

COCC Student Profiles

Balancing work, family and school

My name is Alexandria Anguiano. I'm attending Central Oregon Community College full time and will be graduating this June.

I'll graduate with an Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer Degree in General Studies. I'm also working at the Warm Springs Branch of Natural Resources.

I'm a single mom, and I volunteer at Culture and Heritage as a camp counselor. So to say my life is busy is an understatement!

At home I'm teaching my kids autnischun sapsqwikwat, which is our language.

I decided to go to school because it was hard to find a job without a college education, and I thought it would benefit my family.



Alexandria Anguiano

I love being here. I love learning all these things I never thought of. I like being able to still stay in Warm Springs and commute. That is really convenient for me.

I feel like I'm walking away with a great experience. I

love being around my family, and they're very happy to have me go to school.

I hope I can motivate my younger siblings to stay in school, and then maybe go to college.

I help out in the longhouse kitchen during Feast time. I help with the berries and roots, and I'm hoping to pass this down to my daughters.

I've learned I'm a lot smarter than I thought I was. I was scared at first, but now I know that I'm a better writer than I ever thought I was.

I didn't think I could do it because I didn't know too many college people. But I'm making it and moving forward, and hopefully one day I'll be a good example.

Looking to give back to community

My name is Jose Alvarez, and I'm in the Exercise Science Program at Central Oregon Community College.

When I first started at COCC, I was thinking I would one day work with a professional sports team.

But now I'm realizing how many options there are for me with this degree. So I'm not sure exactly what I want to do when I graduate.

I decided to go to college because I looked around, and looked at my life, and saw that I wasn't going in the direction that I should have been going.

I had also gotten involved with the Canoe Family, where I was a skipper or lead puller.

I found myself hanging out with these younger people, and drumming and singing, and felt like I was a bridge between the young and old. So wanted to set a better example for them.

The Canoe Family inspired me. Before, I was doing whatever I could just to get by. Then, like I said, I started learning songs and our language, and it changed my perspective on who I was and



Courtesy of Gina Ricketts/COCC

Jose Alvarez with Canoe Family on Journey.

what I send out to others.

School is hard, because sometimes I get a little bored. The classes can seem a little repetitive, and I catch on fast. But I know I need a degree, so I've planned it all out. I'll be done by next year.

I'd like to stay in Warm Springs and give back to my community. But it really depends on what kind of position I can find.

I don't want to spend all this time and money on a degree and work for \$11 an hour. A lot of times in Warm Springs you work really hard and really long for very little pay, so I'm kind of on the fence as to where I'll end up.

I think about creating a place for where the young people who aren't so athletic can get motivated.

This way they would be healthier, which would help them make better decisions, do better in high school, and improve their lives all around.

There's a place in Ohio that's doing this and they're seeing higher test scores and grades from the kids that get involved in something like this.

What keeps me going to school is not wanting to end up doing a life of nothing.

Tribal First Foods and climate change

by Paul Lumley, CRITFC Executive Director

For thousands of years, tribal cultures have been based on the First Foods that each came at their appointed time.

Our calendars and travels were based on when these sacred foods—the salmon, the game, the roots, and the berries—were ready for harvest.

Now, tragically, changes to the environment due to climate change are already having an impact on the plants and animals of the Columbia River basin.

In fact, the tribes are some of the first to have noticed the slight changes that began happening

years ago, when huckleberries were ripening earlier than anyone could remember, or when roots weren't growing as large as they once had.

These changes haven't stopped there, and are getting more noticeable.

We no longer see the deep mountain snowpacks; and as a result, the warmer rivers no longer cooled by the cold water melting from them are altering the timing of the salmon return.

All of these changes are adding up to a very real threat and danger, not only to the balanced ecosystem of the region and the planet, but to the cultures that depend on them, too.

Knowing what is happening makes watching these slow changes seem like watching a train wreck in slow motion.

CRITFC has been studying climate change and working to predict the effects it will have on the Columbia River basin.

By anticipating how salmon and rivers will be impacted, we are providing the tribes with information they can use to prepare for the expected changes.

Ultimately, the governments of the world must come together to address this issue, as only by a united, global effort do we have any hope to solve this threat to us all.

I am confident, however that the tribes and CRITFC will be strong voices calling for action to protect and restore sacred Mother Earth.

Our elders would expect no less from us. Generations yet to come are counting on it.

Culture Night and Fair in March

Culture and Heritage will host the Culture Night and Fair in March at the Warm Springs Eagle Academy.

"In order for us to remain a healthy people in a sovereign nation, we must honor our ancestors and know our history. It is important to understand how the European Americans and the United States government have impacted our way of life, and how we have man-

aged to progress in that changing environment.

From time immemorial we have examined our past to better prepare for the future. It is no different today."

Those are words from the Warm Springs *People's Plan*:

"That document is important because it represents the input of more than 900 community participants including students, parents, teachers, elders, community members, tribal employees and enterprises," said Deanie Smith, language coordinator at the Culture and Heritage Department.

The goal of the Culture Night and Fair, set for March 19, is to provide students and families with a positive learning experience. The subject will be the culture and com-

munity of Warm Springs.

A Tribal Council priority is improving academic performance and cultural preservation, by implementing tribal language and cultural curricula, Deanie said. "The Culture Night and Fair will be a great opportunity to start working toward this goal," she said.

There are several ways to get involved, and the door is open to all. Some of the ways to get involved include hosting a classroom by teaching a cultural activity, conducting a performance, or providing food or supplies.

If you are interested in participating in this event, please contact Deanie Smith at 541-553-3290. Or email at: deanie.smith@wstribe.org

Tribal Council agenda items

(The following are some of the items on the February Council agenda.)

Monday, Feb. 23

- 9 a.m. - Secretary-treasurer update.
- 10 - March agenda/travel delegations/minutes, with the s-t.
- 11 - Draft resolutions with the s-t.
- 1:30 p.m. - Legislative update calls.
- 3 - Enrollments with Yvonne Poorbear/Vital Stats.

Tuesday, Feb. 24

- 9 a.m. Warm Springs Power and Water Enterprises with Jim Manion.
- 10 - Joint Health Commission update.
- 1:30-3:30 p.m. - Warm Springs Ventures/Telecom with Don Sampson and Jose Mantanane.

Wednesday, Feb. 25

- 9 a.m. - Finance update (2014) with Mike Collins.

Thursday-Friday, Feb. 26-27 - Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission meeting.

(Note: All draft resolutions must be sent to the secretary-treasurer by email in word form two weeks prior to being taken into Council for presentation. Copy to Lynn Davis at the management office.

jake.suppah@wstribe.org
ldavis@wstribe.org

Future items for Council consideration: The tribal tax commission, 4 Chairs, Paul Lumley-CRITFC.

House for sale

Three bedroom, two full bathrooms, newer roof, woodstove, pellet stove in sunken living room, fireplace in master bedroom. New low E vinyl windows, new heat pump, fenced yard, huge 2-car garage. Appraised at \$145,500. Listing for \$140,000. May be willing to help you with down payment. Call 541-460-2163, or contact tribal Credit for loan approval.

The Museum at Warm Springs is now on their winter hours. The Museum is open Tuesdays through Saturdays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The museum is closed on Sundays and Mondays.

4202 Holliday St. Call 541-615-0555
WARM SPRINGS TELECOM

High Looke Lodge
Assisted Living Facility
Call 541-553-1182



2321 Ollallie Lane (PO Box 6)
Warm Springs, OR 97761