



Spilyay Tymoo

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Class 2 gaming considered for KNT

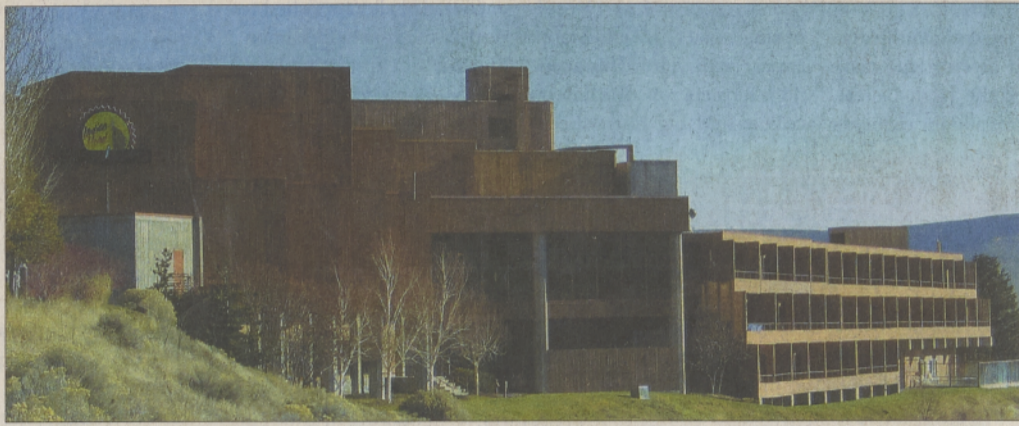
By Yvonne Iverson
Spilyay Tymoo

About 100 people gathered at the Community Center Social Hall on Monday to hear about Kah-Nee-Ta's plans for the vacant space that used to house the casino.

"Kah-Nee-Ta is in the process of switching their brand from a casino property back to a resort property," said Carlos Smith, who has been Kah-Nee-Ta's general manager since November 2011.

The Indian Head Casino relocated to the Highway 26 location in February 2012.

Plans for Kah-Nee-Ta include 30 Class II gaming machines on the old casino floor, and an arcade in the old snack bar space



The lodge at Kah-Nee-Ta may include class 2 gaming.

with machines for the kids.

The plan is to close the current lounge and open up a new lounge in the old casino cage location.

"Reporting shows that 40 (Class II Gaming) machines could net the

resort \$450,000 a year," Smith said.

"We are not sure if there is a demand for 40 machines," he said, "so we are going to start out with 30 and see what the demand looks like."

In the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, Congress included the definition of Class II gaming as follows:

See KAH-NEE-Ta on 8

Pageant this evening

The 2013 Miss Warm Springs Pageant is this Wednesday evening, Jan. 23, at the Agency Longhouse. The evening begins with dinner at 6 p.m. and the pageant at 7.

The community is invited to attend and show support for the contestants.

The contest categories include knowledge of the tribal organization, traditions, ceremonies, clothing, crafts and social activities, and tribal history. The candidates will display a skill at a tribal tradition.

The winner of the pageant represents the tribes at many events around Indian Country during the year.

Wild Horse Race Finals at Madras

The Professional Wild Horse Racing National Finals are this Friday and Saturday, Jan. 25-26, at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds rodeo arena. The action starts at 6:30 each evening.

Competing teams include the Jason Smith Team of Warm Springs, the Robert "Bear" Spino Team of Warm Springs, the David LeClaire Sr. Team of Warm Springs; and the Spud Smith Jr. Team of Madras.

Others competing are the Team BGB from Shonto, Ariz.; Casey Heems Team of Toppenish; and the Mike Royle Team of Klamath Falls.

There will be rodeo and vendors on Friday evening; and on Saturday, rodeo, vendors, Championship Buckle Presentation, plus live music and dance with Matt Borden.

Additional events include senior colt race, junior colt race, bull riding, saddle bronc riding, bareback riding, businessman cow race, and ranch bronc riding.

Admission on Friday is: 13 years and up, \$7; 6-12 years, \$5. And on Saturday: 13 years and up, \$8; 6-12 years, \$6. Kids 5 and under are free both days. Gates open at 5:30.

The Jason Smith Team members are Jason Smith, Colton David, and Pat Vargas. The Robert "Bear" Spino Team members are Robert "Bear" Spino, J.E. Florendo and Paul Bianchi. The Spud Smith Jr. Team members are Spud Smith Jr., Spud Smith Sr., and Jake Prow. The David LeClaire Sr. Team members are David LeClaire Sr., Chico Holliday, and Clarence McKinley.

The stock contractors are Smith Ranches and Wild Horses; 2 Bar (Rickman), Dry Creek Boys, Suppah family. Phoenix Enterprises NW is the premier sponsor of the Professional Wild Horse Racing Association National Finals, "Honoring Jesse Rhinehart."

See RODEO on page 6

Council supports WSFPI request

Tribal Council reviewed a proposed 10-year plan of operation for the Warm Springs Forest Products Industries mill. The Council then voted five "for" and four "opposed" to approve WSFPI's request to actively seek New Market Tax Credits as a source of capital for the plan.

A major part of the plan calls for using the federal "new market tax credit" program to acquire a loan of \$10 to 50 million.

The proposal also calls for a loan of \$1.4 million from the tribal business investment revolving fund (BIRF). This would pay for a micro-mill to process smaller logs. Another essential equipment upgrade to work along with the micro-mill will cost approximately \$2.75 million.

With these components in place, the mill could continue operating for

the next several years.

The allowable cut on the reservation would be 38 million board feet until 2017, with the allowable cut reduced to 31 million board feet starting in 2017.

The 38 million board feet is higher than the amount determined to be sustainable by Natural Resources. This was the main point of contention and the reason for the close vote by Council.

The mill will employ about 90 people under the new plan. Over 75 percent of the employees at the mill are tribal members or married into the tribes.

Employment was the deciding factor for the five Council members who voted in favor of the WSFPI resolution.

The micro-mill is proposed for installation at the WSFPI mill this

year if the entire plan and financing are approved. The \$2.7 million upgrade calls for installation of an end-dogging lineal feed (EDLF) in 2013-14.

The tribes would appear to have a good chance at acquiring a loan through the new market tax credit program, said Bruce Daucavage, president of Ochoco Lumber.

Daucavage explained that the new market tax credit program encourages banks to make loans in low-income or economically depressed areas.

For making the loan, the bank receives a tax credit, which is valuable and can be marketed to third parties, Daucavage said.

"In my opinion you have the necessary assets in place, and a good plan," he said.

Tribal Council Chairman Buck

Smith broke a 4-4 tie among the other Council members. Also in favor of the WSFPI plan were Councilmen Ron Suppah, Scott Moses, J.P. Patt and Austin Greene.

The four Council members who voted against the plan expressed their concern about the unsustainability of the proposed allowable cut and the expected financial returns. Opposed were Council members Reuben Henry, Paiute Chief Joe Moses, Lola Sohappi and Raymond Tsumpti.

Wasco Chief Alfred Smith Jr. abstained to avoid an appearance of conflict of interest, although he indicated his support for the WSFPI plan.

— Dave McMechan

Prayer figurine arrives for 1 year stay

The Confederated Tribes received a prayer figurine from the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Enforcement.

The bronze figure, created by enforcement officer Jerrod Daniel, was with the Umatilla Tribes in 2012, and will spend 2013 in Warm Springs.

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Enforcement Chief Davis "Yellowash" Washines delivered the statue to the tribes last week.

"We all have a concern for the safety of our people," Washines said, "especially when they are on the big river." The figurine serves as a safety reminder, he said. The statue is of a tribal fisherman with a salmon. The fisherman is wearing a safety vest.

"Historically, we've lost several

fishermen on the Columbia and the tributaries, such as at Shearer's Bridge," said Councilman Ron Suppah. The prayer figurine, he said, reminds fishermen and families to be safe, whether boating or on scaffolds.

Councilmen Suppah and Reuben Henry, Fish and Wildlife Committee member Donny Winishut, and Tribal Council staff were on hand to receive the statue from Washines.

The statue is displayed in the glass case outside of the Tribal Council chambers.

Each of the four Treaty Tribes of the Columbia will have the figure for one year each, as requested by officer Daniel.

Daniel is one of 13 officers on the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Enforcement team. He is a veteran



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

of the Navy. Another project he worked on recently was a toy drive for Native American children living at the Columbia, said Washines.

The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Enforcement is the enforcement branch of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission. The enforcement effort reflects the right of tribal sovereignty by allowing the Warm Springs, Yakama, Umatilla and Nez Perce tribes to enforce tribal laws, rather than subjecting tribal members to state enforcement.

The prayer figurine is on display in the glass case outside of the Tribal Council offices.

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See page 12 for details.

Highway 26, Warm Springs