



72777 Highway 331 Pendleton, OR 97801 541-966-1973 FAX 541-966-1718 [www.wildhorseresort.com](http://www.wildhorseresort.com)

## News Release

For more information:

Charles Denight, 541-966-1973, [charles.denight@wildhorseresort.com](mailto:charles.denight@wildhorseresort.com)

The Wildhorse Foundation funds a large variety of causes and organizations. As if to illustrate that point, the three largest grants for the first quarter of 2007—\$20,000 each—went to the **Oregon Historical Society**, the **Pendleton Skatepark Steering Committee** and the **Pioneer Relief Nursery**. Granted funds for the quarter totaled \$186,111, the largest quarterly total in the Foundation's six-year history.

OHS will use its grant to pay part of the costs of fabricating an exhibit, educational materials and programs to educate Oregonians about the state's nine contemporary tribes, timed to appear in 2009 for Oregon's 150th statehood anniversary. OHS plans to bring the exhibit to communities in the Foundation's four-county region and provide the education materials to classrooms here and elsewhere. The Pendleton Skatepark Steering Committee is raising funds to build a skatepark, while the Pioneer Relief Nursery, a new agency, is seeking matching funds to enable it to establish a safe haven for abused and neglected children in Umatilla County.

The Foundation also elected new officers for the year: Debra Crowell, Chair; Phil Houk, Vice-Chair; Louisa Allman, Secretary-Treasurer. Other board members are Bill Hansell and Bill Quaempts.

Because the Wildhorse Foundation's annual funding comes from a percentage of the Wildhorse Resort & Casino's net income, as the resort's business grows, so does the Foundation's annual grant total. In 2003 grants amounted to \$469,994 in 59 grants. In 2004 total grants amounted to \$502,990 in 77 grants while grants for 2005 totaled \$507,188 to 85 organizations. For all of 2006 the Foundation gave \$588,955 in 84 grants.

Many of the funded non-profits have a facility in only one county but serve people from throughout the region. The Foundation encourages applications from Morrow, Union, Umatilla and Wallowa Counties, according to Foundation Administrator, Michelle Liberty. The next deadline for applications is July 1. More information and online application forms are available at [www.wildhorseresort.com](http://www.wildhorseresort.com).

One of the agencies that serves the entire Wildhorse Foundation grant area is **Advantage Smiles for Kids**, which will use its \$10,000 grant to provide orthodontic and associated dental treatment to children in Wallowa, Umatilla, Morrow and Union Counties.

Other grants will help purchase everything from an 18-foot Smokercraft boat with a grant of \$10,000 to the **Wallowa Lake Rural Fire Protection District**; to a roof—with \$10,700 to the **Hurricane Creek Grange** in Joseph. Meanwhile the **Weston McEwen Booster Club** will purchase batting cage stations with its \$5,101 grant, while the **Pendleton Farmers Market** will spend a portion of its \$1,000 grant to bring the Food Stamp program to the Farmers Market.

Other grants for First Quarter, 2007

**Arts Council of Pendleton**, \$10,000 for free public art exhibits in 2007-2008  
**Camp Fire USA, Oregon Trail Council**, \$500 to send two children to summer camp  
**Cancer Society Relay for Life**, \$500 to underwrite this fundraising event  
**Delta Kappa Gamma, IOTA Chapter**, \$750 to partially underwrite costs of staging a state convention in Pendleton  
**East Oregonian, Newspaper in Education**, \$500 to sponsor newspapers in the classroom  
**Cay-Uma-Wa Head Start**, \$579 for caps and gowns for graduation  
**Echo**, \$5,000 to expand the Echo Skatepark  
**Pendleton, Parks Department**, \$12,100 for new lifeguard chairs  
**Good Shepherd Health Care System**, \$15,000 for a half-time CareVan coordinator and driver  
**Heppner Senior Citizens Board of Directors, Inc.**, \$3,500 to replace tables  
**OSU Columbia Basin Agricultural Research Center**, \$250, set up a Field Day  
**Oregon Council for the Humanities**, \$5,000 to pay scholars' honoraria and other expenses for a week-long program, *The Crossroads of Knowledge: Science and the Human Experience*, for secondary school teachers in Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Grant and Baker counties  
**Pilot Rock Motocross & ATV Park**, \$10,000 for gravel, fuel and fencing.  
**Umatilla County Critical Groundwater Taskforce**, \$5,000 for a communications campaign to convey the importance of public participation in the 2050 water planning process.  
**Umatilla Morrow Foster Grandparents**, \$1,000 to augment the mileage allowance for volunteers  
**Wallowa Resources**, \$10,000 to cover a field course facilitator, project manager and nearly half of the program expenses  
**Wallowa Band Nez Perce Trail Interpretive Center**, \$10,000 for water improvements, including a pump to move water from a shallow sump

###

**Note: If you would like not to receive emailed news releases on Wildhorse Resort & Casino events and activities please reply to this email and put UNSUBSCRIBE in the Subject area.**