



# Spilyay Tymoo

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Dave McMechan/Spilyay

The Madras High School tribal member graduates last week visited the Warm Springs Academy for the Honor Walk. The k-8 students gathered in the hallways and cheered as the high school seniors walked through the building.

The Class of 2017 Graduation Banquet is coming up on Wednesday, June 14 at the Warm Springs Academy. The Graduation Banquet is a celebration of this year's Native graduates, including students who are graduating from high schools, including boarding schools, college and vocational schools, Job Corps and GED students. This year the banquet also celebrates the eighth-graders who are moving on to high school. The banquet is hosted by the Warm Springs Education Committee, Johnson O'Malley Committee, and the Warm Springs Academy (see page 8 for details).



Jayson Smith/Spilyay

The traditional cap toss at the conclusion of the graduation ceremonies, held on Saturday at the Madras High School football field on Saturday.

## Youth teams plan for eclipse

The state transportation department is estimating that a million visitors will be in Oregon for the August 21 solar eclipse.

As many as 100,000 visitors are expected in the immediate region of Warm Springs and Madras, where the totality of the eclipse will be seen. In other words the crowds will be bigger than anything experienced before in the region.

The Confederated Tribes, the enterprises and Warm Springs Academy have special events planned for the eclipse, and during the Saturday and Sunday leading up to that Monday morning.

Indian Head Casino has a weekend of music from national-level artists, featuring Kelly Jackson, Arlie Neskahi and Charles Littleleaf. The Museum at Warm Springs will host the Artists Village, featuring the works of Native American artisans such as Lillian Pitt and Mr. Littleleaf, among other local artisans.

Activities around the reservation—vendor stations and camping, for instance—are also part of the reservation plans. Public safety will be a big factor, as mid to late August is the height of the fire season, not to mention the traffic concerns.

### From the Edge of Space

During the eclipse, teams of students from Idaho, Washington, Warm Springs and other parts of Oregon will work with the Space Grant Consortium, based in Montana, on the launching of helium balloons equipped with special cameras.

The balloons ascend to the very edge of space, where they will video record the eclipse from this unique perspective. The program is in partnership with NASA.

The Warm Springs student teams will be among several in the U.S. that are participating in the eclipse balloon project. About half a dozen balloons will launch from Warm Springs and Madras. Across the entire path of the eclipse to the Atlantic Coast, students will launch about 70 high-altitude balloons to view the eclipse.

The balloons eventually deflate, and then fall back to earth, where the cameras can be retrieved.

In Warm Springs the students will arrive at the Warm Springs Academy on the Sunday before the eclipse. They'll camp there, and then launch the balloons the following morning. The eclipse will happen in Warm Springs shortly before 10:20 a.m.

Air traffic is expected to be very heavy on the morning of the eclipse. The helium balloons, though, will be high above the regular aircraft space, and safety precautions are a priority. The August 21 total solar eclipse will last about two minutes and two seconds in Central Oregon skies.

## Tribal Council reviews situation with Kah-Nee-Ta

The Kah-Nee-Ta board and management recently met with a potential business partner, as the resort board is hoping to find an investment and possible operating partner.

No agreement was reached with the prospective partner, but the meeting was positive and the person was impressed with the property, the board reported at Tribal Council this week.

On another positive note, the Memorial Day Weekend saw an increase in resort revenue compared to last year, said Marie Kay Williams, Kah-Nee-Ta interim manager.

The junction, or general manager's house has been renovated, and rented out during the eclipse for \$10,000, Ms. Williams reported. The house can now become part of the regular room inventory at the resort, she said.

There is a possibility in the future of partnering with Mt. Hood Meadows on developing a mountain biking feature at Kah-Nee-Ta, Williams said.

There are 97 tribal member employees at the resort; seven MITs; 14 other Indians; and 45 non-Indians, she reported. Meanwhile Kah-Nee-Ta is still hiring for the summer season.

Tribal Council late last year approved a \$400,000 loan to Kah-Nee-Ta, using the Business Investment Revolving Fund as supplemented by the state gas tax refund. This transaction was needed in order to avoid seeing the resort fall into receivership. Council is now regularly reviewing the progress at Kah-Nee-Ta, as late July is a time when some long-term decision may be needed. Some other items from this week's meeting:

Brent Moschetti is doing a great job managing and improving the Kah-Nee-Ta Golf Course, said Warm Springs Chief Delvis Heath.

Moschetti is a long-time member of Kah-Nee-Ta golf, and offered to run the course when he learned the resort was thinking of shutting down the operation.

### UAS center

Councilman Lee Tom asked about the unmanned vehicle systems Center for Excellence that will housed at the resort.

The project is nearly complete, and will be a significant draw for Kah-Nee-Ta. The center will have drone flight-simulation computers and software, plus access to the nearby tribal UAS test sites.

Warm Springs Ventures and Construction have made great

progress on the space that will house the center. "It looks incredible. It really turned out beautifully," said Aurolyn Stwyer, Ventures marketing director.

The remodeling work was done through an Oregon infrastructure grant. Additional funding is now expected to help with the final components, such as furniture and computer, Ms. Stwyer said.

Since last fall Kah-Nee-Ta has been a separate enterprise from Indian Head Casino. This transition has been difficult, said Councilman Raymond Tsumpti, but it was a change the membership wanted to see.

Councilwoman Brigitte McConville commended the Kah-Nee-Ta board members for serving without compensation.

## Legal action possible for start of County Line 2 fire

In the summer of 2015 the County Line 2 fire burned across almost 70,000 acres of reservation land. More than 600 fire personnel were involved in the suppression effort.

This was a costly event for the tribes, in terms of land that was

burned, and the cost of combating the blaze. Many homes were also threatened, with the Red Cross shelter housing up to 30 people.

Tribal Council recently authorized the pursuit of legal action against the person or persons responsible.

The County Line 2 fire began as a series of brush fires along Highway 26. These then combined to form the one large wildfire.

The brush fires started as a person drove on the highway, towing a trailer or motor home. Part of the rig was dragging on the high-

way, or had a defective wheel. This caused sparks, according to the investigation and reports at the time. A lawsuit for damages from the County Line 2 fire could be filed in Tribal Court, or in U.S. District Court, according to the Council resolution.

## \$130,000 MUSCLE MANIA

DODGE CHALLENGER & CASH GIVEAWAY

**FRIDAYS** BASEBALL FEVER TICKETS & BONUS SLOT PLAY GIVEAWAY | 6-10PM

**SATURDAYS** EARLY BIRD HOT SEATS | 11AM-4PM  
WIN CASH & BONUS SLOT PLAY | 5-9PM (Except June 24)

**SUPER SUNDAYS** WIN CASH & BONUS SLOT PLAY | 1-6PM (Except June 25)

**GRAND PRIZE** SUNDAY, JUNE 18 | 7PM  
DODGE CHALLENGER R/T SHAKER or \$26,000 in CASH

IndianHeadCasino.com | 541-460-7777 | US-26, Warm Springs, Oregon 97761

\*Total cash & prizes in May and June. Actual vehicle may differ. All promotions require Players' Club membership to participate. Management reserves all rights. Must be present to win. See Players' Club for complete details.

