

Laurelton Center sale given approval

By: Sue Getz

LAURELTON – On Monday, the Laurelton advisory committee recommended the Laurelton Center be sold to Gary Murphy and Mountain Valley Inc.

Mr. Murphy plans to use the site for a variety of things including a muscle car museum, a 4x4 custom shop, Amazon racing, a custom bike shop, detailing center, botanical gardens, a dude ranch, firing range, archery range and summer camp.

Mountain Valley Inc. is a for-profit business and will pay local property taxes.

The pending legislation to convey the former Laurelton Center property in Union County to a recommended developer will stipulate that the property can't be used for gambling.

Mr. Fairchild and Sen. Jake

Corman, R-34 of Bellefonte, will draft the bills to convey the 340-acre tract of state land in Hartley Township to Gary Murphy, owner of Mountain Valley Inc.

Mr. Murphy's proposal was one of five submitted to the advisory committee in early April. At that time bidders included: Mr. Murphy, Firetree Ltd., Woodward Camp, Randy Duncan and James Saenger.

Murphy is offering to pay \$1.75 million for the property and plans to develop it as a multi-use complex offering a mix of recreation, hospitality and business ventures.

Union Times
Saturday, June 18, 2005