build at Hood River."

## Academy couples fun with learning

### Students learn beyond the basic lessons

By Jerry Brunoe  
Spilyay Staff

More than 200 K-4 students will attend Summer Academy at Warm Springs Elementary this summer between July 2<sup>nd</sup> and the 27<sup>th</sup> of July. The experience provides many opportunities for hands-on activities.

Students were unable to do many activities in the regular school year because of time restraints. "We wanted to give kids a chance to experience things," said Principal Dawn Smith.

In 1999, said Smith, the teachers wanted a way to identify their students as a group when they were on a field trip, so they tie-dyed T-shirts. The tie-dye worked, said Smith, although the Summer Academy has a new set of shirts for field trips, they still make tie-dye shirts for fun.

While one student enjoyed the independence of the project, 10-year-old Crystal Spino said, "And we got to have a little water fight," referring to the funner part of rinsing the dye from the T-shirts.

Third-grade classes have been studying Hawaii and on July 10 a group of Polynesian Dancers called Hokule'a, meaning 'The Star of Gladness,' did a set of dances at an assembly. The dances were set from a more traditional style of music to contemporary radio music.

Teacher Laura Fuentes said all the third-grade boys loved the girl in the coconuts.

Before dancers were finished they had the elementary teachers dance, which provided laughter for most students. "It was funny 'cause they didn't really know how to move their hips," said 9-year-old Maria Garate.

Astronomy, especially the constellations, has been the main subject of study for second-grade classes, said Smith. On July 6 the second-grade classes invited the stu-



Photos by Jerry Brunoe  
7-year-old Hiram Yaw (above) works on his beekeeper assignment during Summer Academy. Chris Elliott (below) provides safety instruction during a job fair at the academy.

dents and their parents to view the stars and constellations through night binoculars and telescopes.

When the program started in 1999 many parents didn't want to send their children, saying they didn't need remediation, said Smith. Unlike most summer schools, the Summer Academy is not scheduled with remedial courses - it's for enrichment, said Smith.

Every Friday afternoon the school gives the students ice cream and they have a party. Also on Fridays the third- and fourth-graders experience "Free Fridays," which allows them to sit anywhere in the cafeteria during lunch. "It's something the 'big kids' look forward to," said Smith.

Smith noted it isn't all fun and play. "They do math and reading, too," she said.



## Gaming magazine looks at Kah-Nee-Ta

The people from *Indian Gaming Magazine*, a national publication, recently enjoyed a three-day stay at Kah-Nee-Ta High Desert Resort and Casino.

This was a chance to relax, as well as to learn more about Kah-Nee-Ta. In August, *Indian Gaming Magazine* will include a feature article on the resort and casino.

The article will appear in the magazine's new "Road Trip" section. Indian Head Casino at Kah-Nee-Ta Resort is one of 15 tribal casinos in the nation that will be featured in the "Road Trip" series, said Steve Burke, publisher of the magazine.

There are about 300 tribal casinos across the U.S.; Kah-Nee-Ta was

chosen second for inclusion in the "Road Trip" series, Burke said.

He explained that the magazine board of directors chose to feature various tribal casinos that have unique qualities. For instance, the series is starting this month with an article on the Barona Casino in California.

This casino, owned by the Barona Band of Mission Indians, is outstanding in that it uses the latest technologies in gaming machines, customer service, and other facets of the operation, said Burke.

Kah-Nee-Ta was chosen because of its unique mix of the more family-style resort amenities such as the swimming pool, riding and hiking

trails, kayaking, the golf course, etc., along with the casino.

This arrangement is the result of the history of Kah-Nee-Ta Resort, which has been a resort for many years, but where the casino was added relatively recently, about five years ago.

"We see it as a family resort, with the addition of the casino for the parents," Burke said. From a marketing standpoint, he said, "we found that to be very interesting, and we were excited to learn more about it."

During their visit, Burke and others from *Indian Gaming Magazine* met with Rudy Clements, chairman of the Kah-Nee-Ta board of direc-

tors; Jeff Ford, casino manager; Myron Wilcox, slot shift manager; and Catherine Kamau, Kah-Nee-Ta marketing director.

Kamau mentioned that the upcoming magazine article would benefit the resort and casino by providing some national exposure.

The article will include some background information on how The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs began in the gaming industry, the current circumstances and future plans.

Burke commented that he and the nine magazine staff members, plus their families, "had a terrific time at Kah-Nee-Ta. It was very impressive."

## Downtown survey includes Warm Springs

The results are in — on how downtowns across Gilliam, Sherman, Wasco and Wheeler counties and the Warm Springs Indian Reservation currently stand in regards to community appearance, marketing, planning and assets.

Public presentations on the findings of a regional downtown development assessment conducted by representatives of the Oregon Downtown Development Association and State Historic Preservation Office are scheduled to be held in each of the counties and the reservation on July 25 and 26.

The presentation in Warm Springs will be held at 3:30 p.m. July 26 at the conference room at the Business & Economic Development office located across from the elementary school.

The presentations are open to the public and residents, business owners, Chamber of Commerce mem-

bers, civic organizations and area officials are encouraged to attend the presentations.

The findings of the assessment are important to short and long term planning in the region's communities for residents' quality of life, business development, historic preservation, readiness for growth, and community improvement projects.

The assessment was funded by the Lower John Day Partnership and Regional Investment Board and included field work in 19 communities and gateways to the north central Oregon region.

The assessment serves as the first step of a proposed multi-phase overall downtown development program for the region. Components of the assessment include Community Appearance (town entrances, cleanliness, streetscape amenities, general health of the downtown core), Community Marketing (marketing ma-

terials, visitors' amenities, recreational opportunities, designations), and Community Assets (attractions, landmarks, historic fabric, arts/culture, scenic features).

The assessment will recommend next steps for the surveyed communities and what the region, as a whole, can do for these downtowns. Affected communities and gateways include Rufus, Wasco, Moro, Grass Valley, Biggs Junction, Mosier, Dufur, Maupin, Shanika, Antelope, Arlington, Condon, Lone Rock, Fossil, Spray, Mitchell, Warm Springs and Simnasho.

Scheduled presentations will be held on Wednesday, July 25 at noon in Condon at Memorial Hall (next to city hall on Main St) and at 7 p.m. that evening at the conference at Haven House Retirement Center, Fossil. On Thursday, July 26, presentations will be held at 9:00 a.m. in Moro at Sherman County Court

House, noon at Columbia Gorge College, Building 2, Lecture Hall, 400 E. Scenic Dr. in The Dalles, and at 3:30 p.m. in Warm Springs at the conference room at the Business & Economic Development office located across from the elementary school building.

For further information, contact or area community and economic development personnel Sal Sahme of Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs at 541-553-3468, Michelle Colby of Gilliam County at 541-384-3767, Yvette Hamilton of Sherman County at 541-565-3601, Greg Waters of Wasco County at 541-298-3145 or Lyn Craig of Wheeler County at 541-763-2355.

The Oregon Downtown Development Association is a statewide nonprofit dedicated to the improvement of vital city centers as the foundation for Oregon's cultural, civic and commercial life.

## Kennewick issues examined

On display at The Museum at Warm Springs is an exhibit explaining the issues surrounding the human remains known as Kennewick Man.

The exhibit is located in the museum lobby, and consists of display panels with text, photographs, maps and historic illustrations related to the Kennewick Man remains.

The actual remains are being stored at the University of Washington's Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture in Seattle. The eventual fate of the 9,300-year-old remains will be decided in federal court.

Native American tribes, and the federal government, believe the Kennewick Man remains should be turned over to the tribes in the region where the bones and bone fragments were found.

Some scientists, however, want to study the remains, and have been challenging the tribes and federal government in court. Earlier this year, the U.S. Department of the Interior ordered that the remains be turned over to the tribes, but the transfer has been delayed by the lawsuit.

The exhibit at The Museum at Warm Springs, called "Kennewick Man on Trial," will be on display through Aug. 6.

The exhibit explains some of the legal issues involved in the case, including explanation of the federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990, a controlling law in the case.

The exhibit explores anthropological issues currently under debate, from how and when people first came to the Americas, to changing thoughts about the nature of race. The Kennewick Man remains constitute one of the oldest and most complete skeletons ever found in America.

The skull was found in July 1996 by two men who were watching a boat race at Columbia Park at Kennewick, Wash., in the eastern portion of the state. A subsequent organized search uncovered 350 bone fragments spread over a 300-square-foot area.

The bones were on the bottom of a dammed lake-like area, under jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, adjacent to the Columbia River.

Initially, an archaeologist working with the Kennewick coroner thought the remains might be those of a 19<sup>th</sup>-century non-Indian, such as a trapper. The remains were then sent to a laboratory to be dated, with the result indicating the remains to be at least 8,400 years old.

Later, more precise dating put the age at 9,300 years or more. The remains are now thought to be those of a male Native American, age 45 to 55.

## Fire strikes jail again

For the second time in recent weeks, a fire was started in the juvenile section of the Warm Springs Jail.

The first fire, which happened the evening of June 22, resulted in five inmates being treated for smoke inhalation.

No one required medical attention following the more recent jail fire, the night of July 4.

The June 22 fire also required the off-site evacuation of the facility's 48 inmates.

The July 4 jail fire resulted in inmates being evacuated from inside the jail, but they were detained on site in the recreation yard, which is fenced and secure.

"Our officers did a fine job of evacuating the facility," said Police Chief Don Courtney. The more recent jail fire was started in the female juvenile section. The June 22 jail fire was started in the male juvenile section.