



# Spilyay Tymoo

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## Motorsports referendum in May

The membership will be asked on May 21 whether the tribes should continue to pursue the idea of developing a motorsports park on the reservation.

A motorsports team, including members of Tribal Council and Warm Springs Ventures, has been studying the potential of this project for about two years.

The two main benefits of a motorsports park would be jobs and income to the tribes. The project would be under construction for about five years, creating about 425 construction-related jobs. Two-hundred jobs would be related to operation of the park, which would also generate 225 indirect jobs.

Ventures has published an information brochure on the motorsports proposal. The brochure was mailed recently to the membership.

"The motorsports project would provide an ongoing source of cash flow to the tribe," the brochure states. "The project is projected to generate almost \$150 million in annual gross revenue."

The projected income is a rough estimate, but the potential is enough to warrant pursuing the project, the motorsports advocates say.

Money to develop the project would at first come from the existing Capacity Fund. Then the tribes would look to its development partner, Lionshead Development LLC, to move ahead with construction.



Schematic drawing of the proposed motorsports park at Miller Flat.

"The ultimate financing package would emerge after discussions among the tribal development team, financial advisors, bond counsel and potential investors and developers..."

"The financial risk to the tribes is limited because the tribes already own the 1,000-acre proposed development site, the brochure says."

The site is on Miller Flat, on an area that has passed a preliminary

Natural Resources review. Current use of the land is for grazing, hunting and root gathering in some areas. Before construction, the project would go through the tribal Integrated Resource Management Plan analysis.

The following information is provided by Warm Springs Ventures:

Several factors give the proposed Warm Springs Motorsports Park

project an advantage over other racing facilities. First, it is close to many major metropolitan areas within a 400-mile radius, Portland, Seattle, Boise and Northern California, with a very amenable climate for racing.

Second, there are few, if any, options in the Pacific Northwest for hosting large-scale racing and very few, if any, potential locations to develop racing facilities in the Northwest. Because the tribe is in control of zoning, it can develop a facility that is world class and tailored to the desires of the specific market that it would serve.

### May 21 election

On Tuesday, May 21, tribal members will vote on the motorsports referendum. This tribal election is being conducted by a firm hired by the tribes for the specific purpose of managing tribal elections.

Tribal Council decided to try the firm, following the recent Tribal Council election.

Tribal members who are registered to vote in Jefferson County will also receive a ballot for the May 21 county vote.

This includes the Madras Aquatic Center operating levy, along with school, hospital and other board positions.

— Dave McMechan

## CPS planning move

Children's Protective Services is planning to move to a new building that will be located by the clinic.

CPS has been putting money aside for several years with the goal of developing a new facility.

"We've come to the point where we need to look at moving to a new building," said Ron Hager, CPS director.

The department, under the Health and Human Services Branch, now has about \$500,000 available for the building project.

The plan is to hire a firm to do both the design and construction of a new facility, to be located on about four acres by the clinic. The acreage, allocated by IHS, would allow for building expansion some day in the future.

The new building would be between 4,000 and 6,000 square feet, Hager said. The current CPS building, located on the campus by the Education building, is about 6,500 square feet.

The size of the building is not an issue; nor is the age of the current CPS building, dating back to the 1970s. There are, however, other issues that would be addressed by relocating.

For instance, the clinic site would be close the Early Childhood Education center, which would be helpful. The new building would also have access to a new infrastructure system.

The current building is served by the campus infrastructure, which is old and in need of replacement. The sewer line by the CPS building, in particular, is a serious concern.

Among its services, CPS provides emergency shelter for up to 30 days for children from the age of birth up to 18. The tribal court refers the children to CPS. There is room for up to 15 children at the group home. The average number of children at the home is six.

There are about 130 children under CPS supervision. Some are in foster care; others are with the parents who are subject to court-ordered supervision.

The department employs about 18 people, including the case workers, data coordinator, and care providers.

"This is a 24-hour operation with at least one employee on duty at night, and at least two during the day," said Hager.

He said the plans for the new building could be presented to Tribal Council for approval this summer. Construction time would take between six and eight months.

The idea of developing a new CPS building has been around for a while. Years ago there was talk of spending up to \$5 million on a new facility.

See CPS on 8

## Focus on language with visit from U of O

The Culture and Heritage Department last week hosted a visit from the University of Oregon Ichishkiin class.

The U of O group spent a day and half in Warm Springs, focusing mainly on the Culture and Heritage Language Program.

They observed the language immersion program at Culture and Heritage. The immersion class is called Autni Ichishkiin Sapsikwat (Our Sacred Language School) and meets from 8 a.m. till noon on weekdays.

One of the classes is for 3-year-olds, another is for 4-year-olds. There are 11 students in Autni Ichishkiin Sapsikwat. The language students and teachers recently attended the Native Language Bowl, held at Umatilla (more on this in the next Spilyay).

The University of Oregon Ichishkiin teacher is Virginia Beavert, who recently earned her Ph.D. in Linguistics.

With Virginia were the university Ichishkiin students Cassie George, Shayleen Macy and Jade Martinez. Cassie is of the Suquamish tribe, where the Native language is Lushootseed. Shayleen and Jade are of Warm



Teacher Merle Kirk with 3-year-old students.

Springs heritage, and both have family on the reservation. Jade stayed with her grandmother Urbana Ross during their recent visit.

The three U of O Ichishkiin students have different majors: Cassie is studying Linguistics, Shayleen is an Art major, and Jade is an Envi-

ronmental Studies major. By graduation time they each will have taken six terms of Ichishkiin at the university.

The class is taught through the University of Oregon Northwest Indian Language Institute.

Besides teaching, Virginia is on

the advisory board of the institute. And she is working on a grammar book of Ichishkiin. For this project she is working with JoAna Jansen, project coordinator, who also was on the visit to Warm Springs.

See LANGUAGE on 8



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