

# Columbia Plateau Long Tent comes to Whitman College

East Oregonian

WALLA WALLA — An important element of Columbia Plateau culture and architecture, the Long Tent will host a weeklong series of speakers and events, the first of its kind on a college campus.

Whitman College and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation in a joint press release invited the public to attend an opening ceremony following the historic construction of a Plateau Long Tent on Whitman College's Ankeny Field on Monday, April 18, at 4:30 p.m.

The presence of the Long Tent on Whitman's campus is the culmination of many months of collaboration by the Long Tent Working Group, which comprises Whitman faculty, staff and students as well as members of local Native American communities. It builds on previous efforts to strengthen the relationship between Whitman and the CTUIR, including the landmark memorandum of understanding, according to the press release.

"The fact that we are establishing a piece of architecture like the Long Tent on a college campus in the United States is unprece-



Roger Amerman/Contributed Photo

The Long Tent is an important element of Columbia Plateau culture and architecture.

dent and wonderful," said Roger Amerman (Choctaw), a 1980 Whitman graduate and co-director of the event. "In modern times, you infrequently see the Long Tent architecture set up for only special events, and only in the reservation communities. This will probably be the first and last time Whitman College students will see a long tent."

The Long Tent will be near Treaty Rock, site of the Treaty of 1855 in which tribes were compelled to cede much of their ancestral territory to white settlers.

In the Walla Walla Sahaptin language, the Long Tent is known as kwalk inee and is distinct to Native American tribes of the Columbia Plateau. Traditionally, it is used as an extended

family dwelling or community structure for lodging, social, ceremonial and religious activities at different times of the year. The Long Tent constructed at Whitman will be for educational rather than ceremonial purposes, with certain courses spending class time inside the structure.

"It is difficult to overstate the significance of this project

and the opportunities it presents to both our students and the wider community," said working-group member Helen Kim, Whitman professor of sociology and associate dean for faculty development. "It combines experiential learning with the need for greater engagement with the complex history of our region, which has been a major point of focus for us in recent years."

Tribal leader E. Thomas Morning Owl (Umatilla and Kainai) will be CTUIR elder-in-residence, while Donald Sampson, hereditary chief of the Waluulapam (Walla Walla people) and CTUIR executive director, will lead the opening ceremony. Dignitaries and elders from local Plateau tribes, such as the Cayuse, Colville, Nez Perce, Umatilla and Walla Walla, also will participate, including Kat Brigham, chair of the CTUIR Board of Trustees.

For more information about the Long Tent, go to whitman.edu/the-long-tent.

Visitors are welcome to take part in additional programming designed to deepen their understanding of the Walla Walla Basin and Native American communities in the area, including talks, panels and presentations throughout the week of April 18-24. A full schedule of events is available online. Attendees must adhere to the Visitor Vaccination Requirement.

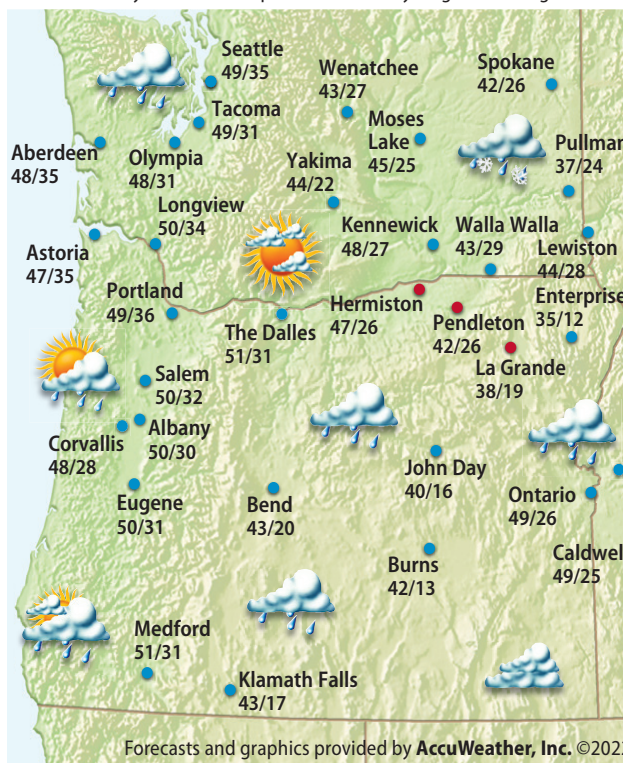
According to the press release, portions of some events may not permit filming or recording, and media and guests should be respectful of speakers' requests to put phones and cameras away.

## Forecast for Pendleton Area

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
A little snow this morning	Showers of rain and snow	Cold; a little morning rain	Warmer with sun, then clouds	Some brightening
PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
42° 26°	48° 33°	45° 30°	54° 39°	59° 40°
HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
47° 26°	55° 35°	49° 32°	60° 42°	61° 44°

## OREGON FORECAST

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.



## ALMANAC

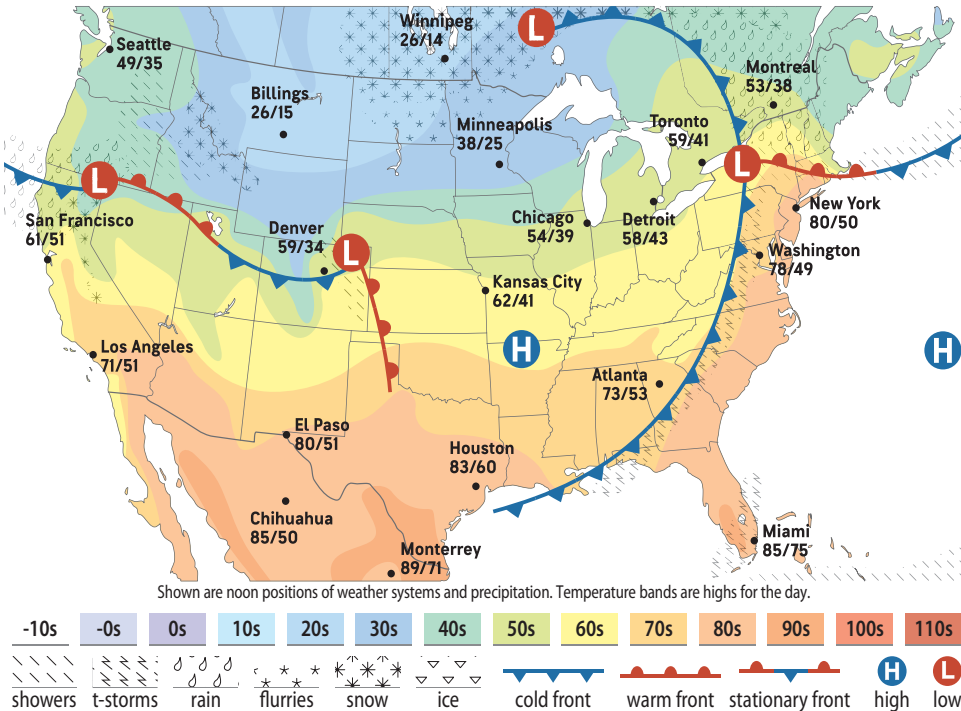
PENDLETON through 3 p.m. yest.		
TEMP.	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	41°	27°
Normals	62°	39°
Records	92° (1904)	21° (1911)
PRECIPITATION		
24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.03"	
Month to date	0.54"	
Normal month to date	0.61"	
Year to date	4.14"	
Last year to date	3.34"	
Normal year to date	4.68"	
HERMISTON through 3 p.m. yest.		
TEMP.	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	44°	29°
Normals	66°	38°
Records	86° (1947)	21° (1968)
PRECIPITATION		
24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.01"	
Month to date	0.70"	
Normal month to date	0.35"	
Year to date	2.65"	
Last year to date	1.73"	
Normal year to date	3.12"	
WINDS (in mph)		
Today	Fri.	
Boardman	NW 6-12	
Pendleton	WNW 6-12	
Enterprise	ESE 6-12	
SUN AND MOON		
Sunrise today	6:12 a.m.	
Sunset tonight	7:40 p.m.	
Moonrise today	5:27 p.m.	
Moonset today	5:38 a.m.	

## NATIONAL EXTREMES

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)

High 107° in McAllen, Texas Low -17° in Lake Yellowstone, Wyo.

## NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



# Flying high in Stratos Aircraft, designed and built in Redmond

By TIM TRAINOR  
Redmond Spokesman

REDMOND — Commercial airlines have had a difficult few years. Travel restrictions, mask mandates and soaring fuel prices all reduced demand for their services — and made the flying experience pretty miserable for their customers.

But during that same stretch, a group of aeronautics engineers in Redmond had a pretty productive time. Later this summer, Stratos Aircraft plans to go public with their finished product: the 716X. The single-engine, six-passenger plane will be marketed as a less expensive, more efficient private aircraft.

Carsten Sundin, the chief technology officer for Stratos, said the pandemic restrictions were not much of a problem for the company. It had funding in place before the first economic rattle hit — and it wasn't yet ready to go out to pound the pavement and entice buyers.

"We've been hunkered

down," Sundin said. "We have continued to do what we needed to do on the development side. It would have been far harder if we were at the stage when we needed to have customers traveling to the area to make sales."

That time, however, is soon approaching. The company expects to start selling its jets in July or August, according to Sundin, who said the final product would be roughly "95% engineered and built in Central Oregon."

Stratos operates out of a facility in southeast Redmond. It has 18 employees, most of whom are long-time veterans of the Central Oregon aeronautics companies, including Lancair and Epic. The Redmond operation includes a composite shop and metal shop.

There were issues in the supply chain, of course. Machine parts — especially carbon fiber — became more difficult to find. Raw materials became more difficult to locate and were more expensive. Stratos started to order

specialized parts months in advance to be sure each would arrive on time.

"The price change on some of the materials has been incredible," said Sundin. "Aluminum has just about tripled in the last year."

And then there's the transportation industry, which was ravaged by COVID-19 lockdowns. Commercial flights ground to a halt as people canceled trips. Business travel took a major hit as more people worked from home and business conventions were canceled. And recently, a big jump in fuel prices have led to a big increase in ticket prices.

Sundin said he thinks the disruptions to air travel from 2020-22 ultimately will benefit the company.

"I don't see any issue with it," he said. "I think more people, if they can afford it, are going to want to fly privately (rather) than commercial. There's just so many hassles ... security, rules and stipulations."

## IN BRIEF

### ODOT work in Joseph to accommodate tourist season

JOSEPH — The Oregon Department of Transportation schedule of sidewalk work in Joseph received a nod from the city council during its meeting April 7.

The plans to refurbish sidewalks and ramps to conform with federal Americans with Disabilities Act standards have drawn concern from the Joseph Chamber of Commerce and merchants about the work disrupting the downtown tourist season.

After an informational meeting on the project by ODOT with local residents April 4, the city collected written concerns and addressed them at last week's meeting.

Pro-tem Administrator Brock Eckstein said Monday, April 11, that the new plan is for work to be done on sidewalks and ramps on the south end of town during the height of the tourist season. Then, about mid-September, ODOT will transition to working downtown.

ODOT also agreed to let the city do its own landscaping.

"They also said rather than ODOT trying to meet the landscaping needs, (ODOT will) give money to the city to do it how we see fit rather than have a third-party contractor do it," Eckstein said.

He said ODOT will determine the amount in the next week or two, but estimated it will be \$200,000-\$250,000.

—EO Media Group

**CORRECTION:** The Saturday, April 9, edition of the East Oregonian ran inaccurate information on the records page about the criminal sentencing of Luis Enrique Garay. He pleaded guilty in Morrow County Circuit Court to 2020 charges of attempted first-degree sodomy, strangulation and fourth-degree assault.

The East Oregonian works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

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