Thunder Valley turns parking lot into concert venue

By Carla Meyer, Sacramento Bee

Thunder Valley Casino Resort has taken a parking lot and put up what might be paradise for fans of intimate concert venues.

To help celebrate its expansion, the Lincoln casino has temporarily converted a section of blacktop into a 4,800-capacity amphitheater offering chair and bleacher seating, and a designated area for food and crafts vendors.

Lionel Richie's nearly sold-out show tonight will mark the official opening of the casino's new hotel, pool and spa. Sacramento's Tesla plays Friday, Dwight Yoakam on Saturday and the band America, appropriately, on July 4.

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