

Gorge, highway best for casinos

By Sid Miller

Spilyay publisher emeritus

It is very evident that we made a mistake setting up our casino at Kah-Nee-Ta.

In the beginning when we decided to venture into the gaming situation, everything was new. We didn't know how to get started, and in discussions, a site was the obstacle. In order to get started sooner everyone was given a choice of building a casino near here, along Highway 26, or at Kah-Nee-Ta.

To get to the point, we decided to try it for five years at Kah-Nee-Ta to see how things would work out,

Spilyay Speaks

and if it were doing well, we would leave it there, and if it were not, then we would move it to a more suitable area.

Well, it's been way past five years and no one wants to admit that we are not making any headway there. We should build our local casino along Highway 26, but still work on the one in the Gorge, which is our prime site for good income. I still hope that something could be worked out at the Cascade Locks site. As I understand it, all the residents there were in favor of our casino because it would boost their economic situation 99.5 percent. Oh well. That's just my figures, but in the long run it would really benefit that community.

If we were to wise up and move our casino, I'd suggest the site at the HeHe mill junction, where the highway leads to Simnasho, the site up on the flat just north of the junction. That site would be a good resting stop for the travelers from the metro area.

There are several other options that could benefit tribal members along with the casino. Individuals could set up a café, a gas station, a motel, and craft shops. All these would add to employment opportunities for the tribal members. All these things would come along with the casino in that area. In the past it was stated that there would be problems getting power in that area. There is power right at the HeHe long house. The big attraction would be a big sign, "Good, Clean Rest Rooms!" That would get them for sure, and while ole Pop was waiting for Ma and the kids to use the rest room, he could slip a quarter into the machine and win a bundle. Or maybe a shake and a burger would hit the spot.

There are several individuals that travel through from Portland to the Central Oregon area doing business and they have stated that they would be more than willing to stop and relax for an hour playing the machines if the casino were along Highway 26, but Kahneeta is just too far away.

Let's not spend any more money at Indian Head Casino because we are not doing well there. Spending any more money would be like trying to feed a dead horse.

Personally, I don't go to the Indian Head Casino very much, but when I do, I see more local people there. Once in a while I take my \$3.50, and expect to hit it big. Maybe I'm just upset because everyone beats me to the Penny Machines. Ha, ha.

Think about it, if we want to make money with our local casino, we have to move it out of Kah-Nee-Ta. Any one with good common sense can see that we are just wasting time and money with our Indian Head Casino and the only solution is to move it....AHH-NAH-CHI-TOON!

By Sid, the Macho Man.

Letters to the Editor

Ms. Pi-Ume-Sha

I would like to take this time to thank the people who have supported me during my reign as Miss Pi-umsha 2001-2002.

First and foremost I would like to thank the creator for blessing me with such a wonderful and supporting family. To my Gramma, MaryAnn Meanus, thank you for always supporting me in all my goals and helping me to achieve them, without you, I would be lost; I love you and miss you very much. To my grampa Marvin T. Meanus Sr., thank you for your love, support and willingness to donate beautiful jewelry for the cause. To my mom Spunky, I know you are going through rough times right now, and I just want you to know that I am with you. To my loving big brother Adam, thank you for all the encouraging words, the support and all the love you have given me.

To my big sister Marta, I owe you a lot, you have always been there when I needed someone to talk to and you are always willing to help me. Thank you for supporting me in everything. I would also like to thank all my cousins Gonzalo, MaryAnn, Felipe, Matt, Risto, Aldo, Chris, Taylor, Tom, Carla and Ben for all the support throughout my life. Thanks to Zelm for always being a true friend and supporting me. You're a great person and also one of my role models. Thank you to my grammas Daisy Ike and Bernice Mitchell and to their families, for all the love and support.

I would also like to thank Theda Whalawitsa for making the jacket for my outgoing special, thanks to all the people who bought cupcakes, bread, cakes and pies and who made donations towards my outgoing special. Last but not least, Thank you to the Pi-Ume-Sha committee for giving me support and the opportunity to represent my reservation.

This past year has been a great learning experience for me. As many of you know, I am in Boulder, Colo. attending the University of Colorado.

In closing I would like to congratulate Deidra Johnson and Elyse Bagley. I hope your reigns will be as rewarding for you as my reign was for me. Good luck with the upcoming year. Thank you for your time. Kwal ash au snwitqish. **Cecilia "Cece" Herrera.** 1250 Elder Ave. #4; Boulder, CO 80304. Email misswarmsprings_2002@hotmail.com.

Softball tourney

We would like to say Thank You to the following people for their assistance with the Pi-Ume-Sha Softball Tournament, June 29-30.

First to the Utilities employees:

Bryan Lund and his groundskeeping crew for all their hard work on the ball fields. The fields are looking better every day.

Thanks to Austin Greene for all his work on the infields. We do appreciate your expertise.

Next, to our tournament help, Missy, your input is always appreciated. To the Wolfes: Rich, Cena, Christina, Mary, Richard, Charles and Tyrin. Everything you do makes this tournament what it is.

It's no easy task setting up and tearing down. Jermaine Tuckta and Karla Hurley, your assistance in the concession is appreciated more than you know. Without your help, we would be running around like chickens with their heads cut off. Daleena Mae, We thank you and Rodrick for being the "go for" people. Made things easy on us.

Jerry and Sandra Sampson

Word of thanks

This goes to my dear friend LaDonna Poorbear and family. I thank you for your kindness for allowing my wife and grandmother to stay at your home over the Pi-Ume-Sha Treaty Days celebration. Hope it was the greatest for you. I know that you and your family have gone through so much lately. Hope you had a safe Fourth of July. With much love and respect,

Lori and Trevor Black

Kind thoughts

Dear Friends,

I just want to thank all of you for the many good wishes and kind thoughts expressed to me as I "retired" from Early Childhood last month.

The gifts from elders, teachers, children, friends, staff and community members, the songs, memories, the wonderful stories and words of encouragement are treasures I'll hang onto forever.

Most of all, I thank the parents who allowed me into their lives these past 17 years, who taught me about putting their children's needs before their own and who allowed me to walk beside them on their journey to bring strong, healthy, compassionate children into the adult world. My mom still lives at High Lookee and calls it home; and there are many families who Jerry and I feel we're a part of, so we'll not be "going away" in the usual sense. I still claim Warm Springs as my community and I hope people there will allow that to continue.

Someone asked me if I left because I thought things were hopeless at Warm Springs, and I want to answer that with a very loud "No!" I don't feel hopeless at all. In part, I left be-

cause I have hope: that we'll find a way to increase the services available to children and families with someone who could be available full time, time I realized I just couldn't give. I have hope that in difficult budget times, creativity often flourishes and that new doors may open to help children learn to express themselves through the arts, for example, through music, writing performance, painting, textile designs, and a dozen other ways that stories are told and children and adults can heal.

I have hope that the policy council for Head Start will be an even stronger advocate for children in the community, and that more and more programs will coordinate and put children's needs first. I'm hopeful that Tribal Council will put the needs of children as the highest priority in the years ahead.

I'm hopeful that more and more students will graduate, go on to school and return to bring new ideas and hope to the community.

Sincerely, Jane Kirkpatrick.

Doing very well

We would very much like to thank family, friends and relatives of our daughter Hester Scott, who have inquired of her well being in the U.S. Navy.

Hester is doing real well and of course we, her parents are very proud of her as usual.

She is accomplishing the goal she set for herself while she was still in school.

Hester was home for a few days in June. While she was home she got to enjoy the Rose Parade with us. We were very glad to have her home even though it was for a short time.

She was due back in Norfolk, VA.

Budgets share common theme

Well, the month of July is almost gone. Let's see, what is left? County fairs, last minute travel and bud-

gets. Yep, budgets. School budgets, State of Oregon budgets, even our church budget. All of these budgets have the same common theme.

Not enough money and too many areas to cover. Wow, it seems just like my household budget. What is in the checkbook and the pile of bills on the table? The Bible does not speak about line item budgets. It talks about taking care of people, (widows and the poor). It talks about holding things in common ownership, (spread the wealth). It talks about jubilee times and famine times. It really talks about not being afraid of our budgets. Not to let greed, driven by fear, take hold. Not to let pride take hold. Not to

Letters reminder

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words. Letters that are longer than 350 words will be cut to that length starting with the last line. Thank you for submitting your letters to Spilyay Tymoo.

on June 12, and left on June 11. Norfolk is the homeport for her ship, the USS George Washington, an aircraft carrier. On June 20 they were going back out to sea for six months. On July 8, we received a call from her, and I asked her where she was, She said she was in Greece, and had been there since the 4th of July. They were getting ready to leave when she called. We were very happy to hear from her even if it was 1 am our time. Again, on Wednesday of the same week, we got another call from Hess, and she said they were on their way back to the canal (Suez Canal).

Hess says when they go through the canal they all have to be battle ready, even the 4 or 5 battle ships that are traveling with them. She said all the people on the carrier have been on the top deck of the carrier.

Once again, Hess called this morning, July 17, and said they had gone through the canal and now were on the Red Sea between Egypt and Saudi Arabia. She said she had to check up on us to see if we were okay, I told her we were fine.

Hester told us at one time, "I joined the Navy to see the world," and now she sure is.

She also says hello to her friends and relatives in Warm Springs and Madras, and that she is doing well.

Thank You, Harvey and Florene Scott

Hello, from Pastor Rick

Let jealousy take hold. You see in heaven there will be no budgets. Our stewardship here on earth is to be controlled, not to control us. Our budgets are a spiritual test of our view of the world we live in, and the life we are living. If you are fruitful, amen, and share. If it is hard times, take care of each other with a loving heart.

Let us pray for: those who buy booze for the children, the children of Warm Springs, those who do not buckle up the kids in the car, those who become violent when drunk and hit loved ones, those who hit loved ones when sober, those who fight fires, and for the police and fire medics. Let us give prayers for those in jail, hospitals, and homes.

Rev. Rick R. Ribeiro Warm Springs Presbyterian Church

Firefighters are to be commended

By Selena Boise
Spilyay Tymoo

Recently I was listening to the radio updates about the Eyerly Fire. I was in my car enroute to the office. The fire started July 9 and is still burning.

Then at the office I was writing the 25 Years Ago This Week column, when I came across this article about a fire July 18, 1977, and how it began that Thursday and was contained that same day. The mop-up crews were working into the night.

The Eyerly Fire burned for many days. Both the fire of 1977 and the Eyerly fire were fueled by the wind. There is no indication that the heat and dryness of the land was the same. I think conditions are dryer today due to the heat, that's what I heard on the news the other day.

We had fires near the Sunnyside, and Wolfepoint housing divisions in recent years and they burned way out of control.

I was evacuated from my home

three times due to fire danger. The Red Cross was there for us, and we would check in with them if we happened to be separated from our family. They distributed basic necessities to us for daily needs. They fed us when we were hungry. All that time I couldn't help but worry about my home.

But as I sat there at the Red Cross station and talked with people, and watched the fire on the news I would hear chat chat about the fire.

It was thought by some that there were too many bosses at fire management. I heard about fire crews sitting and waiting for the okay to continue to battle the fire at certain areas.

Near my home for example, firefighters were waiting for the okay to back burn around the Sunnyside homes because the fire was getting closer. They went ahead and back burned to save the homes at Sunnyside, and the fire went around the homes. It was after the fire went by, a bus showed up with a fire crew

It's only my opinion

ready to build a fire line. Well, the fire went by already.

A little bit of delegation and improved communications to those delegated may have been needed, and could possibly have worked. Was there confusion or miscommunication about who should back burn or build a fire line around Sunnyside? Or was it that one boss said this and one boss said that?

There is so much training and knowledge that is required to become a firefighter and certifications are needed to actually work at a fire. Maybe there needs to be more training about communications and commands. Who can command a crew of firefighters to go out and back burn or build fire lines? Who is allowed to act when the fire is too close? Are the firefighters to stand around and watch the fire while it gets larger or endangers a home? Or are they allowed to fight the fire without the command?

The instinct of a firefighter would

be to fight the fire.

These firefighters should be commended for their hard work at the fire line.

They have to be strong enough to handle the heat and physical toll on the body.

They are the front line workers at each fire and wait for the command post to give them their orders. I was glad that the firefighters were on hand at the Sunnyside area to save our homes. I'm glad that firefighters are able to travel here to help fight the fires on the reservation or nearby fires.

They receive their commands and they fight the fire. But they also should be able to act on their knowledge about the fire and do what they can to prevent structure damage.

Now I'm talking about things that I heard and maybe communications have changed since then. I believe that a firefighter with the training and knowledge can fight any fire to the best of their ability and strength.

That's only my opinion.