

Spilyay Tymo

Coyote News, est. 1976

January 27, 2021 - Vol. 46, No. 2

Wiyak'ik'ila - Winter - Anm

PO Box 489
Warm Springs, OR 97761

ECR WSS
Postal Patron

U.S. Postage
PRSRT STD
Warm Springs, OR 97761

Community update

On Monday of this week there were no new positive tests for Covid-19 on the reservation, of 61 who were tested. This is praiseworthy, health officials say, showing many in the community are following the covid-prevention guidelines.

Meanwhile since the start of the pandemic, the Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center has conducted 7,571 total tests for the coronavirus. Of the total, 6,869 have come back negative; while 675 have returned positive among the tribal community. Other facilities have also conducted testing of Warm Springs tribal members, adding another 76 positives, for the cumulative total among the membership of 751.

During the 11 months since the pandemic began, 78 tribal community members have been hospitalized with Covid-19. Seventy-four have been discharged, with four currently hospitalized. One of the patients is on a ventilator.

There have been 19 Covid-19 deaths in the community since last March.

St. Charles hospitals are at close to 74 percent occupancy, with the intensive care at 80 percent.

There are currently 22 people with active Covid-19 receiving daily monitoring by tribal and IHS staff; and 43 close contacts receiving daily monitoring by the health staff.

Students back in class next week

Most of the students in the Jefferson County 509-J school district will be back in class starting next week, if all goes as currently planned.

As in-class teaching resumes Monday, there will be many Covid-19 health precautions. For the district this will be the first in-class learning since March 2020.

Last week and this week, as priority workers, teachers and school staff are receiving their first Covid-19 vaccines. This is through the Oregon Health Authority and the county health programs.

Earlier this month the school

district conducted a survey of families and students to determine how many would like to return to school. The results were 80-percent for in-class, with 20-percent opting for the district online CASA program.

With these numbers the district was able to plan the logistics—for staffing, class and bus schedules, said Laurie Danzuka, school district board chairwoman.

The students will return next week on a staggered schedule, as the district adjusts to the new routine. At the high school, for instance, freshmen return first, then sophomores, juniors and seniors.

The return to classrooms will be

a great help to many students: Some have done fine with the Comprehensive Distance Learning, Ms. Danzuka said; while other students thrive more with the teacher-level support at school.

There will be some very noticeable changes in the schools. The students and teachers will be wearing masks inside and outside. The students' desks will be spaced six-feet apart. Breakfast and lunch will be served in the classroom. The drinking fountains are turned off, so students should bring their own water bottles. Bathroom breaks are scheduled by classroom. There is no sharing of school supplies. Parents and guardians are

not allowed in the buildings.

On the buses, there will be a vacant seat between each student. This requires a change to bus scheduling, with the drivers making two rounds each morning and afternoon. Like at school, the bus drivers will have extra masks in case a student forgets his or hers.

School sports will be back, starting with the fall activities of football, soccer and volleyball. Next will be the spring sports, then winter. There will be one week of practice and five weeks of Tri-Valley Conference play. All of these activities will follow the OSAA guidelines for safety.

— Dave McMechan

Rollout of vaccine continues at clinic

The Warm Springs Indian Health Service and tribal Community Health are making great progress with their Covid-19 vaccination program.

Since just before last Christmas, the clinic staff has administered 600 primary—the first of the required two—vaccine doses. This was the total number of primary doses the clinic had received.

Meanwhile, the Warm Springs Clinic has received 200 booster doses—the second dose

completing the immunization cycle. The clinic has administered all of these as well; so these 200 individuals are now immunized.

The clinic is administering the Moderna Covid-19 vaccine. This vaccine is “highly effective” against covid, according to Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The vaccine is estimated to provide 94-percent efficacy against the virus.

The clinic follows the CDC guidelines for administering vaccines in the community; and also

follows Tribal Council guidance for identifying essential and high priority groups.

This week the clinic begins immunizations for those in Phase 1 C (see the chart on page 3 for details on the vaccination schedule). The Phase 1 C group includes:

- Elders age 65 and older.
- Adults over 55 with underlying at-risk health conditions.
- Veterans.
- Traditional and culture keepers, as identified by Tribal Council.

When calling to schedule your vaccination appointment, the clinic staff will ask only for your name, date of birth, and if you are interested in receiving the Covid-19 vaccine. Do not give personal or financial information to anyone calling you about a covid vaccine.

Another reminder: Calls from the clinic will show as an unknown, restricted or private number. Please answer these calls, as clinic staff may be trying to contact you to schedule your appointment.

Covid risk for tribal fishers

by Dawn Stover
underscore.news
for the Spilyay Tymo

Depleted salmon runs and government failure to improve fishing sites have already impacted culturally and economically important fish harvests.

The coronavirus pandemic is making it even harder for Native Americans to fish along the Columbia River.

The Brigham Fish Market was bustling on a Monday afternoon. Two women were sharing a meal at an outdoor table overlooking the Columbia River at Cascade Locks. In front of the entrance to the market, a couple dined at a streetside table behind a fish-patterned metal railing. Inside, an older couple pointed out a fresh Chinook salmon fillet in the glass-fronted display, and several people waited for takeout orders in an at-



Fishers clean the day's salmon catch at the Stanley Rock Treaty Fishing Access Site in Hood River.

tractive space decorated with Native American art, blanket samples, and historical fishing photos.

In the kitchen, Terrie Brigham, a member of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation who manages the market, was preparing a smoked-salmon quesadilla and Cajun-seasoned halibut and chips. Brigham's sister owns the business, which specializes in fresh and smoked fish from the Columbia River, mostly caught by family members.

Brigham says she is “one of the lucky ones.” The market has stayed open throughout the Covid-19 pandemic by relying on takeout orders, outdoor seating, and federal relief funding that helped keep employees on the payroll. A second location, called Brigham Fish 'n Chips and located in the new food court of the Wildhorse Casino & Resort outside Pendleton, opened in late September.

The Brigham market is surviving, but the pandemic has been

hard on many Native Americans who make their living selling fish from the Columbia.

Covid-19 has devastated the restaurant industry, causing a major downturn in the market for salmon. Meanwhile, the living conditions at tribal fishing sites and villages—long neglected by the federal government—have made it difficult for fishers to practice social distancing and other measures to prevent the spread of the virus. One of the lessons learned

... fishing in 2020
was 'not super
amazing, though it
could have been
worse.'

from the pandemic is that Native American fishers camping or living year-round on the river need better access to health care and other services.

With 2020's relatively long fall season behind them, officials are planning for the possibility that COVID-19 will still be a threat when seasonal fishers return to the Columbia in the spring.

Claims fisherman's life

On the 147-mile stretch of the Columbia from Bonneville Dam to McNary Dam, the only commercial fishing allowed is by the four Columbia Plateau tribes that signed treaties with the federal government in 1855.

The treaties ensure the fishing rights of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation, the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, the Nez Perce Tribe, and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

TRIBAL FISHING continues on 7



GREAT GIFTS FOR VALENTINE'S DAY!



PlateauTravelPlaza.com • 541-777-2815 • 215 NW Cherry Lane, Madras, OR 97741



Salvage, rehab of Lionshead burn area

Loggers are in the forest this week working on the Lionshead timber salvage operation. This is part of the work that will happen this year and beyond in the burn area of the September 2020 Lionshead fire.

The Lionshead impact area is large: 96,266 acres burned on the reservation; 108,203 acres burned off-reservation immediately to the west; for a total acreage of 204,469.

Much of the fire salvage operation is scheduled to happen this year, as the value of the salvagable timber decreases over time, said Vernon Wolf, tribal forest manager.

The Lionshead and other large wildfires last year in the state have created a shortage of logging trucks, Mr. Wolf said.

In 2020 wild fires in Oregon burned about one million acres. Off-reservation, some logging equipment was lost to fire; fortunately, this did not happen on the reservation, Mr. Wolf said.

In addition to the timber salvage operation, Forestry and the Branch of Natural Resources will be working various mitigation programs on the Lionshead burn area.

A first phase of rehabilitation will be in “suppression

repair,” Wolfe said. This involves repairing damage that may have happened during the fire-response effort itself.

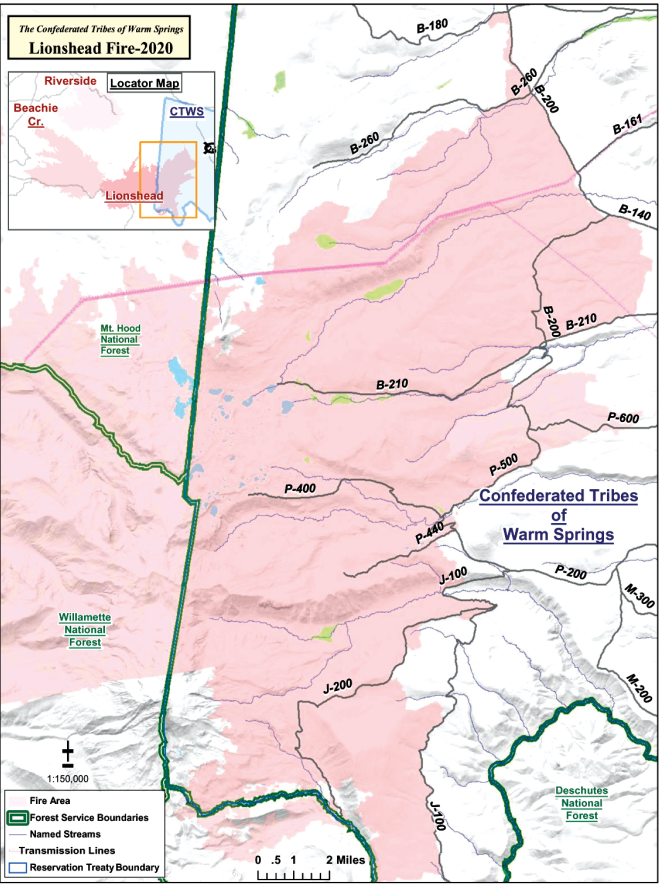
This would be damage to roads and fences, as examples. The goal is to return the sites to pre-response condition.

The emergency stabilization phase will include monitoring for invasive species, documenting cultural sites in the area, and preventing sedimentation from runoff. With the loss of trees and vegetation there is the risk of erosion and sedimentation into streams. The goal is to address this during 2021.

Longer-term work will be the actual reforestation. This can take up to five years or more. The goal at Forestry this year is to plant new trees on 1,000 acres of burned area. In future years the Natural Resources will use seedlings, grown in nurseries, for replanting on the rest of the burn area, until reforestation is complete.

Another 2021 response to the Lionshead fire is assessment of the burn area that is part of the tribes’ carbon sequestration acreage.

The carbon program was established with buffer acreage: This acts as a kind of insurance against a wildfire, for instance.



Area of reservation that burned in the Lionshead fire. Graphic courtesy W.S. Forestry/BNR.

Missing Person

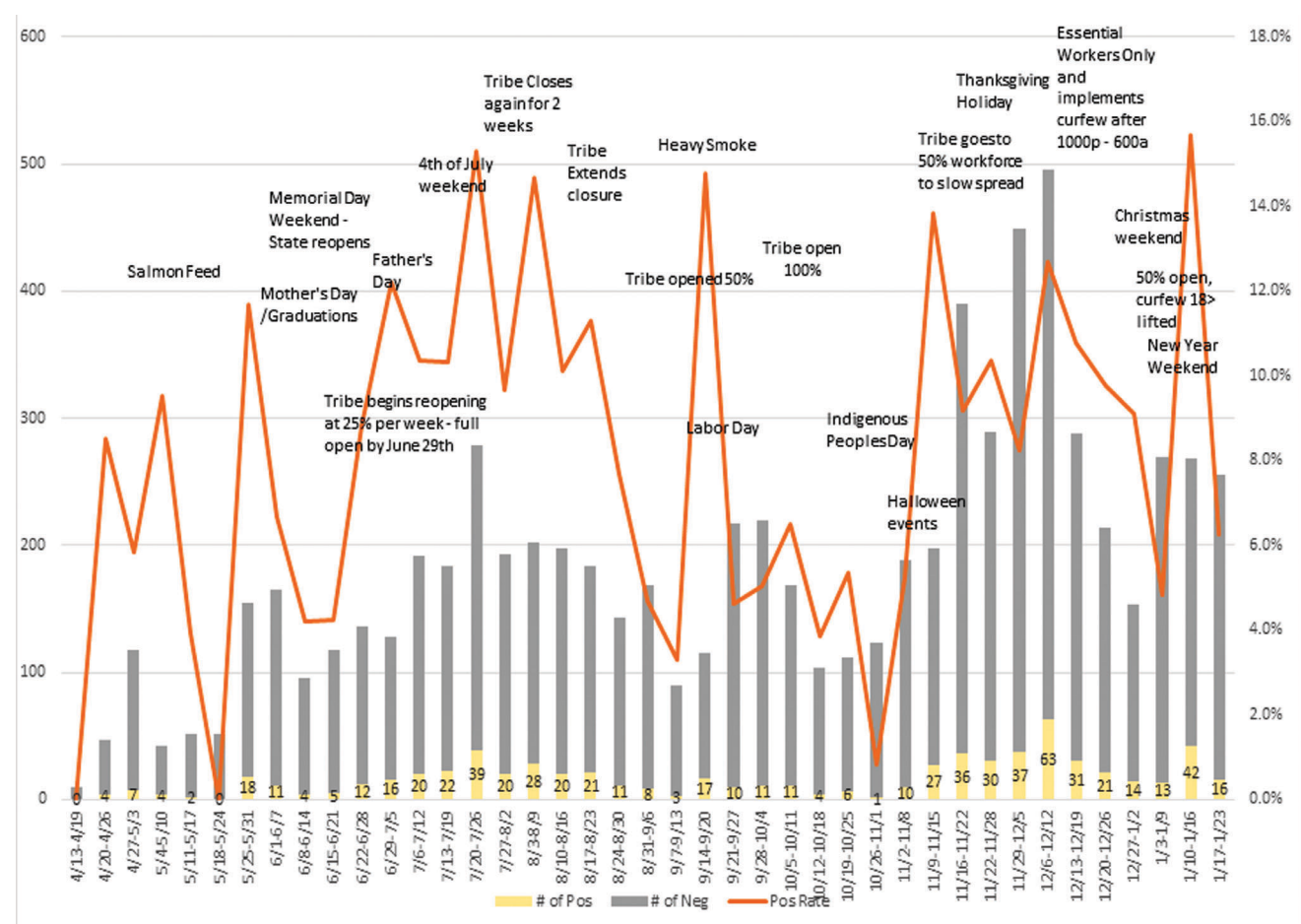
The Warm Springs Police Department is offering a cash reward for information leading to the location of 58-year-old Tina Spino of Warm Springs. She was reported missing in August of last year. If you have any information regarding her disappearance or her current location, contact Police Dispatch at 541-553-1171. Or call the anonymous tip line at 541-553-2202.



STAY SAFE. SAVE LIVES.

KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE.
MASK UP & STAY HOME

Latest data on coronavirus testing on the reservation



On the reservation: The number of positive Covid-19 tests (the orange line) and negative tests (grey bars) by week among the Warm Springs tribal community. As the graph demonstrates, the December holidays brought on a spike even bigger than the one following the Fourth of July. Data reported by Community Health and IHS.

Openings on tribal boards of directors

Tribal Council seeks to fill a number of positions on four boards of the Confederated Tribes—the Credit board, Indian Head Casino, Warm Springs Ventures, and the Water Board.

There is one position open on the Warm Springs Credit Board of Directors. This position is for a non-member. Some of the qualifications: Have a reputation for industry, dependability, honesty and integrity.

Letter of interest and resume for anyone interested in serving on the Credit board must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Thursday, February 18. Letter and resume may be dropped off at the Administration building, addressed to Michele Stacona, Secretary-Treasurer/CEO.

Or send by mail: Michele Stacona, S-T/CEO, PO Box 455, Warm Springs, 97761.

You may also submit by email to: michele.stacona@wstribes.org

Applicants: Please sign a criminal and credit background check—Forms can be emailed to you.

If you mail in your letter and resume, the forms will be mailed to you once your letter/resume are received. Information submitted is confidential to the S-T.

Indian Head Casino

There are two positions open on the Indian Head Casino Board of Directors. The openings call for one tribal member, and one non-member.

Submission deadline, and means of submission are the same as above.

Warm Springs Ventures

Warm Springs Ventures is the economic development corporation of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. There are

currently two positions Tribal Council seeks to fill:

One position is for a tribal member, and one for a non-member. Duration of each term will be until December 31, 2023. Submission deadline, and means of submission same as above.

Water Board

There are two positions open on the three-person Water Board of the Confederated Tribes.

The primary function of this board is to review all

matters pertaining to the water resource of the tribes; to make recommendations to Tribal Council regarding this resource; and to propose changes or improvements to water policy and the Water Management Plan.

Letter of interest and resume for anyone interested in serving on the Credit board must be submitted by 5 p.m. on **Thursday, February 4**. Means of submission same as above.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A BOBCAT?

Find out what COCC is all about with a series of live webinars just for you. Learn about paying for college, degree options, residence life, and much more! Prospective student and parent sessions are available and all are welcome to join!

WHY COCC?
Jan. 28 • 5 p.m.
Feb. 13 • 9 a.m.

DEGREES/PATHWAYS
Jan 29 • Noon



Please register online today!
<https://bit.ly/COCCVirtualAdmissions>

In advance of College events, persons needing accommodation or transportation because of a physical or mobility disability, contact Joe Viola at 541.383.7775. For accommodation because of other disability such as hearing impairment, contact Disability Services at 541.383.7583.



Black Bear Diner

Good Old Fashioned Family Food!

BREAKFAST
Served All Day

LUNCH
Quick & Satisfying

DINNER
Comfort Food Classics



237 S.W. 4th St. • Madras, OR • (541) 475-6632

BlackBearDiner.com | [Facebook.com/BlackBearDiner](https://www.facebook.com/BlackBearDiner) | [#blackbeardiner](https://www.instagram.com/blackbeardiner)

Tribes set winter commercial fishery

A winter commercial gillnet fishery will open at the Columbia River from 6 a.m. on Monday, February 1 to 6 p.m. on Saturday, February 6. The area is the John Day pool and The Dalles pool only. Allowed gear are gillnets with no mesh size restriction. Allowable sales are sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length, salmon (any species), steelhead, walleye, bass, carp, catfish, shad and yellow

perch. These fish many be sold or kept for subsistence purposes. Fish landed during the open period are allowed to be sold after the period concludes. Sanctuaries: River mouth to the dam closed areas applicable to gillnet gear are in effect. **Zone 6 platform, and hook and line:** This fishery will be open from 6 a.m. on Monday, February 1 through 6 p.m. on Friday, March

19. Gear are hoop nets, dip bag nets, dip nets, and hook and line. Allowable sales are salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, carp, catfish, walleye, bass and yellow perch. These may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sanctuaries: Standard river mouth and dam closed areas applicable to platform, and hook and line gear are in effect. This announcement comes from the CRITFC and its member tribes.

IHS updates its Covid-19 testing data

The Indian Health Service has updated its Covid-19 testing data for Indian Country. According to the report: Of the tests administered by IHS, 172,093 tests have returned positive for Covid-19. That represents an increase of 0.2 percent from the 171,721 cases previously reported by the IHS. Altogether since March 2020, IHS has conducted 1,872,753 coronavirus tests. Based on the IHS cumulative

percent positive testing, the highest rates have been seen in three areas. Two of them include the state of Arizona, indicating a disproportionate toll of Covid-19 in that state: The Navajo area was at 16.9 percent positivity. The Phoenix area, 14.6 percent. And the Oklahoma City area, 13.4 percent So far this year, five areas have seen dramatic growth in Covid-19. They are: The California area was at 18.1

percent. The Albuquerque area, 17.7 percent. The Phoenix area, 17.5 percent. The Navajo area, 17.1 percent. And the Oklahoma City area, 16.8 percent. Two of these regions include the state of Arizona. Overall, 9.9 percent of IHS tests have been positive since the onset of the pandemic, the data shows. Meanwhile, the 7-day average has leveled off after increasing steadily during the holiday season. It now stands at 11.2 percent.

Danger of virus variant

Airborne-particle experts explain how to stay safe from the new and highly contagious coronavirus strains:

A fast-spreading variant of the coronavirus that causes Covid-19 has been found in at least 10 states—including Oregon—and people are wondering: How do I protect myself now? The new variant has been estimated to be 50-percent more easily transmitted than common variants, though for now it appears to affect people’s health in the same way. Additionally, there is some evidence that patients infected with the new variant—called the B.1.1.7 variant—may have a higher viral load: That means they may expel more virus-containing particles when they breathe, talk or sneeze. With people possibly having more virus in their bodies and the virus being more infectious, everyone should take extra care and precautions. Wearing face masks and social distancing are essential. Spaces and activities that were previously deemed

‘safe’—such as some indoor work environments—may present an elevated infection risk as the variant spreads. The concentration of aerosol particles is usually highest right next to the individual emitting the particles and decreases with distance from the source. However, in indoor environments, aerosol concentration levels can quickly build up, similar to how cigarette smoke accumulates within enclosed spaces. This is particularly problematic in spaces that have poor ventilation. With the new variant, aerosol concentration levels that might not have previously posed a risk could now lead to infection.

What can you do to stay safe? Pay attention to the type of face mask you use, and how it fits. Follow social distancing guidelines. Think carefully about the environment when entering an enclosed area—as to both the ventilation and how the people interact.

Quarantine after vaccine?

You may wonder whether you still need to quarantine when you have been exposed to Covid-19 if have received your vaccination. Some answers: If you have been fully vaccinated with the Covid-19 vaccine and it’s been at least 14 days since your final dose, you are no longer required to quarantine if you have had close contact with someone with Covid-19, according to guidelines of the Oregon Health Authority.

If you’re fully immunized, you should still monitor yourself for symptoms of Covid-19 during the 14 days after exposure, and if symptoms develop, you should isolate and seek testing. People who have been fully vaccinated should continue to follow measures to protect themselves and others, including maintaining six feet of physical distance, avoiding crowds, washing hands often and wearing a mask—or as now recommended, two masks.

Skull found on reservation

An individual who was hiking in a remote part of the reservation earlier this month found a human skull, according to Warm Springs Police Department. The hiker was apparently salvaging wood from an old dock, January 10, along Tenino Road. The person noticed a round item on the ground, then realized it was a human skull, said Bill Elliott, Warm Springs Public Safety general manager. The individual who came across the skull called the police, who searched the area, finding “several other bones that were of interest,” Mr. Elliott said. The FBI was notified, and agents arrived on the reservation to process the site. A preliminary examination by the medical examiner’s office revealed the remains could have been in the area for anywhere from one to ten years. Warm Springs Tribal Police said they would check their database for missing people or runaways from the last 10 years as an initial step in the investigation.

State covid, vaccine update

The Oregon Health Authority this week reported that 14,755 new doses of Covid-19 vaccinations were added to the state immunization registry. Of this total, nearly each new dose was administered during the week of January 23. Cumulative daily totals can take several days to finalize because providers have 72 hours to report doses administered and technical challenges have caused many providers to lag in their reporting. The Health Authority has been providing technical support to vaccination sites to improve the timeliness of their data entry into the state’s Alert Immunization Information System—IIS. Oregon has now administered a cumulative of more than 301,000 first and second doses of Covid-19 vaccines. All vaccinations were administered by Or-

egon hospitals, long-term care facilities, emergency medical service agencies, urgent care facilities and Local Public Health Authorities. To date, 492,450 doses of vaccine have been delivered to sites across Oregon. **Cases and deaths** The new confirmed and presumptive Covid-19 cases reported in Oregon earlier this week happened in the following counties: Benton (3), Clackamas (49), Coos (26), Crook (9), Curry (1), Deschutes (31), Douglas (14), Harney (1), Hood River (9), Jackson (47), **Jefferson (4)**, Josephine (20), Klamath (26), Lake (5), Lane (49), Lincoln (6), Linn (18), Malheur (3), Marion (72), Morrow (3), Multnomah (78), Polk (18), Tillamook (1), Umatilla (16), Union (5), **Wasco (2)**, Washington (59) and Yamhill (7).

Covid-19 vaccination scheduling with explanations

<p>PHASE 1</p> <p>A. HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS: People that are providing health care services or direct care services to high-risk groups. These people are at Very High risk for COVID exposure and transmission in their daily work or living environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">All WSH&WC Staff – IHS and TribalCTWS Essential Frontline (EMS, Senior Program, Behavioral Health, CPS, Shelter staff)High Lookee Staff & ResidentsIn-home caregivers	<p>PHASE 1</p> <p>C. HIGH RISK INDIVIDUALS Includes people at higher risk for severe disease complication, hospitalization and death. Such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Elders age 65 and olderAge 55-64 with underlying health issues such as<ul style="list-style-type: none">DiabetesHeart, Lung, Liver, or Kidney diseaseOrgan transplants
<p>B. EXTREME RISK INDIVIDUALS</p> <p>THOSE AT HIGHEST RISK FOR DEATH RELATED TO COVID</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Elders age 75 and older <p>ESSENTIAL WORKERS PROVIDING CRITICAL SERVICES: People necessary to maintain community safety and provide essential services. These employees have high exposure and transmission risk in their work and provide critical need services for Warm Springs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">PoliceCTWS Essential Admin & Field Workers such as BIA-road maintenance, utilities, housing, creditStores, Gas StationsPost Office, Food VendorsPrioritized by CTWS recommendation	<p>PHASE 2</p> <p>A. OTHER ESSENTIAL STAFF AS IDENTIFIED BY CTWS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Casino staffFire ManagementAll other CTWS Department Staff <p>B. GENERAL POPULATION AGE 18 AND OVER The Moderna Vaccine is not yet approved for use in those under age 18</p>

OSCAR'S EXPERT AUTO REPAIR

Complete Service Foreign & Domestic

VW

NISSAN

Ford

ASE CERTIFIED

CHEVROLET

SUZUKI

HONDA

TOYOTA

SUBARU

CHRYSLER

Jeep

DODGE

Serving Central Oregon Community ~ Warm Springs

You need to get back on the road call Oscar's Expert Auto Repair. Towing available...If you fix the car with us, we give you the towing for half price. Call Oscar or Byron for more info

541-390-1008

541-923-3554

821 SW 11th St. ~ Redmond

www.autorepairedmond.com

Letters to the editor

Community input survey

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, over these many months community events on the reservation had to be canceled or postponed.

To help our programing adapt to meet the needs of the community, many events are going virtual.

Papalxsamisha and Warm Springs Health and Human Services is conducting a survey to help guide virtual programing to the community.

And if you have children, please help them fill out the survey, as this will help guide programing for them as well.

This survey is anonymous, and is available online. Contact: charlene.dimmick@wstribes.org

Survey questions include items such age, and where you live. Also:

How is your internet accessibility at home? What method of virtual learning do you prefer?

What social media outlet do you use? What time of day would you prefer to attend a virtual class?

What day of the week works best for you to attend a virtual class?

Would you more likely participate in a virtual class by: Live stream, Recording, Both.

What kind of class / virtual event would you like to participate in? check all that apply

Are there any barriers that we can help elevate for you to participate?

Papalxsamisha, Charlene Dimmick

Story Gathering

The Confluence Story Gathering podcast is designed to elevate Indigenous perspectives in our under-

standing of the Columbia River system. Each new episode will appear in your feed on Thursdays.

In our first episode of the 2021 season, *Braiding Sweetgrass* author Robin Wall Kimmerer asks the audience to consider what the earth asks of us and how we can do right by the land.

Robin Wall Kimmerer is a mother, scientist, decorated professor, and enrolled member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. She is the author of *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teaching of Plants*, which has earned Kimmerer wide acclaim.

Subscribe to the Confluence Story Gathering podcast on Soundcloud, Spotify, iTunes, and Stitcher, or wherever you get your podcasts. **Colin Fogarty**, confluenceproject.org

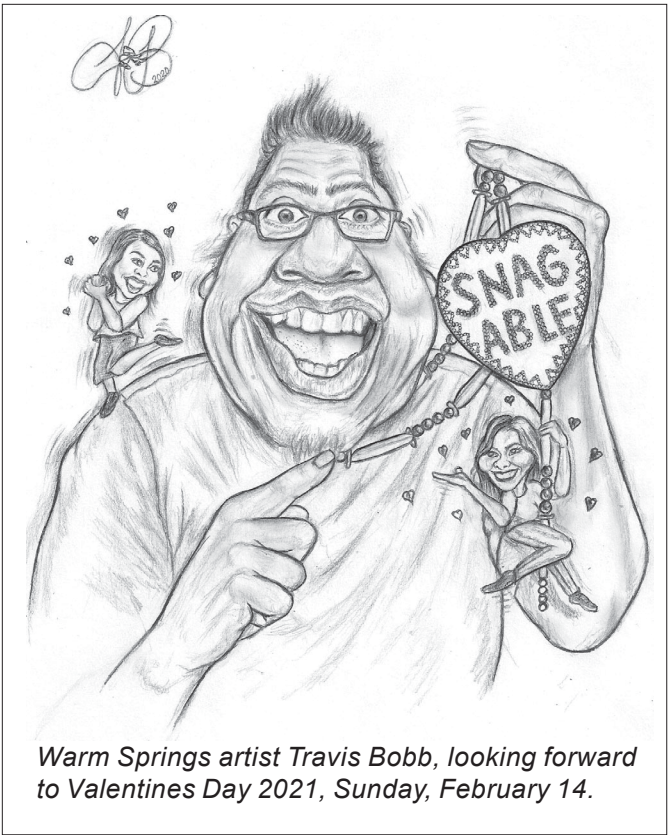
From W.S. Holistic Health

While humans are naturally creatures of habit, implementing behavioral changes is a lifelong challenge. Living intentionally can be a powerful step towards personal growth.

While a goal may define a path, systems serve as the road map towards achievement. When trying to incorporate new healthy habits into your lifestyle, consider the following:

Give yourself a cue and make it obvious.

If your goal is to exercise for 30 minutes every day after work, lay out your exercise clothes and workout shoes by your door so that they are the first thing you see when you come home. This will give you a reminder to get moving.



Warm Springs artist Travis Bobb, looking forward to Valentines Day 2021, Sunday, February 14.

Spilyay Tymoo
(Coyote News, Est. 1976)

Publisher Emeritus in Memorium: Sid Miller
Editor: Dave McMechan

Spilyay Tymoo is published bi-weekly by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. Our offices are located at 4174 Highway 3 in Warm Springs.

Any written materials submitted to **Spilyay Tymoo** should be addressed to:

Spilyay Tymoo, P.O. Box 489, Warm Springs, OR 97761.

Phone: 541-553-2210 or 541-771-7521

E-Mail: david.mcmecan@wstribes.org.
Annual Subscription rates: Within U.S.: \$20.00

From the desk of the W.S. Veterans Representative

Frankie Williams is the new Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Veterans Representative. Mr. Williams is a 21-year Navy veteran, and member of the Tule River Tribe California.

He has overcome challenges that many veterans have faced: Post-traumatic stress disorder and thoughts of suicide, substance abuse and depression, and homelessness. Mr. Williams was retired, and looking for part-time work.

He came across the notice of the Confederated Tribes' Veterans Representative position, contacted tribal veterans representatives, and was hired for the job.

Mr. Williams is a certified counselor for substance abuse, anger management and suicide prevention and intervention. In California he was a consultant for the Department of Veterans Affairs.

In the service Williams traveled the world, serving on air craft carriers and A-7 squadrons, and was a flight engineer on C-130s and 707s.

In his new position with the tribes, Williams will serve the more than 500 veterans of the Confederated Tribes. Veterans and families can contact him at 559-798-7102; or at his email: frankie.williams@wstribes.org

His office is at the Warm Springs Forest Industries LLC building by the former mill. Mr. Williams serves as the liaison between the Veterans Administration and tribal veterans. In



Frankie Williams, W.S. Veterans Representative

his introductory message to tribal veterans, he wishes to share the following:

by Frankie Williams
Warm Springs Tribal Veterans Representative

Identification Cards
Types of Veteran ID cards:

There are many types of identification cards you can use to show you're a Veteran. You only need to have one of them for this purpose.

Learn about the different types of VA ID cards and other Veteran ID options:

Department of Defense Identification Card:

A Department of Defense Identification Card is used to show your military status and to get access to services at military bases.

You may also use this card to get discounts offered to Veterans at many stores, businesses and restaurants.

If you have a Department of Defense Identification Card, you don't need to request another

type of photo ID card to prove you're a Veteran or to get retail or business discounts.

You'll need to fill out an application for Identification Card/DEERS Enrollment (DD Form 1172-2).

Then turn in your completed application to a Real-Time Automated Personnel Identification System (RAPIDS) office for processing.

Veteran Health Identification Card:

When you are enrolled in VA Health Care, you get a Veteran Health Identification Card—a VHIC—that you use to check in to your appointments at VA medical centers.

You may also use this card to get discounts offered to Veterans at many stores, businesses and restaurants.

If you have a VHIC, you don't need to request another type of photo ID card to prove you're a Veteran or to get retail or business discounts.

You need to be enrolled in VA health care to receive a Veteran Health Identification Card. If you aren't signed up for VA Health Care, you can apply online or see your veterans representative.

Veteran ID Card:

A Veteran ID Card—a VIC—is a form of photo ID you can use to get discounts offered to Veterans at many stores, businesses and restaurants.

When you have this card,

you won't need to carry around your military discharge papers (DD-214) or share sensitive personal information to receive discounts.

If you have a VIC, you don't need to request another type of photo ID card to prove you're a Veteran or to get retail or business discounts.

You may be eligible if you meet both requirements listed below.

Both must be true.

You:

- Served on active duty, in the Reserves, or in the National Guard (including the Coast Guard), and
- Received an honorable or general discharge (under honorable conditions).

If you received another than honorable, bad conduct, or dishonorable character of discharge, you're not eligible for a Veteran ID Card.

If you have an uncharacterized or unknown discharge status,

The VA will have to verify your eligibility before your application is approved.

If anyone needs help in applying for a veterans ID card, please contact me, your Warm Springs Tribal Veterans Representative.

My phone number is 559-798-7192. Or email: frankie.williams@wstribes.org

Sincerely, **Frankie Williams**



Develop your 'gateway habit.' Pace yourself and start simple. Too many changes at once are difficult to sustain. If you would like to start eating healthier, recipe planning for every meal may be an unrealistic place to start. You could instead begin by adding a piece of fruit to your breakfast and lunch. Increase the challenge every few weeks and focus on long term behaviors.

Play off your existing habits through 'habit stacking.'

New habits are easier to incorporate if they are tied with old habits. If you have a goal to walk more, consider your current routine. If you have a habit of checking the mail every afternoon, try

walking to the mailbox rather than driving by.

Consistency is key. Stick to it.

It's not always the size of the habit, but how often it's repeated that makes it effective. Researchers from University College in London determined that on average, it takes 66 days for a new habit to stick. By increasing

the frequency of repetition, the human brain forms new connections to make once novel habits more automatic.

If you have further questions about how to prioritize health in your life, feel free to reach out to the Physical Therapy team at Warm Springs Holistic Health for guidance. *Call 541-777-2663 to learn more.*

Congratulations to the Oregon Teacher of the Year

The Oregon Department of Education has named the 2021 Teacher of the year. Here is her story:

Nicole Butler-Hooton is a Siletz and Apache tribal member committed to the values of family, friendships, community and growth, both in and outside of her classroom.

Ms. Butler-Hooton was raised in a small coastal town, earned her Bachelor's Degree in Sociology with a minor in Ethnic Studies from the University of Oregon, and was awarded the Sapsik'alá grant provided to high performing Native American students striving to earn a Master's Degree in Education.

After completing her Master's, Butler-Hooton began teaching second grade at Irving Elementary in Bethel, which has been her work home for 14 years.

Her vibrant, inclusive and culturally competent



Nicole Butler-Hooton

teaching style is highly respected and supported by the school community.

She is Eugene/Springfield's local representative for the Oregon Indian Educator Association and is also a local expert in Bethel, mentoring and coaching student teachers and colleagues.

"Every day, Nicole demonstrates how inclusive and cultural competent education has the power to shape our future for generations to

come," said Governor Kate Brown.

"Her seamless incorporation of equity into the classroom sets an example for us all, as we work to make Oregon a welcoming place that sets every student up for success from cradle to career."

"The trust Nicole establishes with students and families is invaluable for meeting needs both seen and unseen," said director Colt Gill.

"Nicole centers equity in every aspect of her instruction and outreach, honoring the cultures of each home represented in her class.

Her leadership and expertise will be an incredible benefit this school year as we navigate unfamiliar conditions and strive to support every learner."

In a letter of recommendation, Butler-Hooton was described as "a shining example of a teacher," supporting the individual and diverse needs of students

'I'm always looking for ways to show my students and families that we are a village...'

and families, collecting and analyzing data to advocate for students, and fostering a classroom community where students become leaders.

"I'm always looking for ways to show my students and families that we are a village," said Butler-Hooton.

"My hope is that these offerings, these sentiments, these actions, this time is a way to transcend learning and love beyond the classroom. Home to school connection is beyond valuable and it is imperative to my practice as an educator."

Tribal fishing: occupational hazards

(Continued from page 1)

Despite those treaties, dwindling salmon runs have forced the tribes to strike a delicate balance between their rights to the salmon, other commercial and recreational fishers, and protecting the environment.

Covid-19 has made salmon fishing, culturally and economically important for the people on this stretch of the Columbia, even more difficult. The outbreak has had a disproportionate impact on tribes.

In Oregon, Washington and a dozen other states, American Indian and Alaska Native people have died at nearly twice the rate of white people.

Covid-19 took from the Yakama Nation two leaders who had long helped protect salmon and fishing rights. In April, tribes mourned the loss of Bobby Begay, a leader at Celilo Village who died at age 51 from complications of the coronavirus. In July, the Yakama Nation mourned for Johnny Jackson, chief of the Cascade Band of the Yakama, an elder who lived on the bank of the White Salmon River near Underwood, Washington, and was a passionate advocate for the River People of the Columbia Gorge and their abiding connection to salmon. Jackson died after being hospitalized with Covid-19.

Other Native people who fish the Columbia continue to be at risk of contracting the coronavirus. They live and work in conditions that can be crowded at times, and their work brings them into contact with people from around the region. But those challenges did not prevent fishers from participating in the 2020 harvest. The annual return of salmon to the river not only connects the four treaty tribes to a way of living that predates their loss of land to white settlers, but also is the primary source of income for many tribal members.

During the fall commercial gillnet fishing season, which ended on October 7, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission staff found itself in pandemic-response mode.

The commission provides technical assistance to the four Columbia Plateau treaty tribes. This year, CRITFC employees tasked with helping fishers in business development and regulatory compliance also delivered supplies from the Yakama Nation to fishers camped at access sites on the Columbia River. The food, water, toilet paper, and cleaning and school supplies from the Washington-based tribal government was distributed to people along the river to cope with Covid-19.

“When the pandemic hit, people living year-round on the river didn’t have easy access to the health care [available] back on the reservation,” says CRITFC Executive Director Jaime Pinkham, who is Nez Perce. “They were falling through the cracks.”

The tribes partnered with One Community Health, which operates clinics on both sides of the Columbia River Gorge, to connect fishers with local health care services. Also, says Pinkham, CRITFC and its partners and funders “worked hard to get a medical vehicle to do testing.” That van will now be used to do vaccinations on the river.



Sam George gillnet fishes the Columbia River for salmon in October off the Stanley Rock Treaty Fishing Access Site in Hood River.

“ *When the pandemic hit, people living year-round on the river didn’t have easy access to health care... They were falling through the cracks.* ”

— Jaime Pinkham
executive director, CRITFC

‘Could have been worse’

Treaty-tribe fishers got the go-ahead to fish with gill nets during a three-day summer season that began in late June, and again during the much longer fall season that began in August and ended in early October. The tribes closed the gillnet season after steelheads, an oceangoing form of rainbow trout, came back in greater-than-expected numbers, resulting in a large catch that was approaching the harvest limit. The 2020 runs for Chinook salmon, however, were significantly lower than the 10-year average, although more adult spring and summer Chinook salmon passed through Bonneville Dam this year than in 2019.

Fishers who use traditional platforms and dip nets, or conventional hook-and-line gear, were allowed to continue fishing through the end of the year, for both subsistence and commercial sales. Brigham, whose grandfather fished at Celilo Falls, will continue to sell fish that is caught by family members from scaffolds in Cascade Locks.

Overall, the fishing in 2020 was “not super amazing,” she says. “But it could have been worse.”

Each year, biologists from the four tribes that have traditionally fished in the Columbia River meet with their counterparts from state and federal agencies. Together, they analyze fish counts and use computer models to make their best guess as to how many fish can be sustainably harvested. After accounting for fish that are needed as hatchery broodstock, or that will be allowed to escape upriver to produce a new generation of wild salmon, they determine how many are available for harvesting.

The individual tribes decide the fishing seasons and regulations for their members. Tribes divide their allocated salmon harvest among three categories: ceremonial use, subsistence, and commercial fishing. Fishers exercising their treaty rights are legally entitled to half the yearly harvest of Columbia River salmon.

Occupational hazards

Although Native fishers work outdoors, some of their working and living conditions put them at increased risk of contracting the coronavirus. A typical fishing boat used for gillnet fishing is about 20 feet long and has a crew of four people who may or may not be members of the same household. Fishers are elbow-to-elbow while pulling in nets, which makes it impossible to maintain social distance.

While the gillnetting season was open, Brigham limited the size of her crew to reduce the chances of exposure to the coronavirus and to protect her father, who fishes with her. She fished with only her core crew, rather than hiring additional help.

But boats are not the only place where fishers come into close contact.

When the salmon are running, people from across the Pacific Northwest, many of them living on reservations in Washington, Idaho, and Oregon, come to the Columbia to fish. Tribal governments urged fishers to start social distancing even before heading to the river, to minimize their contacts with people outside their own households, and to get tested for Covid-19 through tribal clinics.

“People tend to travel from village to village, especially during fishing season,” says Lana Jack, who identifies as Celilo Wyam. Jack lives in Celilo Village and made regular deliveries last year of face masks, hand sanitizer, and other supplies to people at smaller villages along the Columbia.

Broken promises

Some Native American fishers live year-round at 31 fishing sites along the Columbia that are reserved for their use; many others join them seasonally. Many people at these sites are living in conditions that are unsafe and unsanitary. Legislation enacted in December 2019 authorized the Secretary of the Interior to assess and improve facilities at fishing sites, but that process is still in the assessment phase. The omnibus spending bill Congress passed shortly before the end of the year set aside \$1.5 million for the treaty sites in 2021.

Tribal governments brought in wash stations and additional portable toilets, and they increased janitorial services. But even at the best-equipped sites, fishers must share facilities such as showers and fish-cleaning stations. They have to crowd around processing tables that are not much bigger than a

dining table. The least-developed sites have only pit toilets and no running water. In the fall, the busiest season, hundreds of people fish on the river, and 2020 was no different.

The pandemic also brought new procedures for mask wearing and physical distancing at wholesale and over-the-bank sales stations. At the wholesale stations, “fishermen couldn’t get out of their vehicles,” says Brigham. But at over-the-bank stations, where fishers sell their catch directly to customers, not all of the customers took care to wear masks.

The federal government has broken its promises to construct permanent housing for Native American families whose homes along the Columbia were inundated by dam construction. Celilo Village, which is visible from Interstate 84, is the only site where the government has constructed replacement houses for Native Americans since dam construction began in the 1930s.

“It’s part of our identity to fish and to eat fish. For tribal people, there’s no way to keep them away from the river.” -- Jeremy FiveCrows, public affairs specialist for the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

At sites such as Lone Pine in The Dalles, residents still lack access to basic amenities, including running water, electrical connections, and a sewer system.

It’s not just about building houses, Pinkham says. River communities also need adequate health care and social services, a year-round economy, and schools for their children. “Covid has taught us a lot about the infrastructure for a long-term sustainable community on the river,” he says.

Sales decline

Living conditions at camps and villages weren’t the only challenges for fishers coping with Covid-19. Because of the virus, the fall commercial fishing season took place in a radically altered economic environment. In the U.S., about 70% of all seafood is consumed in restaurants, so restaurant closures and restrictions necessitated by the pandemic have had a major impact on the salmon business.

There are two types of customers for Columbia River salmon caught by Native fishers: The majority of the catch is purchased by wholesalers, who in turn sell the fish to higher-end restaurants and

grocery stores. The rest is sold “over the bank” directly to the public, either at businesses like the Brigham Fish Market or at small stands near the river in Cascade Locks and other locations along the Columbia River Gorge.

Roughly 75- to 80-percent of tribal fishers on the Columbia sell to wholesalers. This year, not as many wholesalers showed up to buy fish. Fishers can still sell directly to customers or to small markets like Brigham’s, but that doesn’t make up for the loss of their biggest market.

Additionally, fishers couldn’t apply for coronavirus assistance funding provided by the CARES Act until the commercial fishing season was underway, months after the pandemic began, because applicants were required to provide extensive documentation of their receipts and expenditures—paperwork that many fishers didn’t have.

Sales both to wholesalers and to the public have traditionally been cash transactions, and fishers have paid their crew members in cash. Many of them haven’t kept good records, and this traditional way of doing business has proved to be a problem in the time of Covid-19. Organizations like CRITFC and the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission have tried to help fishers quantify the economic impacts of the pandemic on their livelihoods, but the process has been frustrating for those who rely on the informal economy.

Many of these health and economic challenges are continuing into 2021. They come on top of climate forecasts that predict a continued decline in salmon runs.

That won’t stop fishing on the Columbia. As Covid-19 vaccines begin to roll out, people who fish the river eagerly await the arrival of the first spring Chinook salmon, which usually happens in early April.

“It’s part of our identity to fish and to eat fish,” says Jeremy FiveCrows, who is Nez Perce and works as a public affairs specialist at CRITFC. “For tribal people, there’s no way to keep them away from the river.”

(About the author: Dawn Stover is a freelance science and environmental writer based in White Salmon, Washington, and a contributing editor and columnist at The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists. This article first appeared at underscore.news)



Terrie Brigham, who manages the Brigham Fish Market in Cascade Locks, serves customers during a busy day at the market, despite the Covid-19 outbreak. Brigham, a member of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, calls herself “one of the lucky ones.” The market has stayed open during the pandemic by relying on takeout orders, outdoor seating, and federal relief funding that has helped keep employees on the payroll. Brigham’s sister owns the business, which specializes in fresh and smoked fish from the Columbia River, mostly caught by family members.

New report says ‘time running out’ for some salmon species

A new Northwest report puts it bluntly: Because of the devastating effects of climate change and deteriorating habitats, several species of salmon in the Pacific Northwest are “on the brink of extinction.” As an example:

Of the 14 species of salmon and steelhead trout in the state of Washington that have been deemed

endangered and are protected under the Endangered Species Act, 10 are lagging behind recovery goals, and five of those are considered “in crisis.”

This assessment is contained the 2020 State of Salmon in Watersheds report, released this month. “Time is running out,” the report says.

“The climate is changing, rivers are warming, habitat is diminishing, and the natural systems that support salmon in the Pacific Northwest need help now more than ever.”

Researchers say recovery efforts—involving tribes, state and federal agencies, local conservation groups and others—have

helped slow the decline of some salmon populations. The January report finds that two species—the Hood Canal summer chum and Snake River fall chinook—have been approaching their recovery goals.

It also notes that no new salmon species had been added to the endangered list since 2007.

Symptoms of Covid-19 can include fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, loss of taste or smell. If you have symptoms or are concerned you came in contact with Covid-19, call the registered nurse health advice hotline at 1-866-470-2015. During business hours you can call the IHS Covid-19 nurse triage hotline at 541-553-5512.

866-299-0644

Large enough to serve you... Small enough to care

Early CRUMPER



Large enough to serve you.... Small enough to care

<div>2020 Buick Encore GX - \$26,210 #079888</div> <div></div>	<div>2020 Chevrolet Camaro - \$29,390 #134365</div> <div></div>
<div>2020 Buick Encore - \$25,865 #117762</div> <div></div>	<div>2018 Chevrolet Malibu - 30,768 miles - \$18,995 #10838A</div> <div></div>
<div>2018 Chevrolet Colorado - 30,730 miles - \$32,995 #33476A</div> <div></div>	<div>2016 GMC Sierra - 85,185 miles - \$35,995 #24726A</div> <div></div>
<div>2015 Chevrolet Equinox - 133,374 miles - \$12,995 #46039A</div> <div></div>	<div>2012 GMC Terrain - 95,091 miles - \$13,995 #28371A</div> <div></div>
<div>2012 Chevrolet Equinox - 107,000 miles - \$10,995 #72150A</div> <div></div>	<div>2010 Chevrolet Silverado - 124,000 miles - \$18,995 #CO135</div> <div></div>
<div>2008 GMC Acadia - 91,408 miles - \$12,995 #18756B</div> <div></div>	<div>2007 GMC Yukon - 163,339 miles - \$13,975 #00488B</div> <div></div>

Jefferson County reports slight job growth

The Central Oregon region overall posted monthly job losses in December for the first time since April 2020, following the initial wave of Covid-19 cases in the region. Jefferson was the one county in the region that saw a small job gain in December, the most recent month for which numbers are available.

Jefferson County posted a gain of 20 jobs last month, bringing its unemployment rate to 7.1 percent—an improvement of 0.3 percent from the previous month.

Still, in the county the unemployment rate was 3 percent higher than in December of 2019, when the rate was 4 percent.

Jefferson County has already regained nearly 75 percent of jobs lost since the initial Covid-19 shock of March 2020, according to the Oregon Department of Employment.

The leisure and hospitality sector remains down by 100 jobs from this time last year; however, the drop of roughly 16 percent in this sector isn’t nearly as severe as in other communities.

Although the county did not lose jobs in December, the pace of recovery continues at a slow rate.

Crook County: Unemployment rose to 7.6 percent in December, up from 7.4 percent in November.

Deschutes County: Unemployment increased to 7.6 percent in December, up significantly from 6.7 percent in November. The rate in Deschutes was 4.4 percent higher than in December 2020.

Covid outbreak at St. Charles-Redmond facility

St. Charles Health System this month reported an outbreak of Covid-19 cases at the St. Charles Redmond hospital campus.

Thirty-one caregivers at the Redmond facilities tested positive. The outbreak was traced to a patient who, during care, had twice tested negative.

“We are taking every possible measure to stop the spread of the virus, to protect our patients and our caregivers,” said Aaron Adams, chief executive officer for the Redmond hospital.

In addition to existing Covid-19 precautions, the Redmond hospital has put in place new safety measures, including limiting visitation.

OSU Cascades minority business help in C.O.

To help increase the success of minority-owned businesses in Central Oregon, the Oregon State University—Cascades’ Innovation Co-Lab has partnered with area organizations to launch a program for under-served entrepreneurs on the Warm Springs Reservation, the rest of Jefferson County, and Deschutes and Crook counties.

The program will provide participants with coaching, business plan development tools, and access to financial resources including loans, investment capital and grants, as well as ongoing advising.

The Blue Fund program is made possible thanks to a \$10,000 gift from the Facebook Prineville Data Center that was secured by the OSU Foundation.

“The number of minority-owned small businesses in the U.S. grew by 79 percent between 2007 and 2017, yet minority entrepreneurs are three times as likely to be rejected for a business loan,” said Adam Krynicki, executive director of the Innovation Lab.

“Facebook’s generous gift will allow the Innovation Co-Lab to support underserved entrepreneurs in Central Oregon, perhaps saving them from total loss during the pandemic and giving all of them tools to thrive.”

Student interns in the Innovation Co-Lab will provide technical assistance and support for participating entrepreneurs. The first cohort of the Blue Fund program starts this Wednesday, January 27. Interested entrepreneurs can apply at: osucascades.edu/bluefund.

For additional information contact: adam.krynicki@osucascades.edu

Tribes welcome cancellation of XL pipeline

Tribal leaders, especially in South Dakota, are applauding the federal government’s move to halt the Keystone XL Pipeline. Tribal members from across Indian Country, including many from Warm Springs, have voiced opposition to the pipeline.

President of the Oglala Lakota Nation, Kevin Killer said the cancellation of the pipeline permit “sends a strong message to tribal nations, and symbolizes a willingness to build on government-to-government relationships established through our treaties,” referencing his tribe’s 1851 and 1868 Fort Laramie treaties of the Great Sioux Nation.

Chairman of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Harold Frazier said the pipeline posed a danger to tribal land and people. “This project has scarred our territorial and treaty lands with its presence and threatened our people like a dagger to our throats,” Frazier said.

“We have witnessed the invasion of our land and the genocide of our families—this project is an extension of the racial, environmental and social injustices we have suffered.”

\$555

SUPER SUNDAY

TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

FINALS*

January 31st | 2PM

XXX

INDIAN HEAD CASINO

Today could be YOUR Lucky Day!

IndianHeadCasino.com • 541-460-7777 • US-26, Warm Springs, OR 97761

f

Twitter

YouTube

*ONLY QUALIFIERS FROM FOOTBALL FRENZY TOURNAMENTS ARE ELIGIBLE TO PLAY. See Players’ Club for details. Management reserves all rights.