



Spilyay Tymoo

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Motorsports focus on getting out the vote

Warm Springs Ventures is focusing on voter participation in the July 9 motorsports referendum.

"We're launching our 'Drive the Vote' campaign, encouraging voter participation," said Ventures chief executive officer Jeff Anspach.

The Drive the Vote campaign is geared towards increasing turnout regardless of whether the votes are yes or no.

The earlier motorsports referendum missed the minimum turnout by 68 ballots, in part at least because of confusion over the absentee voting requirements.

Of those who participated, a majority were in favor of the motorsports proposal.



Courtesy of W.S. Ventures.

Members posed recently with a dragster at the Community Center.

Pi-Ume-Sha weekend

Ventures will have a float in the Pi-Ume-Sha Traditional Dress Parade, this Saturday, June 29. The enterprise will also have an information booth at Pi-Ume-Sha all day on Saturday.

Earlier this week, Ventures was planning an information meeting in Portland, to answer any questions from members who live there.

On referendum day Ventures and potential development partner Lionshead will host a barbecue by the community center. There will also be a raffle on referendum day, with prizes contributed from local businesses. The grand prize being an iPad Mini.

Anspach emphasizes the barbe-

Without new revenue, the tribal general fund will no longer support the present level of service provided to the membership...

cue and raffle are to encourage voter participation, not to persuade voters one way or another.

Warm Springs Ventures is the economic development enterprise of the Confederated Tribes. Ventures has been working with Tribal Council and Lionshead on the motorsports proposal for about a

Revenue and jobs

The Confederated Tribes are facing a serious financial situation, and need some new source of revenue, Tribal Council members agree.

Without new revenue, the tribal general fund will no longer support the present level of service provided to the membership.

The motorsports park, once in operation, could generate \$37 million in net annual revenue, according to preliminary estimates. The revenue would be split between the tribes and its development partner, based on the percentage initially contributed by each party.

The park would take about five years to build. During construction, the project would create 425 jobs, according to the current estimates. Once in operation, the park would employ 200 people.

The motorsports park would create secondary business opportunities as well, such as a grocery store and restaurant.

A motorsports park on Miller Flat would serve the region from northern California to Seattle.

In a preliminary review, the tribal Natural Resources Branch has identified no significant species or environmental issues at the Miller Flat site.

"Some tribal members hunt and gather roots in the area, which also supports some grazing," according to Ventures information.

A thorough study of the area would be done before construction of the park.

— Dave McMechan

Council hears update on horse problem

Over-grazing on the reservation by unclaimed horses is a problem of increasing concern. The problem has existed for several years now; but is reaching a turning point.

The turning point comes as the unclaimed horse population continues to grow, and the federal government pursues a policy that blocks any solution.

Tribal Council heard an update last week the tribes' federal contact Matt Hill, who spoke to Council on speaker-phone.

The problem is that unclaimed horses damage the reservation resources, from fisheries to deer and elk. Over-grazing by the horses also depletes the reservation of vegetation that could feed cattle.

Over-grazing can reach a point where the horses themselves can no longer find food, leading to their suffering and starvation.

Until six years ago, it was possible to keep the unclaimed horse population under control.

At that time there was some value to the animals: They could be sold off the reservation for slaughter, an unpopular solution that nevertheless provided some relief to the over-population.



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

Horses in the West Hills neighbors.

Congress blocked the slaughter option by cutting funding for federal inspection of horse slaughter operations. The meat was then no longer marketable, although there are overseas buyers of the product.

Jason Smith, of the tribal Natural Resources Branch-Range and Ag, is the president of the National Tribal Horse Coalition. He has worked with federal officials on the unclaimed horse problem, informing them of the damage the animals are causing on the Warm Springs

and other reservations.

Earlier this year, there was an indication that the Obama administration would again provide for meat inspection by the USDA. This would have allowed a horse slaughter facility to open in New Mexico.

But the government policy abruptly changed this spring, and now Congress appears ready to continue the ban indefinitely. The issue could end in litigation, as reservation lands are being destroyed.

The BLM receives \$178 million

"The trust responsibility of the United States government must be lived up to."

Jason Smith

per year to manage the unclaimed horse problem on BLM land. Indian tribes receive zero funding.

The National Tribal Horse Coalition represents tribes that occupy nearly 20 million acres of trust land. On the Warm Springs Reservation, the unclaimed horse population is estimated at between 5,000 and 7,000 animals.

On the Yakama Nation reservation the unclaimed horses are estimated to number up to 15,000. The problem is worse on the Navajo Nation, where the BIA estimates the unclaimed horse population at 60,000.

In a letter earlier this year to Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, Jason Smith explained the tribes' dilemma as follows:

See HORSES on page 3

Pi-Ume-Sha starts Friday

The Confederated Tribes will host the Forty-Fourth Annual Pi-Ume-Sha Treaty Days, this Friday-Sunday, June 28-30. The powwow theme this year is, "Honoring Our Culture and Our Languages."

The powwow commemorates the signing of the Treaty of 1855, signed 158 years ago this month. The signing date of the Treaty was June 25, 1855, when 151 tribal leaders signed the document, after a three-day Council at The Dalles. (See page 7.)

Pi-Ume-Sha Treaty Days began in the late 1960s. While commemorating the signing of the treaty, Pi-Ume-Sha also traditionally honors the veterans and service men and women of the Armed Forces.

Weekend events

The Traditional Dress Parade is Saturday morning, June 29. Grand Entries are Friday evening, June 28, and on Saturday at 1 and 7 p.m., and on Sunday at 2 p.m.

Traditional dance contests are through the weekend, with ol' Style and other specials. Categories are Men's Round Bustle, Owl/Rabbit dances, Woman's Shell Dress, Queen's Special, three-person hand drum.

For powwow information contact the powwow co-chairs, Isaac Mitchell or John Katchia. Or call Cassie Katchia at 541-325-1573(c) or 553-2128(w); or Louise Katchia, 541-460-0224(c).

Pi-Ume-Sha Stick Games, the softball tournament, golf and vending are throughout the weekend. Boxing is on Saturday, hosted by the Warm Springs Nation Boxing Club.

The Pi-Ume-Sha Rodeo is on Saturday and Sunday, starting at 1 p.m. each day. For information on the Endurance Horse Race, contact Ricky Graybael, 541-553-1161. Other contact information is as follows:

Traditional Dress Parade: Ramona Greene Baez, 541-553-2406(w), 460-8261(c).

Stick Game Tournament: Sam Starr, 541-553-1131(w). Rodeo: Cheryl Tom, 541-325-9087.

See PI-UME-SHA on page 7

Spilyay delay

The next edition of the Spilyay Tymoo will be delayed by one day, in order to report the results of the July 9 referendum.

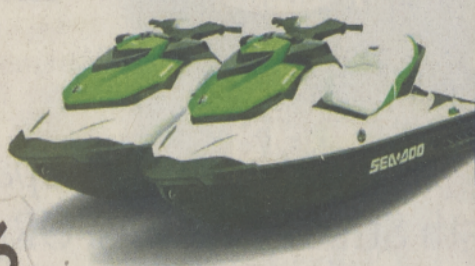
The paper will be available Thursday morning, July 11, instead of the usual Wednesday.

Thank you for your patience!

INDIAN HEAD CASINO

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See page 12 for details.