

Letters to the editor

Seasonal flu shots at clinic

This winter is seeing a high number of seasonal flu cases.

To help address the matter locally, the Indian Health Service Warm Springs clinic has a good supply of vaccines available.

All people age 6 months and older are encouraged to receive a flu vaccine. The vaccine is especially important for people at higher risk of having serious complications from the flu virus. For more information or for an appointment, call the clinic.

Meanwhile, the latest covid booster shots are also available, designed to help address the most recent variants. You can schedule an appointment at 541-553-2610.

Place names

The U.S. Department of the Interior Advisory Committee on Reconciliation in Place Names will hold its first public meetings starting at 11 a.m. on December 7 and 8.

The advisory committee is tasked with identifying federal land unit names and geographic feature names that may be considered derogatory, and creating recommendations for potential replacement names.

Members of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs were early advocates of the idea of getting rid of offensive place names: In 2006 the name Whychus Creek—regarding the river system that runs through northern Deschutes and southern Jefferson counties—replaced the previously

offensive name. The Whychus re-naming happened through the advocacy of Warm Springs members Tribes. The U.S. Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland this year supported the creation of the advisory committee that is looking at other public place names in the U.S., and will coordinate the renaming of those with offensive names.

To ranchers, farmers of the reservation

The U.S. Department of Agriculture reminds ranchers and farmers of Jefferson and Wasco counties, including the reservation, to vote in the Farm Services Administration County Committee elections. December 5 is the last day to return ballots.

The nominees up for election in Jefferson County Local Administration Area 1, which covers much of the reservation, are Alfredine Smith, Shirley Allen and Dustin Suppah.

The nominees up for election in Wasco County LAA 3, which includes South Wasco County, from Tygh Valley to Antelope, are Timothy J. Morelli and Mary A. Forman.

FSA county committee members provide valuable knowledge and judgment as decisions are made about the services provided, including disaster and safety-net programs.

Each candidate is nominated to serve as a committee member for a 3-year term. Newly elected com-

mittee members will take office January 1. Locally elected county committee members help FSA make important decisions on its commodity support programs, conservation programs, indemnity and disaster programs, and emergency programs and eligibility. Producers must participate or cooperate in an FSA program to be eligible to vote in the county committee election. A cooperating producer is someone who has provided information about their farming or ranching operation but may not have applied or received FSA program benefits.

Nursing program

Central Oregon Community College is hosting a virtual information session for

its nursing program from 9-10 a.m. on Friday, December 2, to include a program overview, structure, length and cost. The sessions are designed for students interested in COCC's associate degree in nursing.

To receive the Zoom link, please email: selectiveadmissions@cocc.edu

Include full name and phone number. Sessions cover minimum requirements to apply to the program, how applicants are selected, deadlines and more.

The formal presentation usually runs 45 minutes with plenty of time for questions during and after. Prospective nursing students are strongly encouraged to attend.

Klamath dams set for removal

A major milestone happened this month in the effort to decommission four hydroelectric dams on the Klamath River. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission allowed the utility PacificCorp to turn them over to a nonprofit that will begin removing them next year.

Frankie Joe Myers is the vice chair of the Yurok Tribe in Northern California. His tribe and others in the area have been advocating for the dams to be taken out for two decades to protect salmon and other fish.

"This is a good day," Mr. Myers said when he heard the announcement. "Today is the day we fought 20 years

for and we're here, we're going to start work. Everyone is very excited."

The dams have resulted in large numbers of fish dying because of toxic algae blooms and parasites that grow in warm water. The first dam could come out as soon as next year with the other three scheduled to be removed in 2024. The river will then be the site of a large-scale environmental restoration project.

The Madras Saturday Market Holiday Bazaar is this Friday and Saturday, December 2-3 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds.

New journal highlights Indigenous voices of Columbia River

A new journal by the nonprofit Confluence is designed to elevate Indigenous perspectives in how people understand the Columbia River and its tributaries.

Voices of the River features articles, stories, poetry and artwork by Native American writers and artists from Northwest tribes.

Confluence and its supporters celebrated the release of the inaugural issue of the journal during a launch party and panel discussion earlier in November at the Oregon Historical Society in Portland.

Voices of the River features first-person narratives from Linda Meanus of Warm Springs/Celilo heritage; and Confluence founding board chair Antone Minthorn, Umatilla. The journal features articles by authors Rachel Cushman (Chinook) and Chance White Eyes (Oneida), Sean Smith (Chi-



Confluence digital manager Lily Hart, author Emily Washines (Yakama), author Sean Smith (Chinook), poet Ed Edmo (Shoshone-Bannock), author Rachel Cushman (Chinook), author Chance White Eyes (Oneida), and Confluence executive director Colin Fogarty (from left): Thanks to the Oregon Historical Society for hosting our journal launch party in November 2022.

nook), Emily Washines (Yakama), Carlee Wilson (Chinook), and poetry by Ed Edmo (Shoshone-Bannock); and artwork by Tommy Greyeyes (Navajo) accompa-

nying the articles.

Confluence digital manager Lily Hart edited the journal, with layout designs by Brian Boram of RMB Vivid. The project was

funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Copies of *Voices of the River* can be ordered at the website: confluenceproject.org

The publication will also be available at book stores.

Confluence is a community-supported nonprofit with the mission to connect people to the history, living cultures, and ecology of the Columbia River system through Indigenous voices. The group has completed five art installations that stretch from the mouth of the Columbia River to the banks of the Snake River in southeastern Washington. One of the Confluence sites is by Celilo Village.

Confluence has also developed a series of educational programs in schools and public gatherings, designed to elevate Indigenous voices in our understanding of the Columbia River system.

Summaries of Tribal Council

October 17 (from page 3)

• Enrollments with Lucille Suppach-Sampson of Vital Stats:

Motion by Carlos adopting Resolution No. 12,986, enrolling seven individuals. Second by Jay. Question; Jim/yes, Joe/yes, Captain/yes, Jay/yes, Delvis/yes, Carlos/yes, Rosa/yes, 7/0/0, Chairman not voting; Motion carried.

• Tribal Council November Agenda-Robert Bruno: Motion by Captain approving Tribal Council's November agenda. Second by Jay; Question; Jim/yes, Joe/yes, Captain/yes, Jay/yes, Delvis/yes, Carlos/yes, Rosa/yes, 7/0/0, Chairman not voting; Motion carried.

• Response to American Cruise Lines and 2022-2025 Fish Accord Extension-Brent Hall. Discussion with the tribal attorney:

Motion by Captain adopting Resolution No. 12,987, by the Twenty-Ninth Tribal Council of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, pursuant to the Tribal Constitution and by-laws of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, Article V, Section 1 approves the 2022 Amendment to the Fish Accord and authorizes the Tribe's Chairman to sign the 2022 Amendment to the Fish Accord. Second by Jay. Question; Jim/yes, Captain/yes, Jay/yes, Delvis/yes,

Carlos/yes, Rosa/yes, 6/0/0, Chairman not voting; Motion carried.

Indian Health Service update with Michele Miller.

Motion by Jay to adjourn at 5 p.m.

October 18

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 by Chairman Jonathan Smith Sr. Roll call: Vice Chairman Raymond 'Captain' Moody, Lincoln Jay Suppah, James 'Jim' Manion, Alvis Smith III, Rosa Graybael, Carlos Calica, Chief Joseph Moses. Minnie Yahtin, Recorder.

• Tribal Employment Rights Office Commission update-Mona Cochran and Shirley Allen.

• Meet and greet with Roselyn Tso, Indian Health Service director.

With no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

October 19: Special meeting

The meeting was called to order at 10:23 by Chairman Jonathan Smith Sr. Roll call: - Lincoln Jay Suppah, Alvis Smith III, Vice Chairman Raymond 'Captain' Moody, Carlos Calica, Rosa Graybael. Minnie Yahtin, Recorder.

• Meet and discussion with the new United States Attorney, Natalie Wight; Tim Simmons and Pam Passo, Assistant United States Attorney.

• Tribal Wildland Fire

Management Programs Omission from the Implementation of Section 40803 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Letter-Tribal Council:

Motion by Captain authorizing the Chairman to sign the letter of support. Second by Alvis. Question; Captain/yes, Jay/yes, Alvis/yes, Carlos/yes, Rosa/yes, 5/0/0, Chairman not voting; Motion carried.

Motion by Captain to adjourn at 1:20 p.m.

October 24

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 by Chairman Jonathan W. Smith Sr. Roll call: Vice Chairman Raymond

'Captain' Moody, James 'Jim' Manion, Alvis Smith III, Chief Joseph Moses, Wilson Wewa Jr., Carlos Calica, Rosa Graybael. Minnie Yahtin, Recorder.

• Blue Stone update with John Mooers. Akana update with Said Amali.

St. Charles Health Systems manager of Caregiver Inclusion and Experience discussion with Dr. Shilo Shaw Tip-pet and Tammy Wilson:

Consensus to have Michael Mason to follow up on this.

• Meet and greet with Rep. Greg Smith.

Motion by Captain to adjourn at 12 p.m.

Community notes...

The Warm Springs Community **Pet Food Bank's** next distribution is Saturday, December 10 from 10 a.m. until noon.

The pet food bank is unable to accept more families into the program at this time.

You can learn more by emailing Pet Food Bank at: petfoodbank@fencesforfido.org

The Friday, December 2 **Senior Meal** is chicken pasole. Meals are 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. for delivery to out-lying areas or pick up at the Greeley Heights community building.

The **Madras Aquatic Center Recreation Dis-**

trict is accepting applications to fill one open position on its budget committee to serve a two-year term beginning in January.

Applicants must be registered voters and reside within the district's boundaries, which includes the reservation.

Interested candidates can download the application from the aquatic center website.

If there are any questions, contact Courtney Snead, executive director by email at: executivedirector@macrecdistrict.com

Or call 541-475-4253. The deadline to submit applications for this vacancy is Tuesday, December 13 at 5:30 p.m.

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