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Coyote News, est. 1976

June 22, 2016 Vol. 41, No. 13

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## Test flights, training center for UAS program

The Portland-based company Aerial Inspection Resources conducted a series of successful flights this month at the Warm Springs unmanned aerial systems test range.

The testing included UAS flights by the de-energized power line on the reservation. A company from China was also scheduled for test flights on the reservation, said Aurolyn Stwyer, business and marketing director at Warm Springs Ventures.

Aerial Inspection Resources (AIR) has been operating unmanned systems commercially in the U.S. for over a year, with a focus on industrial inspection.

AIR flew a DJI S900 with 32 megapixel Sony camera to evaluate the suitability of the Warm Springs Simnasho de-energized high-voltage line site for further research and development.

AIR was able to drive their equipment van directly to the launch and recovery site, which allowed for easy deployment of the S900 UAS. AIR launched the S900 and performed a series of inspections of the de-energized transmission towers.

AIR has conducted hundreds of such inspections; and as expected, the flight was routine and successful. AIR took advantage of the scenic surroundings by capturing video and photographs of their platform in action for marketing purposes.

No other FAA-designated test

Warm Springs Ventures and the Confederated Tribes will host a groundbreaking ceremony for the Unmanned Aerial Systems Test Range Training Center on Thursday, July 7 at the resort. The groundbreaking will be from noon to 2 p.m. at the Kah-Nee-Ta Lodge. For more information call Ventures at 541-553-3565.

range in the country can match the over twenty miles of de-energized transmission lines available at Simnasho, Ms. Stwyer said.

The site is remote and private, yet convenient to the Warm Springs road network, as well as hospitality facilities at Warm Springs and Kah-Nee-Ta. The linear corridor also

allows for daisy-chaining of visual observers for proof-of-concept of beyond visual line of sight operations, when flights are conducted under the National Test Site certificate of operation.

“For a company such as ours, having access to the Warm Springs test range’s de-energized steel lattice



transmission towers is fantastic, said AIR president Chris McMurtry.

“It enables us to continually improve our inspection technique and service offerings.”

See **UAS TEST** on 8



Ventures and Aerial Inspection Resources fly a UAS by a de-energized transmission line at one of the test sites on the reservation.

Courtesy Warm Springs Ventures and SOAR

## Treaty Days marks 161st anniversary

This weekend the Confederated Tribes will commemorate the One-Hundred and Sixty-First Anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of 1855. The anniversary date this year falls on Saturday, June 25.

On that date in 1855 leaders of the Wasco and Sahaptin speaking Indians at and near the Columbia River gathered to negotiate the terms of the treaty.

They met at The Dalles, and signed the treaty on June 25 by the Treaty Oak.

This is the Forty-Sixth Annual Pi-Ume-Sha, the celebration having started in 1970. Honoring veterans was a theme of the first Pi-Ume-Sha, and this tradition continues to the present day.

The theme of the powwow this year is: *Food Gathering—Usual and Accustomed.*

The 2016 Pi-Ume-Sha events begin this Wednesday, June 22, with the Health Fair. The fair theme this year is basketball inspired: “Shot for Health.” The health fair will be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Community Wellness Center. This year marks the Fifteen Year Anniversary of the health fair.

Pi-Ume-Sha Boxing, hosted by the Warm Springs Nation Boxing, returns this Saturday at the community center. Doors open at 5 p.m., and boxing at 6. Tickets are available at the door.

The Fun Run, hosted by Recreation, is Saturday morning, starting at the Housing office. There will be a 10k, 5k and one mile fun run.

The Stick Game Tournament will be at the Stick Game Pavilion by the powwow grounds. The rodeo begins at 1 p.m. Saturday at the rodeo grounds. The Endurance Horse Race is Saturday morning, starting at the Shaker Church.

Some other features are the OP Style Special, and other Specials:

The Three-Person Hand Drum competition. The Owl and Rabbit dances; the Queen’s Special and the Miss Warm Springs Special.

The first Pi-Ume-Sha Grand Entry will be this Friday evening, June 24. The Traditional Dress Parade is on Saturday morning. Line-up at 10 a.m. is in front of the old elementary school, parade starting at 11. Grand Entries on Saturday are at 1 and 7 p.m., and on Sunday at 2 p.m. Traditional dance contests are through the weekend. If you need more information on the powwow, you can contact Cassie Katchia at 541-325-1573; or at 541-553-6296(w).

Pi-Ume-Sha Softball this year is being postponed until August, so that more teams from Washington will have a chance to participate. The timing in late June makes it hard for some of these teams to commit, as they are involved in fireworks sales in preparation for July 4.

(There is a full Pi-Ume-Sha schedule on page 7 of this publication.)

## Artistic Journey of Lillian Pitt

The exhibit *Kindred Spirits: The Artistic Journey of Lillian Pitt* will open this Thursday, June 23, at the Museum at Warm Springs. The opening reception will be from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Ms. Pitt was born on the Warm Springs Reservation. She is Warm Springs, Wasco and Yakama. Lillian is deeply committed to the arts and the heritage of tribes

Lillian first showcased her artwork here at the Museum at Warm Springs in 1999 with her exhibit *Spirits Keep Whistling Me Home*. Since then, she has established herself as one of the most highly regarded Native

American Artists in the Pacific Northwest.

She is the recipient of numerous awards, including the 2007 Earle E. Chiles Award for Lifetime Achievement, the 1990 Governor’s Award of the Oregon Arts, and the Twanat Award from the Museum at Warm Springs in 2012.

Lillian is also a noted philanthropist, giving back to her community throughout her career. She has donated art to charitable causes and community improvement projects across the Pacific Northwest, and taught tribal youth to work with ceramics.

She creates contemporary works of fine art that delight today’s col-



Courtesy Natalie Kirk/MAWS

Masks by Lillian Pitt, on display at the museum.

lectors and honor the history and legends of her people. She works with clay, bronze, gold and silver jewelry, wearable art, prints, paper, and most recently, glass.

In her own words:

“I think about the meaning of

the words ‘Kindred Spirits,’ and come up with many meanings—my ancestors and their markings on the rocks in my ancient homeland.”

See **KINDRED SPIRITS** on 8

## Greenhouse design work progressing

Ventures is a couple weeks away from completing the design phase of the cannabis greenhouse.

The timeline calls for the facility to be complete toward the end of September or the first part of October.

The Ventures team meanwhile is researching the potential retail sales

partners. The plan also calls for the opening of tribally owned retail shops.

For the tribal shops, Ventures has looked at sites in Portland, Bend, Hood River, Eugene, Salem and Government Camp.

Ground work at the site is mostly done; so when the design plan is

ready, and funding is in place, the construction phase will proceed fairly quickly.

The facility will be on Lower Dry Creek Road, providing more than 16,000 square feet of growing area.

It was about seven months ago, December 17 of last year, that the membership approved the project.

The team has since worked with the state and federal officials, and the Tribal Council, on the necessary legal requirements.

Look for job fairs coming up later this summer, for positions at the greenhouse, and possible jobs at the retail outlets.

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