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Columbia Plateau Native stories online

The virus pandemic has meant that Confluence Story Gatherings have been on delay. The last gathering of the Confluence Columbia River Native heritage storytelling was in February, when a panel of Indigenous historians and leaders led a thought-provoking discussion in Vancouver.

The gatherings are on hold; yet the themes and lessons are timeless, and relevant today as we work toward a more inclusive understanding of the land we share.

The Story Collection can be seen at the site confluenceproject.org

The collection includes a

two-part podcast from that Story Gathering, along with a selection of writings and interviews around the notion that our ecology is inextricably linked to Native history and our future together.

Colin Fogarty, the Confluence project.

High Desert welcomes silver fox

Visitors returning to the High Desert Museum after its three-month closure will meet a new mammal in the museum's care—a 1-year-old gray fox.

The fox arrived at the High Desert Museum shortly before the facility's closure to the public. The museum has not yet chosen a name for the animal.

The female fox was found severely malnourished and with a seriously injured hip as a pup in southwestern Oregon. She was brought to Bend after surgery to remove part of her femur.



Silver fox still to be named

The fox also was wearing a collar around her neck when found: Professional wildlife rehabilitators determined she is habituated to humans, meaning she doesn't have adequate fear of humans to be able to survive in the wild.

The museum's reopening day in June marked the first time the general public has gotten to see the fox. She is one of the first new mam-

mals to come into the museum's care in several years.

"This gray fox is inquisitive and very active," says museum executive director Dana Whitelaw.

The fox is in an outdoor habitat that's specially designed for her needs. The exhibit includes a hollow log, an above-ground shelter, a ground-level shelter and a below ground-level den, as well as two climbing structures, a resting shelf and a variety of rocks and other logs.

"This fox is very playful," museum Curator of Wildlife Jon Nelson says. "She loves to climb and is extremely agile despite her hip surgery." Gray foxes are both cursorial and arboreal—meaning they both run and climb.

Cares Act

(Continued from page 1)

Tribal Council has taken action to utilize some of the funds provided to the tribe by Congress under the Cares Act to assist the membership, said Raymond Tsumpti, Council chairman.

Grants will assist members with coronavirus pandemic related expenses such as loss of income, added expenses for food, utilities, transportation, housing, educational needs, home care, medical services, and other costs incurred responding to the crisis.

Additional grants will be provided in October of this year.

These grants will be exempt from federal taxation. The tribes are in the process of setting up the program, including the hiring of the Cares Act administrator.

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