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Oregon Non-Tribal Casino Initiative Resurfaces By Wayne Shammel

Since 1995, Lake Oswego investment advisor Bruce Studer and attorney Matt Rossman have been publicly pursuing legal changes necessary to open a full scale non-Tribal casino in the Portland suburb of Wood Village at the former Multnomah Kennel Club dog track.

Oregon's state constitution prohibits casino facilities (Tribal facilities are not "in state" under federal law) and the Studer/Rossman casino effort still has a long uphill legal battle following a track record of 4 prior failures.

However, during difficult economic times the potential economic impact of a Portland area casino may grease the political wheels sufficiently to allow Studer and Rossman to gain additional political momentum, if not success, in 2010.

For years, Cow Creek Tribal officials have heard Oregon state and Portland area elected officials privately express their interest in additional gaming revenues for the state while publicly holding back due to potential political fallout.

Studer and Rossman's basic argument for the Portland casino is simple: Oregon needs the revenue, they'll limit the new state casino law to one facility only, and why should the Indians have all the casino gaming revenue, particularly in light of soft Oregon lottery receipts.

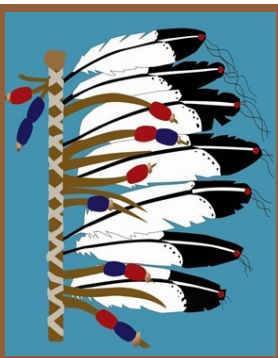
To sweeten that argument, this year's Studer/Rossman proposal includes a special assessment on the proposed facility of 25% per year (projected to be in excess of \$186 million per year) "for education".

Political analysts presently do not believe that Studer and Rossman have enough time and financial backing to meet the signature gathering requirements - more than 110,000 signatures - in time to place the issue on the next Oregon statewide ballot.

Whether they succeed this time or not, their effort is serious and speculation is rampant that their persistence is attracting Atlantic City and Nevada gaming interests as backers, although Studer and Rossman have so far refused to reveal the identity of any outside financial backing.

The Cow Creek Tribe is opposed to the idea of the non-Tribal Oregon casino. A single new casino in the Portland area would not likely have a devastating impact on Seven Feathers revenues, but it might well severely strain Siletz and Grand Ronde casino receipts and risk overheating the regional gaming market.

We also believe that the Oregon Tribal facilities do a fine job presenting gaming offerings to the Oregon public and that existing Tribal markets should be protected.



Special points of interest:

- **Government Office Hrs:** Mon-Thurs 8am-5pm
Fri 8am-4pm
- **Roseburg Clinic Hrs:** Mon-Thurs 8am-5pm
Closed 12pm-2pm
- **Canyonville Clinic Hrs:** Mon-Thurs 8:30-4:00
Closed 12pm-2pm

2010 State of the Beaver Conference By Steven Rondeau

On Wednesday, February 3rd – Friday, February 5th, the Tribe hosted an event called the “State of the Beaver Conference” and attracted over 150 attendees to the 7 Feathers Convention Center and Resort. The Tribe’s Natural Resources Director partnered with Stanley Petrowski and Leonard & Lois Houston of South Umpqua Rural Community Partnership and Beaver Advocacy Committee to plan and implement the conference on beavers. Many Federal, State and Private natural resources agencies helped sponsor the event by donations and their attendance.

The conference featured a diverse group of world class speakers from various locations across the United States and Europe to present ideas and information on the controversial issue of managing beavers native to North America. The Tribe’s Natural Resources Director presented information on “the significance of the Beaver to the Cow Creek Tribe.” Tribal Chairwoman Shaffer was able to welcome and impress upon the group the importance of the connection between Indians and “our four legged friends” prior to the keynote speech by Dr. Duncan Halley, Research Ecologist, Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, Trondheim, Norway.

Important points of focus at the conference were the inherent abilities of beavers to establish and maintain fish habitat in streams, which enhances salmon runs ultimately improving their rates of survival. Beavers are also known as a key-stone animal species which means their presence is crucial to the survival either completely, or in part, to numerous other native plant and animal species. Beavers are known as nature’s engineers for their technical skills of building dams which store water and prevent streams from going dry during summer months. Maintaining perennial flow, is critical to aquatic stream environments and their ecology. Climate change, irrigation, energy, and many other uses of water even as vital as preserving drinking water are some of the basic reasons current management practices to restore threatened populations to a more sustainable level are needed.

The need for the State of the Beaver Conference was evident by the number of registrants to the Tribe’s Convention Center. The speakers were able to share critical information that before the conference had never been discussed to such a large forum. The conference was so well received, that plans are already underway for the Cow Creek Tribe to host another beaver conference next year.

Most individuals that attended the conference generally termed it “A Grand Success at a First Class Venue.”



Tribal Board of Directors To Washington

The Tribal Board of Directors will travel to Washington State in March for their annual informational meetings. The meetings will be held at the following locations:

- Friday, March 12, 2010, in Woodland, WA at the Oak Tree Restaurant at 7:00 p.m. in the Columbia Room.
- Saturday, March 13, 2010, in Port Angeles, WA at the Red Lion Hotel at 1:00 p.m. in the Juan de Fuca Room.

For more information contact Carol McKinney at 541-672-9405 or 800-929-8229

"2nd Annual Gathering of Oregon's First Nations"

In 2009 Governor Kulongowski asked the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon to plan an event in commemoration of Oregon's 150th birthday. The 2009 event was so successful that the Western Oregon Tribes decided that it would be beneficial to everyone to have the event again. The 2nd Annual "Gathering of Oregon's first Nations" Pow-Wow was sponsored by the five Western Oregon tribes. More than 5,000 people filled the Oregon State Fairgrounds Pavilion in Salem on January 30, 2010. Tribal members from all nine federally recognized tribes of Oregon were invited to participate in an event that featured arts, crafts, demonstrations, dancing and drumming. Over 15 drumming groups, including Cow Creek's own Thundering Waters drum group, participated in the day-long event.

The event was also the location for the showing of the video "Standing Strong; the Tribal Nations of Western Oregon" which premiered last year and was developed by all five western tribes and produced by Cow Creek's very own Creative Images in honor of Oregon's Sesquicentennial. Each tribe provided their own historical material and featured speakers. There is a general information portion at both the beginning and end of the video that emphasizes the importance of recognizing Tribal sovereignty and the governmental status of recognized Indian tribes. The video is available for sale at a cost of

\$20 each. You may contact Donna at the Cow Creek Government Office at 541-672-9405 if you would like to purchase one.

Plans are underway for next year's event.



Cow Creek Tribal Members in Grand Entry



Thundering Waters Drum Group

Tribal Veterans, Spouses and Families Receive Medal of Valor

At the February 14th Tribal Board meeting several Tribal families were awarded the Medal of Valor and Spouses Medal of Valor in recognition of the Tribal families who have served and supported the United States of America Armed Forces. Robert VanNorman, Tribal Board member and Vietnam Veteran, presented Medals to Tom Cox for his years of service, Steve and Gary Jackson recognizing their father's service, Andrea Davis recognizing her brother's service, Evelyn Dumont for recognizing her husband's service and to Andy Howren recognizing his service in the Marines. Several other Tribal members have previously been recognized and have received their Medals as well.



Smolt Release From Seven Feathers Acclimation Pond by Steven Rondeau

Tentative Dates have been scheduled for the release of fish from the Tribe's Acclimation ponds near 7 Feathers at the confluence of Canyon Creek and the South Umpqua River. Tribal members are encouraged to come and join in data collection (i.e. marks, length etc.) prior to releasing them from the ponds into the river. Anyone interested in helping out or simply learning about the process and need to "acclimate" anadromous fish known also as "imprinting" smolts which influences their olfactory response to chemical characteristics of water unique the 7 Feathers pond are encouraged to attend.

Times have not yet been established, but will be as soon as possible to ensure members that wish to attend can call Janice at the Tribal office front desk @ 541-672-9405 or Natural Resources Director Steven Rondeau @ 541-677-5575 for event time.

Dates are Tentative and subject to change. All dates will be updated and/or confirmed in following newsletters. Fish release dates are as follows:

- **Release #1: February 23, 2010**
- **Release #2: March 16, 2010**
- **Release #3: April 7, 2010**
- **Release #4: April 28, 2010**



Tribal Emergency Food Program

The Cow Creek Board of Director's has funded an emergency food program that is opening Tuesday, February 23rd, 2010. The opportunity to receive food supplies will be the second Tuesday each month from 9 a.m. – noon and the fourth Tuesday of each month from 1- 4 p.m. This program is based on Income requirements and is operating from the storage unit behind the Tribal offices located at 2371 NE Stephens, Roseburg, Oregon. Recipients of the food program will need to bring their own boxes or reusable bags for food to be put in. For further information you may contact Rhonda Malone at 541-677-5575 ext 5513.

"How To Go To College" Workshop Scheduled

The Cow Creek Education Department is hosting a "How to go to College" workshop on March 20th at 1:00 p.m. In the High school seniors and anyone who is planning on going to college this fall will learn information about admissions, financial aid and scholarships. Please contact the Education Director for more information and/or for individual appointments for assistance in these areas.

BASKET CLASS—HEMP AND YARN WEAVING

Sam Henny—Instructor

WHEN: March 6, 2010 10:00am—3:00pm

WHERE: Seven Feathers Huckleberry Room

Lunch will be provided for this event



Applying For College-A Guide For High School Students By Kelly LaChance

You may be asking yourself: Why go to college?

To get a better job!

By obtaining a certificate or college degree, your chances of acquiring a job and making more money will increase. Some estimates indicate that college graduates make nearly two times more than high school graduates every year! This is perfect for those of you with a strong desire to give back to your community.

Make a difference in your community!

Getting a degree can open up a world of knowledge and experience for you! This knowledge can be taken back to your community and applied in a real world setting. Also, by pursuing a certificate or college degree, you are setting a good example for future college bound students who may need a role model to look up to.

Which college is right for me?

Tribal Colleges

Tribal Colleges are schools that are owned and operated by a tribe. Many of these schools are on reservations and most of them or all of the students who attend are Native Americans. Costs to attend Tribal schools are often considerably less than public and private colleges or trade schools. This may be a good fit if you think you might get homesick, would like to study in your community, or don't have the money to jump into a larger school. Tribal colleges offer the same programs as any public or private community college or university.

Community Colleges

Community colleges are two year schools that often offer Associate's Degrees. The Associate Degree is the first degree you can obtain, most often after only two years of study. Community colleges are often considerably cheaper than most 4 year colleges and universities. It also may be easier to find a community college that offers courses in a subject you're interested in studying while staying close to home.

Four Year Colleges & Universities

Four-year colleges and universities are often larger, more expensive schools. Many of these schools offer housing on campus and meal plans. Four year colleges and universities offer Bachelor and sometimes Master and Doctorate Degrees. Although it may be expensive, if you want to get a Bachelor's Degree and wish to stay at the same school the entire time, without transferring, this might be the type of school for you.

Trade & Vocational Schools

Trade and vocational schools are specialized schools that offer certificates in specific areas. Often these schools offer programs that take less time to complete and the cost will vary, from inexpensive to more expensive. If you're planning on being an auto mechanic, medical technician, or beautician, then a trade school is probably right for you. Many trade schools also will work with financial aid, so the cost of education can be significantly less.

Some questions to ask yourself???

1. How much can I afford to pay for school?
2. Do I want to stay in my community or state?
3. Is there a strong American Indian presence and support?
4. Can I meet the school's application requirements?
5. Does the school have courses that interest me?
6. Do I want to participate in sports?
7. Is the school accredited so I can use financial aid?
8. Do I want to live a home, on campus or somewhere else?
9. How long am I planning to spend on working towards my degree?

Applying for College—(continued)

To apply for the full time Cow Creek Education Program, Tribal members must file a Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA) every year

File your FAFSA after January 1 and before February 1 of each year that you plan to attend college.

What is the FAFSA?

The FAFSA is a Free Application for Federal Student Aid. This is a form that most schools and scholarship programs require you to fill out. There is no income cut off with FAFSA. States and many schools use the information to award their aid. Also, the federal student aid is not based on GPA.

What are the steps to apply for the FAFSA?

Step 1: Get a PIN

Get a PIN at www.pin.ed.gov

One parent or guardian should get a PIN as well

Use it to:

Sign the FAFSA

Make corrections

Access online information

Step 2: Fill out the FAFSA

Fill out the FAFSA in January of your senior year

Online is the fastest, but paper is available if needed

FAFSA on the Web – www.fafsa.ed.gov

This will guide students and parents through each step

Four or five weeks after sending in your FAFSA you should receive an award letter from the government showing what aid you have been awarded. You can cross out any aid you don't want to keep and send back the form. There are a few different types of awards you may receive from the government.

Grants

A grant is money that you will not have to pay back. Many low-income students receive one grant or another from the government. The Pell Grant is the most common government grant.

Subsidized Loan -A subsidized loan is money you will have to pay back. The loan starts to accrue interest after you graduate from your school.

Unsubsidized Loan -An unsubsidized loan is money that you will have to pay back. The loan starts to accrue interest as soon as you receive the money. If possible, you want as few loans as you can have.

You will need your parent's or guardian's help filling out this form because it will ask for their income. If you have questions about your award, contact the financial aid office of the school you are applying to.

Helping students find money for college – other options-No matter which college or school you decide to attend, paying for it is always one of the most difficult issues students face. To further enhance your Tribal award look in the grants and scholarship section of this website. There will be a listing of grants that you may qualify for. Also, check with your counselor at school and find out about grants offered through your high school.

Questions???

Please feel free to contact the Education Director at the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua with any questions regarding the application process for Tribal Education programs.

Email address: klachance@cowcreek.com

Phone numbers: 1-800-929-8229 or 541-677-5575.

Announcements

Births/New Enrollments

Keira Rose Parazoo, Aaliyah Imani Franklin

Obituaries

Terry A. Bushman, 65, passed away on January 25, 1010

Veterans

The Tribe continues to maintain a list of past and present Veteran's of the United States Armed Forces for the purpose of bestowing on them, or their family, the Native American Medal of Valor.

The Tribe has also begun a Tribal Honor/Color Guard for community and Tribal activities as requested.

Robert VanNorman, is the current Leader for the Honor/Color Guard. Please send in your name, current address and phone number along with the branch of service and years served to Rhonda Malone, 2371 NE Stephens, Roseburg, Oregon 97470.

Name: _____ Spouse: _____
 Address: _____ Telephone: () _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Branch of Service: _____ Entering and Ending Dates: _____
 I am interested in participating in the Honor/Color Guard: ☐ YES ☐ NO (Example 1962-1968)

2010 Census—It's In Our Hands

PLEASE HELP ALL TRIBES AND TRIBAL MEMBERS GET ACCESS TO THE GREATEST POSSIBLE AMOUNT OF FEDERAL AND STATE FUNDS THAT DEPEND ON CENSUS NUMBERS! HERE'S HOW!

April 1, 2010 is Census Day. *The Census allows individuals to indicate their race/ethnicity, including a category to indicate whether they are Native American. Federal and state funding for tribal programs often relies on this set of Census data. For federally recognized Tribes, including the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, to be eligible for access to the fullest amount of potential funding, it is very important that the TRIBAL MEMBER in the family identify themselves as:*

X HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD X NATIVE AMERICAN (ONLY) and provide the name of their Tribe.

TRIBAL IDENTIFICATION CARDS

Tribal Identification Cards are available to all Tribal members upon request. To obtain an I.D. card, contact Janet Cooper at the Cow Creek Government Offices at 800-929-8229. You will be sent an application to fill out and sign. Enclose a photo and mail the completed application back to the Tribal Government Offices for processing.

Properly filled out applications will be processed with the Tribal Chairman's signature and will be mailed back to you.

ADDRESS UPDATES

Tribal members are encouraged to maintain a current address at the Cow Creek Tribal Government Offices.

Those who have minor children who are not living in their households should also make sure their children's updated addresses are on file at the Tribal Government Office. If you know of any Tribal members who have not been receiving correspondence from the Tribal Government Office, please recommend that they call the toll free number: 1- 800-929-8229.

Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians
2371 NE Stephens St. Suite 100 Roseburg, OR 97470
Phone: 541-672-9405 Fax: 541-673-0432
Toll Free: 800-929-8229



ONLINE JOBS...GO TO: uidchr.com

Visit us online @ cowcreek.com