

## Former racing driver named director of track events "Coins for Cancer" drive class winners announced

Gearing up for its grand opening in the summer of 2009, the management of Pacific Northwest Motorsports Park (PNWMP) has named Mike Silcox, a former racecar driver and member of the promotional team that brought the American Lemans Series to Portland, as the motorsports country club's director of track events.

"Mike is a terrific addition to Pacific Northwest Motorsports Park," said Bill Gardner, the managing partner of Pacific Northwest Motorsports Park and former NASCAR Cup Championship team owner. "He is uniquely qualified for this position having been involved in just about every aspect of motor sports, from his first-hand experience behind the wheel of a race car to overseeing track time and working behind the scenes to establish and market events. I'm confident that he'll develop an exceptional calendar of events and programs from the track."

As director of track events, Silcox is responsible for scheduling track time, developing a curriculum for the PNWMP corporate driving school program and creating special events. He is already working with the sanctioning bodies for certain NASCAR divisions, Sports Car, Open Wheel, SCCA and motorcycle racing to schedule events at the track and visits from nationally acclaimed driving schools such as the Skip Barber and The Richard Petty Experience.

"It's very exciting to have the opportunity to build a program for Pacific Northwest Motorsports Park from the ground level," said Silcox. "I enjoy racing of all kinds, and the program will reflect that diversity. I'm planning a varied menu of events and driving opportunities that will be appealing to a broad audience of race fans." Over the course of the next few months, Silcox will conduct a series of private briefing events for motorsports enthusiasts and car clubs in Portland, Seattle, WA, Boise, ID, and Sacramento, CA to unveil the design for the six-plus mile, multi-configuration road course and assess track time needs.

During his career as a driver (1983-2002), Silcox drove SCCA Formula Ford/Club Ford cars, Barber Dodge series; IMSA Supercars for CROYCO Racing; Kohler Racing Mustang in the SCCA Trans-Am series, TKO Southwest/Northwest NASCAR Tour Division and the American Viper Racing Vipers in the ALMS series. He is a 1982 graduate of Bondurant Racing School, and was an instructor at the prestigious Skip Barber Racing School in the late 1980's. In addition, he participated with AMG, Porsche, Viper and Corvette track days and often assisted individual groups with their track day's activities. He developed the initial curriculum and coordinated racecars, for the Johnny Rutherford Racing School

in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area in Texas.

In addition to playing a vital role in bringing the ALMS race to Portland (1998-2000) as the Rose City Grand Prix; Silcox oversaw the development of the "Summer Whites" charity event. He owns and manages TKO Motorsports, and was the team manager of the ULHRA Impact Hydros Team for six years. In the early 1990s, Silcox was the marketing director for the Dallas Grand Prix Association responsible for sponsorships and group ticket sales, and coordinating special race events. Other events he has worked to promote include Zupan's Historic Races, the AMG Ride and Drive at Road America and the Brewer's Fest in Portland. Silcox has also worked in sales capacities for nationally known firms including Time-Warner Telecom, GTE Southwest and Merrill Lynch.

Pacific Northwest Motorsports Parks is scheduled to open in the summer of 2009. The six-plus road course at the heart of the country club, made up of three individual courses approximating two-plus miles each, will facilitate all types of racing, including formula cars, sports racers, production racers, vintage cars, stock cars, street cars and motorcycles. Two of the courses and the facilities will be available to rent for corporate team-building activities, and to car clubs or individuals.

Already under construction, Pacific Northwest Motorsports Park is the first phase of the Master-Planned Motorsports destination complex to be built in Boardman over the next 10 years. When completed, it will also include a one mile kart track, 1/4 mile drag strip, a 5/8 mile asphalt oval, a two-plus mile off-road course, a 3/8 mile clay oval and ultimately a 1.25 mile high-banked oval, super speedway designed to potentially accommodate premier oval-racing sanctioned events, with an 80,000+ seat grandstand, luxury and garage suites, a fan fest infield area and club seating, it will truly be a regional racing destination for the whole Pacific Northwest with major national events that will set it apart from most race sites. The 5,000-plus acre Master-Planned Entertainment complex includes development of the Columbia riverfront property adjacent to the site with a marina/retail complex, RV village and campground, golf course, a car museum, water and amusement parks, hotels, motels, and retail centers and restaurants.

For more information about Pacific Northwest Motorsports Park, corporate events and track time reservations or to request an invitation to one of the upcoming private briefing events, contact Mike Silcox, director of track events at 541-481-7000 or email [msilcox@pnwmotorsportspark.com](mailto:msilcox@pnwmotorsportspark.com).



Mary Ann Elguezabal, Ruth Maben and Roberta Lutchter served lunch to Mrs. Allen's (1<sup>st</sup> place) and Mrs. Matteson's classes (2<sup>nd</sup> place). -Photos by Autumn Morgan

A "Coins for Cancer" drive was held at Heppner Elementary School last week. Dr. Betsy Anderson spoke to students in different classes about healthy habits leading to a "cancer free" life.

The winning class was announced on Thursday, May 15 after the money is counted. Mrs. Allen's class won the contest by raising \$1,104.84 for the American Cancer Society. They have a "Match Program" this month and Neutrogena will be matching the donation. Some of the money will also be given to the Relay for Life.

Mrs. Matteson's class, which came in second place, joined Mrs. Allen's class for a Mexican lunch on Monday, May 19. "This lunch is great, but it wasn't really necessary as it felt good to help out," said Blake Greenup.

Ruth Maben spear-headed the "Coins for Cancer" drive and would like to continue this tradition every spring.

### South Fork Players to perform play

The South Fork Players theater group will present the comedy Bridal Terrorism this Memorial Day weekend at the Community Hall in Dayville. This one-act play will be performed on May 23 and 24 at 7 p.m. and May 25 at 5 p.m.

Come and see what happens when a hopeful yet desperate bride-to-be takes matrimony into her own hands, with the help of the Bridal Terrorism Party, and her immediate family.

The performances are free and a fundraiser for the Dayville School, student field trips, will be conducted.

The play is performed by arrangement with the Samuel French Company.

### Parks and Beautification Commission presents certificates



George Nairns, Juanita Martin, Murl "Stubby" Rogers representing Willow Creek Terrace Assisted Living in Heppner are presented a Certificate of Recognition by Chuck Bailey (far right), President of the City of Heppner's Parks and Beautification Commission. The WCTAL and Jerry Baker (not pictured), lawn maintenance man, were commended for their "achievement of creating an attractive outdoor environment" and "dedication and hard work done to maintain such pleasant grounds for your residents, staff, visitors, our community and the public."



Jo Ann Burselson, President and representative of the Heppner Garden Club, receives a Certificate of Recognition from Les Paustian, Mayor of the City of Heppner. The city's Parks and Beautification Commission recognized the Garden Club for its "year round dedication, contributions and hard work to create and promote an attractive environment in our community." Some of the club's many projects are flowers at the mini park by the Post Office, Heritage Plaza and the city park; all flower entries at the Morrow County Fair; projects and poster contests with the grade school; and a local high school scholarship.

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