



Spilyay Tymoo

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Public input needed on ECE plan

The Confederated Tribes and Early Childhood Education Center will hold two public hearing sessions this month regarding the 3-year funding plan for the ECE-Head Start and Early Head Start.

The public meetings sessions provide the ECE stakeholders—tribal members, tribal employees, partnering tribal programs, elders and other interested parties—an opportunity to express their support, raise concerns, and offer ideas regarding the three-plan; and any changes that may be needed to best meet the needs of the community and families.

The first public hearing session will be from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Wednesday, January 25 at the Education-Culture and Heritage building. Snacks and childcare provided. Session two will be January 25 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the ECE building, dinner and child care provided.

Every three years the tribes and ECE must submit their plan, or application, in order to receive the Child Care and Development Fund—CCDF—funding. The plan is submitted to the Administration for Children and Families Office of Child Care.

The public hearing, community input and feedback are the essential parts of the application process. Your participation is welcome and greatly appreciated. As Deanie Smith, ECE manager, explains in her notice of the January 25 sessions:

“The public hearing is held to provide the community the opportunity to comment and provide input and feedback of the proposed provision of child care services, and to list the many activities and services they are providing to meet the needs of low-income children and families.” (More details on page 9.)

Two court cases taking aim at tribal sovereignty

A case before the U.S. Supreme Court, and a lawsuit in Washington state are part of a coordinated campaign that experts say is pushing once-fringe legal theories to the nation's highest court, and representing the most serious challenge to tribal sovereignty in over 50 years. To begin with the Washington state lawsuit:

Maverick Gaming, operator of 19 card rooms in Washington and casinos in Nevada and Colorado, is challenging a 2020 law that allows sports betting only on tribal lands.

The lawsuit, filed in federal court in Washington state, claims the law created a “discriminatory tribal gaming monopoly.”

Court Cases continues on 6

For love and care of the animals

Growing up in Warm Springs, Coleicia Moses always liked being around animals. “We had pets and I was always interested in taking care of them,” Coleicia says. At the time, of course, “I never thought I could make a career of it.”

During high school, Coleicia went to Madras, then to the boarding school in Riverside, California, graduating in 2008. Moving back to Central Oregon, she went to Central Oregon Community College in Bend.

For a while, Coleicia was thinking of transferring to the University of Oregon. “I’d always thought I would do something in journalism,” she says.

Her parents are Paula Miller and the late Oliver Moses. The journalism idea came from her grandfather, Mr. Sidney Miller, the first publisher and editor of the *Spilyay Tymoo*.

So, in 2014, Coleicia was deciding whether to transfer to the



Coleicia Moses on the job at the animal hospital.

University of Oregon for journalism. By chance, though, this was at the time when COCC opened its new Veterinarian Technician Program. Coleicia decided to stay,

finished her Associates Degree at COCC, and in 2016 graduated from the COCC Veterinarian Tech program.

She now is a Certified Veteri-

narian Technician. “I found the work I should be doing,” Coleicia says.

She works at the Central Oregon Animal Hospital in Bend. Her job as the clinic lead Vet Technician requires working closely and one-on-one with the clinic veterinarian doctors. She assists them during the animal surgeries; she administers anesthesia, draws blood samples, gives the shots, and does other work that goes into caring for animals during their time at the hospital.

Her training and skills have now even brought her back to the reservation, where she helps with the vaccine clinics hosted by Fences for Fido and their partner the Companion Animal Medical Project, or CAMP.

The next pet clinic is this Saturday, January 14 by the Agency Fire Hall, where Coleicia will be among the trained professionals helping the pets and pet owners of the Warm Springs community.

— Dave McMechan

On the wild lands of the reservation

At more than 1,000 square miles in size, the Warm Springs Reservation is among the largest. On the wild lands from the Cascade Mountains to the Deschutes River are diverse wildlife habitats: forests and rangeland, rivers, lakes, streams, mountains and valleys.

And many kinds of animals, birds and fish make the reservation home. Big horn sheep, mountain goats, a rare pack of wolves, deer and elk, salmon, birds of prey and others are among the diversity.

There will be a chance to learn more about the reservation wildlands and wildlife at an upcoming presentation—a part of the *Nature Nights* series of the Deschutes Land Trust—at the Tower Theatre in Bend.

Austin L. Smith Jr., general manager of the tribes' Branch of Natural Resources, will give the presentation, to be called *Wild Horses, Wolves and Other Wildlife of the Warm Springs Indian Reservation*.

Mr. Smith will discuss the dynamics of managing the complex and at times competing populations of reservation



Photos CTWS/BNR

Big horn sheep (above), wolves, and rocky mountain goats are some of the wildlife found on the reservation.



wildlife. The presentation will be the evening of March 22 at the theater. The Deschutes Land Trust explains:

The discussion will be a chance learn more about the animals, trees, fish and other aspects of the natural environment, “as they adapt to climate change, wildfire risk, and the shift of predators within their habitats.” The presentation is free and ticket sales open one month prior to the event.

Meanwhile, the 2023 Deschutes Land Trust winter *Nature Nights* begins this month, the evening of January 25, with *Fungi in the Forest*. As the narration says, Central Oregon is



Deschutes Land Trust

Austin L. Smith Jr., Branch of Natural Resources general manager, will lead the discussion on reservation wildlife.

home to a broad range of fungi. Many of them play an important role in forest health and are adapted to our fire-dependent re-

gion. Then on the evening of February 21 will be *A History of Trees—Fire, Old-Growth, and Forest Restoration in Central Oregon*.

Infrastructure progress with water, landfill

The tribal infrastructure, as maintained and operated by tribal Utilities is large and varied. The Utilities team is always busy, often working long hours as needed, while the number of employees is small compared to the responsibilities. As one example, the Utilities general manager

Chico Holliday, usually in the field working, often puts in six days

long a week.

The reservation domestic water system is recently the most talked about aspect of the tribal infrastructure; though challenges have also been with the wastewater system, and for a time with the landfill.

Lately, the news been good at Utilities, Mr. Holliday says. The landfill, for instance, is no longer out of compliance, as a result of exten-

sive work with the Environmental Protection Agency.

Utilities has also worked on the domestic water lines serving the residents, school and businesses of the reservation. The single biggest project coming up in the foreseeable future is the water treatment plant at the Deschutes River.

IHS and the EPA recently approved \$24 million in funding for

a new water treatment plant, to be built on the site of the existing one.

The timeline for the new plant coming on-line is in the range of 4 or 5 years, as the project is large.

Meanwhile, separate funding, part from the USDA and part from the state, will be needed to ensure that the existing plant functions properly until the new one comes on line.



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Tuesday, Jan. 31st, 6PM - 9PM. See Table Games for details.

