



Spilyay Tymoo

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New housing nearing completion

The first four units of the Greeley Heights subdivision may be ready for occupancy in just a little over a month.

The first four units—one 3-bedroom, two 4-bedroom, and one 5-bedroom—have an occupancy date of July 2, said Desirae Wallace, project coordinator of the Warm Springs Housing Authority.

Housing is planning to host a ribbon cutting dedication for the Greeley Heights project, she said.

All of the parties to the project—the tribes, the state of Oregon, the investor and assets consultant—are hoping to attend the dedication.

The Greeley Heights project eventually will include 35 units, with a total cost of \$9.7 million.

The project is possible through a partnership unique in the nation, involving tribal and private enterprises, and state and federal agencies.

Desirae is working on completing the paperwork for the first residents of the subdivision. There is an extensive qualification process, based on income, credit history, etc.

Housing is still taking applications for the units. For more information you can reach Housing at 541-553-3250.



New Greeley Heights unit nearing completion. Dave McMechan/Spilyay

Graduating students

The Warm Springs Graduation Banquet is coming up on June 11. This year the banquet is being held at the Warm Springs Eagle Academy. Dinner will start around 5 p.m.

The banquet is for high school and higher education graduating students. To these students, please bring a copy of your diploma to Carroll Dick at Higher Education.

Her office is located in the administration building, and her number is 541-553-3311. Or call the Education Committee at 541-553-3258.

The Madras High School graduation ceremonies are coming up on Saturday, June 6, starting at 2 p.m. at the high school stadium. Gates will open for seating at 1 p.m.

The Head Start-Early Head Start graduation ceremony is set for June 19, starting at 10 a.m., at the Warm Springs Community Center.

Town hall on sea lion predation bill

Sea lion predation has been a growing problem for the past 10 to 15 years for the Treaty Tribes of the Columbia River.

Record numbers are now seen at Bonneville, Willamette Falls, at the mouth of the Columbia, and elsewhere in the basin.

The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission has been advocating for some solution, and Congress is considering a law to address the issue.

The problem is evident in recent research:

A study by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration found that a 45 percent of returning Columbia River spring chinook, including an Endangered Species Act-listed population, went missing in the lower Columbia. The estimate takes into account harvests and other known impacts.

The reduced survival for spring

chinook corresponds closely with the huge increase in California Sea lions entering the Columbia River.

Congress in June is scheduled to hold hearings on a law that would amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act, allowing some control of the sea lion population in the Columbia. Tribal Councilman and CRITFC chair Carlos Smith will present the tribal case at the Congressional hearing on the bill, HB 564.

Before the June hearing, a town hall meeting is set for Saturday, May 30 at Oregon City, starting at noon. The town hall will be hosted by U.S. Congressman Kurt Schrader, along with the Columbia River tribes, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Coastal Conservation Association of Oregon.

Councilman Smith is encouraging all interested tribal members to attend the town hall (see page 10 for

The law would give the four Treaty Tribes of the Columbia, and CRITFC, the authority to apply for a permit to remove 10 to 12 sea lions.

details).

Doug Hatch, senior fisheries scientist at CRITFC, has been studying the sea lion predation problem. "The California sea lion population has been growing exponentially," Hatch said.

In the early 1970s the sea lion population was estimated at about 20,000 to 25,000. Since 1972, the year of the Marine Mammal Protection Act, the sea lion population has grown to about 325,000.

The sea lions are protected by

the Marine Mammal Protection Act, not by the Endangered Species Act.

A similar situation happened this year with cormorants, protected by the Migratory Bird Act. A population explosion of cormorants on a man-made island in the Columbia resulted in the predation of millions of juvenile salmon.

Federal agencies made an exception in the case of this specific cormorant population, allowing the U.S. Corps of Engineers to control the number of birds on the island.

In the case of the sea lions, the law would give the four Treaty Tribes of the Columbia, and CRITFC, the authority to apply for a permit to remove 10 to 12 sea lions.

See **SEA LIONS** on 2

Kah-Nee-Ta adds Nike N7

Kah-Nee-Ta Golf has become a distributor for Nike N7 products in Oregon.

The Nike N7 products support the N7 Fund, providing grants to Native American communities in support of sports and physical activity programs for youth.

Meanwhile at the Kah-Nee-Ta Golf Course, the Junior Golf program is returning this summer.

Kah-Nee-Ta Junior Golf starts in June, and will run until August 18. This is for youth ages 8 and up, in different age groups.

For more details call the pro shop at 541-553-4971.

New home for casino HR

New offices, and a new training program are among the recent changes at the Indian Head Casino Human Resources Department.

Human Resources moved recently to new offices located in the center building of the Warm Springs Plaza. The new location includes offices, and a large training room for new and current employees.

Before, the HR staff were in the main building of the casino, but had limited space for training and other programs.

"Now they have seven or eight times more space," said casino general manager Harold Baugus.

The Human Resources Department invites the public to an open house and job fair at the new HR offices on Wednesday,



The Indian Head Casino Human Resources Department staff includes benefits coordinator Karen Goodell, HR coordinator Georgianna George, training director Wyval Rosamilia, and HR director Margie Tuckta. Dave McMechan/Spilyay

June 3, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Indian Head Casino HR is implementing training programs for new employees, and existing employees.

For the new hires, the orientation focuses on the casino and its operation, and also on the culture and history of the Confederated Tribes, said Wyval Rosamilia, Indian Head Casino training director.

"Harold wants to make sure we're giving the employees the tools they need to succeed," she said, "and to have the best customer service."

The casino employs between 190 and 200 people. The orientation training is mandatory for new hires, while current employees will also have new training opportunities, in leadership, customer service, safety, etc. "The goal is to provide optimal service to the guests," Harold says. This in turn, he said, will enhance casino revenues.

— Dave McMechan

Summer events continue at casino

The Indian Head Casino Summer Concert Series resumes next month with a concert by Hell's Bells, the best AC/DC tribute band. The concert is Friday, June 12, starting at 8 p.m.

On Saturday, June 13, Indian Head will host Micro Championship Wrestling by Hulk Hogan Productions, with a pre-show Monster Supercross Show. Micro Championship Wrestling is a wrestling event involving midget wrestling.

Indian Head Casino Players Club members can ride the Fun Bus for free. On Tuesdays the bus is for Central Oregon seniors. The bus makes the Mid-Columbia run on the first Saturday of Month, and the Portland run on the second and fourth Saturdays. Call 541-460-7777 for information and to reserve a seat.

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