

Grant will protect Whychus Creek

The Deschutes Land Trust has received a \$450,000, three-year commitment from an anonymous Oregon family foundation toward the Campaign for Whychus Creek. The Land Trust will use the first installment of the grant as a challenge to raise \$150,000 in matching campaign funds by the end of 2015. Funds will be used to conserve and care for lands along Central Oregon's Whychus Creek.

"We owe a huge debt of gratitude to the Oregon family foundation that stepped up to match the community's efforts in this Campaign for Whychus Creek. If you haven't already made a gift, now is the time — your impact will be so much greater," said Brad Chalfant, Deschutes Land Trust executive director.

Launched in the fall of 2014, the Land Trust's goal for the Campaign for Whychus Creek is to finish protecting the highest-quality wildlife habitat along Whychus Creek; ensure the permanent care of those lands for generations to come; and engage the community along the way. In the first year of the campaign, the Land Trust has raised more than a third of its goal for the campaign. They also protected two new



PHOTO BY RUSS MCMILLAN

The Camp Polk Meadow Preserve is the diamond in the crown of Deschutes Land Trust, now expanding its preservation of Whychus Creek.

parcels of land along Whychus Creek.

The 480-acre addition to Whychus Canyon Preserve, acquired in October 2014, protects another two miles of Whychus Creek and secures important habitat for salmon and steelhead, deer and elk, eagles and songbirds. Whychus Canyon Preserve is located between Sisters and Redmond and offers seasonal public hiking access to Whychus Creek. Public access to the 930-acre preserve is at the Whychus Canyon Preserve kiosk off of Goodrich Road.

Aspen Hollow Preserve

was acquired in April of 2015 and protects another 58 acres of land along Whychus Creek near Sisters. The preserve includes a half-mile of Whychus Creek, unique columnar cliffs, and pine and aspen stands. The property is home to a variety of wildlife species including salmon and steelhead, mule deer, rocky mountain elk, golden eagles, spotted bats and numerous songbirds.

Rankings put Aspen Lakes in elite company

The *Portland Business Journal* named Aspen Lakes Golf Course in Sisters as among the toughest courses in Oregon for men, joining a who's who list of regional courses that includes Bandon Dunes, Crosswater, and Pronghorn.

Aspen Lakes was ranked No. 4 in the state in a list of some of the toughest back tees in the state of Oregon. With a course rating of 75.4 from the 7,304-yard black tees, William Overdorf designed Aspen Lakes to be a stern test for great golfers. It is what makes the course such a wonderful tournament venue.

But with five sets of tees, plus myriad combination tees, Aspen Lakes can play to each individual golfer's ability. For instance, Aspen Lakes' 6,064-yard gold tees, the course rating drops to 69.7 for men.

Aspen Lakes has been enjoying some lofty rankings of late. Already this

year, *Golf Digest* named Aspen Lakes to the magazine's list of the top golf venues in Oregon. That puts Aspen Lakes proudly in the company of some of the country's most famous golf courses, many of which call Oregon home. And last year Aspen Lakes was featured on *The Morning Drive* show on *The Golf Channel* as one of travel guru Matt Ginella's top 10 hidden gem golf courses.

For more information about Aspen Lakes, visit their website at www.aspenlakes.com or call 541-549-4653.

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Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer Degree & Certificate of Completion, Practical Nursing

"Once admitted to medical school, I realized my educational path was very unique. Many of my classmates came from Ivy League schools and their stories of crowded classes, horribly competitive classmates and astronomical debt left me speechless. They spoke of office hours and classes led by teaching assistants with little access to their actual professors, and difficulty getting good letters of recommendation as they had no real face time with their science faculty.

"I contrasted this with my experience at COCC where I learned from incredible professors who really cared about my education and my overall success. I thought of several of my professors from COCC whom I still consider important mentors and good friends, and I thanked my lucky stars that I stayed in Bend where I had so many opportunities to find my way with the support of so many incredible people."

ERIN ZURFLU, M.D., ANESTHESIOLOGY RESIDENT PGY-3 (Post Graduate Year 3 of training), University of Colorado

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