

OSU Extension garden naming celebration

Regional staff of the Oregon State University Extension Service last week visited Warm Springs, joining Warm Springs OSU Extension in celebrating the dedication of the Warm Springs OSU Extension garden, named the Skulilama Garden.

The garden honors Arlene Boileu and husband Micky Boileau, long-time supporters of the program.

The dedication reads, “This garden is named in honor of Arlene and Mickey Boileau in recognition of their dedication to supporting youth to become life-long learners.”

Arlene wishes to share the following:

Thank you to all the Warm Springs OSU Extension staff, the Jefferson County Extension staff, and the my family and friends who traveled to Warm Springs for this event, and for the wonderful recognition you gave me.

I was absolutely overwhelmed with all the planning and work that I know each one of you put into this event.



Chris Branam photo, OSU Extension Communications.

The OSU Extension team with Arlene at the Skulilama Garden dedication ceremony.

I am truly honored you named the garden for my husband and me. All the spoken words inspired me and brought back a lot of fond memories of 4-H Culture Camp. Thank you and with deep appreciation and much love, Arlene Boileau.

Billion-dollar salmon project depends on giant fish vacuum

To free salmon stuck behind dams in Willamette River Valley, here’s what the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has in mind:

Build a floating vacuum the size of a football field with enough pumps to suck up a small river. Capture tiny young salmon in the vacuum’s mouth and flush them into massive storage tanks. Then load the fish onto trucks, drive them downstream and dump them back into the water. An enormous fish collector like this costs up to \$450 million, and nothing of its scale has ever been tested.

The fish collectors are the biggest element of the Army Corps’ \$1.9 billion plan to keep the salmon from going extinct.

The Corps says its devices will work. A cheaper alternative—halting dam operations so fish can pass—would create widespread harm to hydroelectric customers, boaters and farmers, the agency contends.

“Bottom line, we think what we have proposed will support sustainable, healthy fish populations over time,” Liza Wells, the deputy engineer for the Corps’ Portland district, said in a statement.

But reporting by Oregon Public Broadcasting and ProPublica casts doubt on the Corps’ assertions.

First, some leading scientists have said the project won’t save as many salmon as the agency claims.

A comprehensive scientific review in 2017 concluded that the use of elaborate fish traps and tanker trucks to haul salmon, as the Corps proposes, will “only prolong their decline to extinction.”

Moreover, many of the interests the Corps says it’s protecting maintain they don’t need the help—not power companies, not farmers and not businesses reliant on recreational boating.

The Corps’ effort to keep its dams running full-bore is a story of how the taxpayer-funded federal agency, despite decades of criticism, continues to double down on costly feats of engineering to reverse environmental catastrophes its own engineers created.

The 276-foot Lookout Point Dam on the Middle Fork of the Willamette River poses a major obstacle for tiny juvenile salmon as they attempt to migrate downstream Credit:U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

The only peer-reviewed cost-benefit analysis of the Willamette dams, published in 2021, found that the collective environmental harms, upkeep costs and risks of collapse

at the dams outweigh the economic benefits.

Congress has weighed in, twice calling on the Corps to study shutting down hydropower, which would free up more water for salmon. The agency blew its first deadline last year and now says it will perform an “initial assessment” to help decide whether to do the study required by law.

Emails obtained by ProPublica and OPB show that as Corps officials hashed out how to handle the mandate from Congress, they proposed actions that could increase public support for preserving hydropower. The Corps is now finalizing a plan that would continue electricity generation for the next 30 years.

“How can you finalize a long-term plan if you don’t know whether or not you’re going to continue hydro?” said former U.S. Rep. Peter DeFazio, D-Ore., who pushed for legislation ordering the Corps to study ending hydropower.

“They’re doing that without the study and the information they need,” he added.

Democrat Val Hoyle and Republican Lori Chavez-DeRemer, who now represent portions of DeFazio’s former district, said in separate written statements that it was urgent for the Corps to finish its study and no decisions on the Willamette should be made until that happens.

There is a simpler way to protect fish: opening dam gates and letting salmon ride the current as they would a wild river. It costs next to nothing, would keep the Willamette Valley dams available for their original purpose of flood control and has succeeded on the river system before. This approach is supported by Native American tribes and other critics.

The Corps ruled it out as a long-term solution for most of its 13 Willamette River dams, saying further reservoir drawdowns would conflict with other interests.

Many of Oregon’s most populous and valuable places, like downtown Portland, would spend parts of the year underwater if not for dams.

Congress ordered the Army Corps to build the system during the 1940s, ’50s and ’60s to hold back floodwaters in Oregon’s fertile Willamette Valley. Towns sprouted up in the security of 300-foot walls. Lawmakers approved additional uses for the dams. The

fish that attempted to scoot past.

In 2021, after salmon numbers on the Willamette reached historic lows, a federal judge said the fish’s recovery had been stymied far too long. Tribes and environmentalists cheered the judge’s ruling as a long-overdue remedy. But the Corps had its own ideas.

This article was produced by ProPublica’s Local Reporting Network in partnership with Oregon Public Broadcasting, and is reproduced here with permission.

But the monumental structures caused harm, too. Salmon evolved to swim and spawn in cold, free-flowing rivers that the dams choked into warm, stagnant lakes, full of bass and other invasive predators. Salmon need to get to the ocean and back, but the dam walls blocked their path. Whirring turbines bashed

fish that attempted to scoot past.

In 2021, after salmon numbers on the Willamette reached historic lows, a federal judge said the fish’s recovery had been stymied far too long. Tribes and environmentalists cheered the judge’s ruling as a long-overdue remedy. But the Corps had its own ideas.

This article was produced by ProPublica’s Local Reporting Network in partnership with Oregon Public Broadcasting, and is reproduced here with permission.

(from page 1)

Like today, Teeney says of Council, “They were looking out for the future generations.”

They stood on the Tribal Constitution and By-Laws, the 1855 Treaty and our sovereignty. I remember them saying, ‘We say what our sovereignty is. Nobody tells us what it is!’

“I consider myself fortunate to have worked with Tribal Council throughout the years. They’ve been rich with history and knowledgeable, and stood up for what they believe in.”

When she first started as Tribal Council office manager, “I had a staff of 14,” Teeney says. “Today there are eight. I loved working with everyone, and setting up a training plan for each of them. We tried to set a good example working with Tribal Council.”

She had the privilege of working with the late Larry Calica and Ken Smith. “And I learned a lot from them,” Teeney says, “The respect and support they had for Tribal Council, taking directives back to the organization to be carried out.”

Over these more recent years, Ms. Miller says, “Some of my former staff members stop by to see me, checking on me, letting me know how they are doing, and I love our visits. Someone asked me what the difference was when I started compared to today. Times have changed. It is so different today from yesteryear. Technology has taken over, and it’s time for me to move on.”

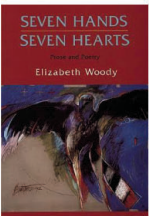
Now, with more free time, Teeney looks forward to working with her granddaughter Waurica, sewing and making regalia. Meanwhile, taking her place as Tribal Council office manager is Sandra Danzuka, a great new addition to the Tribal Council staff. “Sandra has all the knowledge for the job. She is a very smart girl,” Teeney says.

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Join us to celebrate Native American Talent!
All events are free & open to the public.

POETRY READING AND Q&A WITH ELIZABETH WOODY

Saturday, November 4, 6-7 p.m.



Pinckney Performing Arts
COCC Bend Campus
2600 NW College Way

Elizabeth Woody is a member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and American Navajo/Warm Springs/Wasco/Yakama artist, author, and educator. In March 2016, she was the first Native American to be named poet laureate of Oregon.

FLUTE CONCERT BY JAMES GREELEY

Tuesday, November 7, 2-3 p.m.

Hitchcock Auditorium
COCC Bend Campus, 2600 NW College Way

Grammy-Award-winning Native American flutist James Greeley is a member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and Hopi descent.



HIP-HOP/RAP PERFORMANCE BY BLUE FLAMEZ

Tuesday, November 7, 1-2 p.m.

Hitchcock Auditorium
COCC Bend Campus, 2600 NW College Way

Blue Flamez is a member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, hip-hop artist, and Winner of Tokyo Film Festival's Best Music Video.



COMEDY SHOW WITH GILBERT BROWN

Friday, November 17, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Community Room
COCC Madras Campus, 1170 E. Ashwood Road

Gilbert "The Naughty Rez Dog" Brown is a member of the Modoc, Klamath, Paiute, and Warm Springs tribes. Gilbert's storytelling style of comedy has audiences rolling as he spins tales from rodeos, living on the rez, and just dealing with people.



♿ In advance of College events, persons needing accommodation or transportation because of a physical or mobility disability should contact Caitlyn Gardner at 541-383-7237. For accommodation because of other disability such as hearing impairment, contact Disability Services at 541-383-7583.



CENTRAL OREGON
community college
DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

More information
Jeremiah Rector
jrector@cocc.edu | 541-318-3782 | cocc.edu/multicultural