



The Times

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SERVING WAITSBURG, DAYTON AND THE TOUCHET VALLEY

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ONE DOLLAR



Bill Rodgers

"Sunset Over the Eyebrow." The sunrises and sunsets have been particularly spectacular the past few days. Fortunately, the photographer saw this happening as he headed home from a quick trip to the store. He zoomed up the Middle Waitsburg Road to capture the sunset over one of his favorite eyebrows.

THIS WEEK



Doris K. Huffman, beloved Waitsburg educator and artist passed on November 29. (See page 3)



This week's recipe is perfect for holiday dinners, Cranberry Pumpkin Bread (See page 11)



Friends of the Library continue improvements. (See page 12)

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Waitsburg School Board recognizes outgoing member Hamann at special meeting

Hamann served on the board for nearly 20 years

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—The Waitsburg School Board met Thursday, December 2 for a special meeting.

Immediately after adopting the agenda, the board broke for a 15 minute recess. The board recognized long-time member and chair, Ross Hamann, who announced earlier this year that he would not be running for re-election. Hamann served on the board for nearly 20 years.

Superintendent Mark Pickel presented Hamann with a plaque that featured the Cardinal logo that Hamann drew years ago. The Cardinal has since become synonymous with the Waitsburg School District. Pickel also presented him with a lifelong athletic pass, something that any sports fan was sure to enjoy.

"It's been good, I've enjoyed it," Hamann said of his time on the board. "It's been challenging at times, but I wouldn't trade it for anything. This school is very important to this community."

Hamann shared that he originally joined the board as a way to give back to the district and the community that had such a big impact on his own life.

"I feel good about my time served," Hamann said, "I also feel good about my decision to not run again."

He said that a couple of his favorite memories on the board include being able to present both of his daughters' diplomas at graduation. He said that he had planned on retiring after his youngest daughter graduated in 2014, but was talked into serving for a little longer.

His parting words to the board: Don't serve with an agenda, but champion a cause. Don't look for problems, watch for progress. Trust your administrators, but hold them accountable.

"Always remember; we serve 270 students, 40 staff, and 1,500 community members," Hamann said.

Upon reconvening, Superintendent Pickel swore in re-elected board members Sarah Boudrieau and Lisa Morrow. He swore in newly-elected member Stephanie Cole, who assumed the seat vacated by Hamann.

A roll call vote ended with board member Christy House being selected as the new Chairman, and Lisa Morrow being selected as the Vice-Chair.

The board approved Resolution 120221 A- Enrichment Levy, as well as Resolution 120221B- Certification of Excess Property Taxes collected in 2022. These resolutions were approved by a board roll call vote.

Superintendent Pickel reported that he had received no applications for the Pro/Con committee, which would allow community members to weigh in on the proposed levy. He said



Dayton School Board meeting

By Justin Jaech | THE TIMES

DAYTON – The Dayton School District Directors held a meeting, using Zoom, on December 1, 2021, at 6 p.m.. All members of the board were present.

As the newly appointed board member, Zac Fabian participated in the board for the first time. Mr. Fabian joined the superintendent, Guy Strot, to take the oath of office.

The superintendent postponed discussing the strategic plan until the January meeting when the newly elected board members would join the board.

Strot walked the board through a presentation of charts and graphs showing the survey results from choice-out and home school parents. The survey, given to the parents, offered several reasons why students might have left Dayton schools and asked parents to answer "yes" or "no" as to whether each listed reason was a factor in their student leaving Dayton schools. Possible reasons for leaving listed were: academics, administration, athletics, bullying, discipline, safety, support staff, teachers, or other.

The most prevalent reason listed for leaving was the administration, with the next two most popular reasons being listed as teachers and other. Generally, most survey responses were not too far from a 50-50 split, with only "athletics" being an infrequently mentioned cause for leaving. As board chair, David Bailey mentioned the survey did not provide much information to show where the district should focus its efforts toward improvement.

Strot presented the district's 90-Day Plan for December through February, which was also the main topic of his community meeting in the high school auditorium the night before. Strot emphasized teacher clarity: having teachers use a concrete plan on what they want their students to know before each lesson and developing a lesson plan to inculcate those learning goals into their students.

Strot talked at length about collecting data and feedback from students, teachers, parents, and other community members. Some audience members gave forceful comments during the community forum, saying that collecting feedback was not helpful if the superintendent just passed it on to the responsible person in the administration. Some in the community meeting felt that the superintendent must close the loop by checking back with the original submitter of the comment to ensure their concerns were appropriately addressed. Others in the community forum went further, describing a need to allow someone, such as a teacher, to submit negative feedback without fear of retribution. The superintendent was also criticized for not attempting to conduct in-person interviews with every departing staff member, particularly teachers, feeling that the district may be missing items of concern that may need to be addressed by not doing so.

Strot addressed the issues of infrastructure improvement and greater learning options for students and hurdles and plans for funding such initiatives.

The board approved the recommendation of Jeremy Trump as the community representative for the Dayton Waitsburg athletic combine committee. Mr. Trump is a parent who has been very active and forthright in his involvement with the Dayton-Waitsburg athletic combine and is well-known to most board members. His selection elicited comments of solid support from a few of the board members.

The meeting adjourned at 6:29 for an executive session to discuss the conduct of a public employee and procedures for conducting the board evaluation of the superintendent's performance.



NEWS

NEWS BRIEFS

AT THE LIBERTY:

Ghostbusters: Afterlife

DAYTON—Ghostbusters: Afterlife. When a single mom and her two kids arrive in a small town, they begin to discover their connection to the original ghostbusters and the secret legacy their grandfather left behind. The film is the next chapter in the original Ghostbusters series.

Rotten Tomatoes critics give this movie a 63% favorable, but the audience gives it a 95%. The audience assessment is that this movie has “a great cast, a fast-paced story, and tons of callbacks to the original”. One critic at ign.com described this movie as “a film about family, forgiveness, and saving the world -- but along the way, of course, there are puzzles, mysteries, and haunted mine shafts aplenty.”

The movie is rated PG-13 for supernatural action and some suggestive references. It has a runtime of 123 minutes. Ghostbusters: Afterlife shows on Friday and Saturday (Dec. 10 and 11) at 7:30 pm, Sunday, Dec 12, at 3 pm, and on Tuesday, Dec 14, at 6:30 pm.

Online advance seat purchase is preferred, but tickets will be available at the door if any remain. Masks are required.

THE LIBERTY THEATER - DAYTON



Fridays 7:30 pm
Saturdays 7:30 pm
Sundays 3:00 pm
Tuesdays 6:30 pm

DEC 10-DEC 14

Reserved Seating
With COVID spacing
Masks Required

Buy tickets online
At libertytheater.org
or at Box Office
Tues & Fri 2-5 pm
Rated PG-13

**GHOSTBUSTERS:
AFTERLIFE**

TREES, TREES, TREES



Submitted photo

Waitsburg High School teacher and FFA Advisor Nicole Abel (front left) oversees the Festival of Trees each year. Fellow teachers decorated their tree, located near the new City Hall building.

COVID-19 BOOSTERS ESSENTIAL FOR PROTECTION AS OMICRON VARIANT SPREADS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Everyone 18 and older should get a booster shot as soon as they are eligible

THE TIMES

OLYMPIA—Vaccines remain the best public health tool available to protect people from COVID-19, slow transmission, and preserve our healthcare system. The emergence of the omicron variant in Washington further emphasizes the importance of vaccination and booster doses for everyone who is eligible.

Boosters ensure long-lasting protection against waning immunity. All adults should make an appointment to get their booster dose as soon as they are eligible:

- Six months after you receive the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine
- Two months after you receive the Johnson & Johnson vaccine

“Being fully vaccinated is not enough against this evolving virus,” said Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH, Secretary of Health. “It is absolutely essential that every eligible adult receive a COVID-19 booster as soon as possible. Boosters are necessary and provide an extra layer of protection before seeing friends and family this holiday season.”

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, current vaccines are expected to protect against severe illness, hospitalizations, and deaths due to infection with the omicron variant. However, breakthrough infections in people who are fully vaccinated are likely to occur. Moderna, Pfizer, and Johnson & Johnson are currently testing the efficacy of their vaccines against the omicron strain.

“Washington adults should not delay receiving their booster until more is known about omicron,” Shah said. “Vaccination and boosters are the best weapons we have to fight coronavirus now – preventing severe illness, hospitalization, and death.”

Vaccination and boosters are especially important for children and adults with chronic conditions that place them at higher risk for severe illness due to COVID-19. For these individuals, vaccines are potentially lifesaving. By getting vaccinated and boosted, healthy friends and family help protect the most vulnerable in our communities.

Vaccine supply continues to increase across the state. To keep up with booster demand, the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) has requested additional vaccine doses from the federal government that are scheduled to be delivered later this week. If you are unable to make an appointment at one location due to high demand, please try another. Across the state, more than 1,245,000 people have received an additional dose, which includes both booster shots and third doses. Boosters can be mixed and matched, which means you can get any COVID-19 vaccine available.

Everyone 5 and older is currently eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. Visit Vaccine Locator or Vaccines.gov to make an appointment today. If you have questions, visit DOH’s COVID-19 Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions webpage or talk to your trusted health care provider. You can also call the state’s COVID-19 hotline at 833-VAX-HELP. Language assistance is available.

LOCAL MUSIC AND DANCE COLLABORATION AT GESA, DECEMBER 17

WALLA WALLA—Gesa Power House Theatre will host A Holiday Arts Collaboration on Friday, December 17 at 7:00 p.m.

This free hour-long event will feature youth performances created by Y-Tunes (formerly Walla Walla Music Organization) and WW Dance Co2 (under the umbrella of Walla Walla Dance Company) in live musical performances and choreographed instrumental music created by Y-Tunes students. Art pieces by local artists, provided by ArtWalla, will be displayed during the dance numbers.

The Y-Tunes Music and Sound Studio became an official program of the Walla Walla YMCA this fall and is now part of the Youth Engagement Department, under the direction of Walla Walla Music Organization founder Rodney Outlaw.

Walla Walla Dance Company, founded and directed by Nancy Wells, has offered dance in the community for the past 30 years. WW Dance Co2 was recently developed by Justine and Jennifer Clark to allow specialized training and growth in contemporary dance within the program.

Tickets are not required for entry. Donations to any of the participating organizations will be accepted at the door and may also be made online at any time through the Valley Giving Guide at www.valley-givingguide.org (with possible donation matching opportunities).

For more information visit www.phtww.org or call the Gesa Power House Theatre box office at 509-529-6500. Additional precautions, such as required mask use, will be observed based on the latest guidance from state and county health departments.



CLASSIFIEDS HELP WANTED

NOTICE OF JOB OPENING:

FULL TIME Case Manager/

Activities Coordinator:

Provide quality supportive counseling and skills development through psychoeducational/skill building/symptom management groups and individual contact. Duties also include coordinating monthly medication management at the agency and seeing clients in the community.

EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE:

AA in social services or related field. Experience may replace education. Must be eligible for Washington State Agency Affiliated Counselor Registration

Benefits include: Medical/

Dental/Life/Retirement/

Accrued Vacation and Sick

leave. Salary: DOQ, DOE.

This position will be open until

filled. For application and/or

job description contact Blue

Mountain Counseling, 221 E.

Washington Ave., Dayton, WA

99328, phone 509-382-1164.

E.O.E.

JOB DESCRIPTION FOR

COLUMBIA COUNTY

SUPERIOR COURT

DEPUTY CLERK

The Columbia County Clerk’s

Office is seeking a part-time

Deputy Clerk. This position

requires the employee to

perform a variety of complex

and diverse clerical work

including, but not limited to

knowledge of office clerical

procedures and practices.

The primary responsibilities

will include scanning

court documents, efficient

maintenance of court files,

data entry, assisting with and

answering questions from

the public, attorneys, other

individuals, being able to

compose clear and accurate

correspondence as needed

and any other duties given

by the Clerk. In addition, the

employee will receive training

and be certified for processing

passport applications. Any

one position may not include

all the duties listed, nor do the

examples cover all duties in

which may be performed.

Other duties performed as

an employee in this position

will be primarily performed for

the Superior Court. This work

is confidential in nature and

performed under general and

infrequent supervision. Some

tasks will include maintaining

court files of all criminal, civil,

domestic, probate, adoption/

paternity, juvenile dependency,

juvenile offender, and

judgments.

Education and Experience:

- High school diploma or

equivalent (GED) - Prefer prior

office experience - Computer

skills and proficiency of office

machines

This job will be seven (7) hours

a day 25-28 hours per week

to begin January 3, 2022.

Pay will be determined upon

qualifications. Medical and

dental benefits are included.

Please find and complete

an application online or stop

by our office to pick up an

application at: Columbia

County Courthouse, County

Clerk’s Office, 341 E. Main

Street Suite 2, Dayton, WA

99328. Applications for this

position will be accepted until

Friday, December 17, 2021.

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Have you lost your large

orange and white cat? Very

gentle, social. Showed up with

the feral cats I feed. Contact

Marilyn at the Hardware Store

Bldg. Nice cat – had a home

once.



The Times

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The Times

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OBITUARY

Doris K. Huffman

April 29, 1930 - November 29, 2021

Doris K. Huffman, a longtime Waitsburg school teacher, passed away Monday, November 29, 2021, at the Dayton General Hospital following a brief illness. She was 91. A simple graveside service will be held at the Waitsburg Cemetery on Friday, December 10th, at 2:00 p.m.



A Memorial Service to celebrate her life will be on Sunday, December 12th, at 1:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Waitsburg, with Pastor Stan Hughes officiating. Doris was born April 20, 1930, in Walla Walla to Jacob and Kathryn Schmauder Ruff. She was one of four children growing up in the Ruff home, and she attended Bernie Grade School and Walla Walla High School, where she graduated from in 1948. Following graduation, she spent time working to help her brother financially finish college. She then attended Eastern Washington University in Cheney where she was a cheerleader and on the swim team.

Doris had met Marvin Huffman in high school but didn't start dating until she was in college. They married in Walla Walla in 1951. Marvin was serving in the Army while Doris worked for the telephone company. They moved from Walla Walla to Waitsburg in 1955. While the two children; Martin and Deanna were growing up, she worked as a professional seamstress for 11 years. Doris went back to college and completed her Bachelor of Science Degree in 1971 from the Walla Walla College. She began teaching 2nd grade in Waitsburg and was a beloved teacher there for 25 years, and also shared her secrets with students on how to win at checkers.

Doris was active in the Presbyterian Church and sang in the church choir. Her husband Marvin passed away of a heart attack in 1981. Doris remained active in her community as a member of the PEO - Waitsburg Chapter, the DeNova Club, Waitsburg Historical Society and on the town hall committee. She also ran a "hobby business" out of her home making beautiful Victorian lampshades. Over the years she figures she made at least 1,000 of them and they proudly adorn many of the restored Victorian homes in the Walla Walla area. She was also a very talented painter, an author and illustrator of two children's books. Doris was honored to be named Citizen of the Year in 2019 by the Waitsburg Commercial Club.

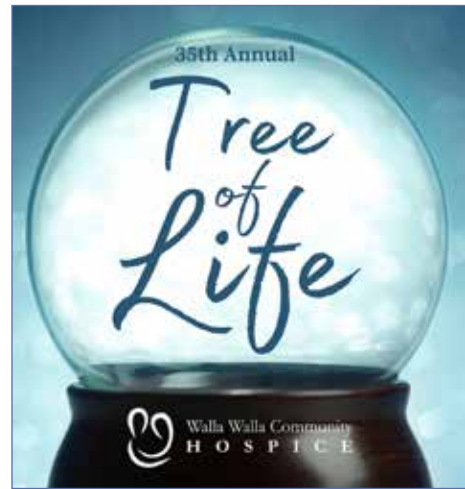
She will be missed by many in the community but especially by her family; Martin, wife Eileen, Huffman of Lyle, Washington and Deanna, husband Dave, Tipton of Rockwall, Texas; by her five grandchildren of whom she was so proud, Lane Huffman, Tami Bretz, Brady Huffman, Dillon Huffman, and Gloria Stover; and her four great-grandchildren, Harley, Paisley, Hayden and Riley. In addition to her husband Marvin, Doris was preceded in death by her second husband, Don Helgeson, her brother Ralph, and her sisters, Esther and Florence.

The family suggests memorial gifts in her memory be made to the First Presbyterian Church of Waitsburg, P.O. Box 397, Waitsburg, WA. 99361. Hubbard-Rogg Funeral Home in Dayton is caring for the family.

HOSPICE 35TH ANNUAL TREE OF LIFE UNDERWAY

THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA—Walla Walla Community Hospice (WWCH) has launched their annual end-of-year fundraising-campaign, the Tree of Life. This event is an opportunity for individuals to pay tribute to a loved one while supporting the important work of Hospice. With each \$10 donation, the name of an individual remembered is printed on a decorative paper ornament and hung on the Tree of Life, located in the lobby of the beautiful Marcus Whitman Hotel & Conference. The campaign runs from November through December 30th. The tree will be viewable in the lobby with names being added until that time.



The theme and design for this event changes each year and this year the image of a snow globe was chosen for the paper ornaments and the beautiful etched glass ornaments. A snow globe symbolizes the capture of a perfect moment or scene, much like our memories of a lost loved one. The glass ornaments also display the year and are available for purchase for \$25, yet quantities are limited.

All fundraising efforts help support the work Hospice especially in the areas of grief support, education and outreach. This important work is offered at no cost to their entire service region including Columbia, Walla Walla and NE Umatilla counties.

According to the Community Outreach Coordinator, "Fundraising has been difficult the past twenty months

and as we continue to open back up, it will be more important than ever to offer support and education to our community. Proceeds from this fundraiser are a big part of our budget for this work."

On Monday, December 13, 2021 from 7:00 to 8:00 pm there is a Name Reading ceremony, facilitated by the Hospice board and staff and entails brief messages of welcome and support and the reading of all the names of those to whom tributes have been made.

To learn more about the Tree of Life, to pay tribute to a loved one, to purchase this year's commemorative glass ornament, you may visit their website www.wwhospice.org or their Facebook (@wallawallahospice). You may also email info@wwhospice.org or call 509-525-5561.

PROVIDENCE MEDICAL GROUP TO HOST JOB FAIR DEC. 9 AT SOUTHGATE

THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA —Providence Medical Group (PMG) will hold a job fair Dec. 9 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Providence Southgate Medical Park main building lobby, 1025 S. Second Ave.

The fair will include a fireside chat with leaders about how to become a medical assistant or work for PMG while completing education to become a registered nurse or advanced registered nurse practitioner. Several lead-

ers will share their career journeys and answer questions.

The event will include giveaways, raffles and food. Attendees are encouraged to bring their resumes with them. Support will be available onsite to help people review and apply for positions including for clerical roles, medical assistants, and nurses. Learn about Providence positions in Walla Walla at www.providencecalling.com.

Community Calendar

Waitsburg Monthly Meetings

Waitsburg City Council
Third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Waitsburg School Board
Third Thursday of every month at 6 p.m.
Zoom meeting information is available at <https://www.waitsburgsd.org/o/waitsburg-school-district/page/school-board--272>

Waitsburg Gun Club
TBA-General Membership / Board Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

Walla Walla County Commissioners
Every Monday and Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m.
Call-in information is available at https://www.co.walla-walla.wa.us/government/commissioners/2020_agendas.php

Friends of the Weller Public Library
TBA Weller Public Library, 212 Main St., Waitsburg

Waitsburg Celebration Days Meeting
TBA
Location to be announced

Dayton & Columbia County Meetings
Board of Columbia County Commissioners
First and second Monday of each month at 9 a.m.

Board of Columbia County Commissioners work session meetings Second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 9 a.m.
Call-in information available at <https://www.columbiaco.com/114/County-Commissioners>

Dayton City Council
Second Wednesday of every month at 6 p.m.
Call-in information available at <https://www.daytonwa.com/54-inside-city-hall/city-council>

Dayton School Board
Third Wednesday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Dayton High School auditorium

Columbia County Public Hospital District Board of Commissioners
Fourth Wednesday of every month at 1:30 p.m. Call (509) 382-2531 for information.

Dayton Memorial Library Board of Trustees Meeting
Every month on the Third Monday at 7:00 PM
Zoom Meeting ID: 852 3836 3787
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85238363787>

Dayton Kiwanis Club Meeting - Online
Second and Fourth Thursday at Noon
Zoom Meeting ID: 559 815 3650
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5598153650>

Starbuck City Council
Second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at Starbuck City Hall

DAYTON SENIOR ROUND TABLE LUNCH

Dayton Senior Center
403 E. Patit St.
12 p.m.
Drive Up Only

Thursday, December 9
TBA
Tuesday, December, 14
TBA

WAITSBURG SENIOR CENTER

504 Main Street
11 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Tuesday, December, 14
Meatloaf
Mashed potatoes
Vegetable
Bread
Fruit
Cookie

WAITSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

Thursday, December 9
B: Omelete, hashbrown, sausage
L: Chicken drumsticks
Whole wheat roll
BBQ beans
Creamy coleslaw
Fruit

Friday, December 10
B: French toast
L: Joyce's choice

Monday, December 13
B: Breakfast sandwich
L: Pizza
Potato wedges
Veggie
Fruit

Tuesday, December 14
B: Biscuit & gravy
L: Popcorn chicken
Curly fries
Veggie
Fruit

Wednesday, December 15
B: Breakfast pizza
L: Ham & potato casserole
Garlic bread
Veggie
Fruit



Church Directory

Waitsburg Presbyterian Church
504 Main
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 11 a.m.
337-6589
Pastor Stan Hughes

Waitsburg Chapel
320 W. 2nd
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11 a.m.
Evening Worship 6 p.m.
Bible Study
Wednesdays 7:30 p.m.
337-6235
Rev. Jimmie Daves

Waitsburg Christian Church
604 Main St
Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Each Sunday
337-8898
Rev. Cameron Hedges



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COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES OPENING ANNOUNCED

THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA COUNTY—Walla Walla County Commissioners are announcing that there will be an opening on the Walla Walla County Rural Library Board of Trustees as of January 1, 2022.

The County Rural Library Board of Trustees determines the mission and basic policies for the library's operation. It has the supervision, care, and custody responsibilities for all property of the library, including:

- Buildings
- Purchasing books and other supplies
- Exclusive control of the finances
- Must submit an annual budget containing detailed estimates for funds necessary the ensuing year
- Certifies above budget for delivery to the board of county commissioners to allow for levying of taxes for the purposes of the library district
- Reviews the annual operations budget
- Helps promote the library
- Carries out other duties according to state laws.

Board meeting travel costs and other expenses are reimbursable under the board's bylaws.

For more information on the Walla Walla County Rural Library, visit their website at https://wwrural.lib.ent.sirsi.net/client/en_US/default

Additional information regarding the board meeting schedule, library board of trustee bylaws, and copies of past minutes can be found under the Library Board section of that website. The board meets on the second Monday of each month, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at various district locations in the county, to review library operations, authorize actions, and ensure that the needs of the library district population are met.

Applications can be obtained from the County website www.co.walla-walla.wa.us, or the Walla Walla County Commissioners' Office at the Public Health and Legislative Building, Room 203, 314 W Main; by mail at P.O. Box 1506, Walla Walla; or by calling the Commissioners' Office at (509) 524-2505.

Completed applications packets must be returned to the county commissioners' office by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 17, 2021, via mail, fax, or emailed to wwcocommissioners@co.walla-walla.wa.us. Applicants may be interviewed as a part of the selection process.

MISSING ENDANGERED TEEN FOUND TUESDAY NIGHT

THE TIMES

SPOKANE—Missing and endangered Lewiston teen Lillian Ray Dixon was located on Tuesday, December 7, her family reported to The Times.

Dixon was reported missing on December 5, by her family. She was with known sex offender Jonathan Wayne Bowles, who had ties to the Waitsburg, Starbuck and Pomeroy areas. Bowles' white Chevy pickup was located on Fields Gulch on Monday morning, and an Amber Alert was later issued by the Idaho State Police. Bowles was traveling in a stolen maroon Chevy Trailblazer as of Tuesday morning, which was stopped by law enforcement in Spokane, WA, around 6 p.m.

Bowles was in police custody as of Tuesday evening, and Dixon was reported safe.



Submitted photo
Wayne Bowles

WALLA WALLA FIRE DEPARTMENT ASKS RESIDENTS TO BE MINDFUL OF FIRE SAFETY AS CHRISTMAS APPROACHES

THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA—The number of structure fires tends to increase nationwide during the holiday season. This upsurge, typically starting around Thanksgiving and stretching through Christmas and to the new year, is due to unintentional and mostly avoidable accidents.

For many people, holiday decorations include a Christmas tree, candles and/or electrical components, including lights and extension cords. For residents celebrating and decorating during this holiday season, the Walla Walla Fire Department would like to remind you to take steps to ensure the safety of your home and family.

Here are some safety tips to keep in mind as you decorate and celebrate this season:

- Remember to water your Christmas tree every day — they drink a lot!
- Make sure the tree is at least 3 feet away from any heat source.
- Follow the manufacturers' recommendations when stringing light strands together. Typically, three is the maximum.
- Always turn decorative lights off when you leave your residence or go to bed.
- Keep lit candles away from combustible materials, and don't leave them unattended.
- Always blow your candles out before you leave your residence or go to bed.
- Stay in the kitchen while you are cooking on the stove top, and keep decorations away from cooking equipment.

According to the National Fire Protection Associ-

ation, U.S. fire departments responded to an average of 160 home fires that started with Christmas trees every year between 2013 and 2017. On average, one of every 52 reported home fires that began with a Christmas tree resulted in a death, compared to an average of one death per 135 total reported home fires.

Here are additional statistics from NFPA about fires during the holiday season:

- Electrical-distribution or lighting equipment were involved in 44% of home Christmas tree fires between 2013-2017.
- Roughly three-quarters of Christmas tree fires occurred in December or January.
- In one-quarter (25%) of the Christmas tree fires, some type of heat source, such as a candle or electrical equipment, was too close to the tree.
- Nearly two of every five (39%) home Christmas tree fires started in the living room.
- Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires, followed by Christmas Day and Christmas Eve.
- Cooking equipment was involved in one of every five (19%) home decoration fires. This can happen when a decoration is put on or too close to a stove or other cooking device.
- One-fifth (20%) of the home decoration fires occurred in December. This is the peak month for home candle fires; the top two days are Christmas and Christmas Eve.
- An average of 7,900 home candle fires were reported each year between 2013-2017.
- Three of every five (60%) candle fires started when something that could burn — such as furniture, mattresses or bedding, curtains or decorations — was too close to the candle.
- Eighteen percent of December candle fires started in the living room and 8% started in the dining room, compared to 14% and 3% for those areas during the rest of the year.
- Ten percent of fireworks fires occur during the period from Dec. 30-Jan. 3, with the peak on New Year's Day.

WWCSO

November 9

A suspicious item was discovered fastened to the courthouse. Main Street, Walla Walla

November 19

Violation of protection order. Maple Street, Burbank

November 20

Burglary in the Second Degree. Marshall Street, Touchet

November 24

A generator was reported as stolen sometime within the previous 3 weeks. E Eighth Street, Waitsburg

November 29

Violation of DV order. Maple Street, Burbank

December 4

Assist WSP with a DUI investigation on Walla Walla County

December 5

An unknown suspect drove through a garage door and fled in Walla Walla County. Maple Street, Burbank



CCSO

November 29

Welfare check. Richmond Street

Animal call. Little Goose Dam

Disturbance. Richmond Street

November 30

Welfare check. Richmond Street

Fraud. McNeil Street (Starbuck)

Bike found. Commercial Street

December 1

Domestic physical. Country Village

Missing person. 2nd Street

Trespass. Whiskey Creek

December 2

Suspicious activity. Main Street

Abandoned vehicle. Fields Gulch

Theft motor vehicle. 3rd Street

December 3

Bike theft. 2nd Street

Bike found. 4th Street

Assist. 3rd Street

December 4

Vehicle prowl. 2nd Street

Civil problem. 4th Street (Starbuck)

Animal call. Highway 12

December 5

Assist. Fields Gulch

Traffic stop. 4th Street

The Times

A PROUD TRADITION

The Times was founded in 1878 by C.W. Wheeler and has been produced every week since then. It is one of the oldest newspapers in the state of Washington.

The Times publishes news and information about Walla Walla and Columbia counties and their communities. We have offices located in both Waitsburg and Dayton.

The newspaper welcomes news tips and information about community activities. An independent newspaper, *The Times* welcomes expressions of opinion and commentary in Letters to the Times column.

Periodical postage paid at Waitsburg, Wash. 99361. (USPS 630-120) Postmaster: Send address changes to The Times, Subscription Mailing Address, P.O. Box 97 Waitsburg, Wash., 99361. For address corrections send Form 3579.

Annual subscription rates: Walla Walla and Columbia counties - \$40; Out of County - \$45. We gladly accept major credit cards

Reader's Forum

The Times welcomes Letters to the Editor and invites readers to share their ideas, concerns and thoughts on matters of importance on our Opinion Page. Letters to the Editor can be emailed to editor@waitsburgtimes.com, or mailed to The Times at P.O. Box 97, Waitsburg, WA 99361. Letters can also be hand-delivered to our office or submitted to our waitsburgtimes.com. The deadline for letters is Tuesday at noon.

Letters may be no more than 400 words long. All letters must be signed by the writer(s) using their actual name, and complete contact information for each writer, including address and phone number must be included.

We reserve the right to decline to publish any letter that we deem inappropriate for our readership. Letters may be rejected for libel and objectionable material.

The Times does not print form letters, libelous letters, business promotions or complaints, poetry, open letters, letters proselytizing or espousing or attacking religious views without reference to a current issue, letters that are in poor taste or that are not on a topic of public interest.

Due to volume during election season, *The Times* is unable to print all letters received. We strive to print as many as possible on a first come, first served basis. Letters that don't fit are moved to the following week.

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NEWS

WSD - FROM PAGE 1

that he had prepared a statement declaring that there was no interest from the community after the necessary published notice period, and that statement would be sent to the State of Washington. The board voted to move the regularly monthly meeting to Wednesday, December 15.



Public interviews of three applicants for Board Position 5, left vacant by Pam Chapman earlier this year, were conducted.

Dr. Carol Clarke stepped up to interview first. Clarke is a lifelong educator, currently teaching classes in Panama, and a former Waitsburg School District Superintendent.

Ann Miller interviewed next. Her three children are currently enrolled in the district, and Miller shared that she was raised in an educator household, and had some teaching experience herself. She said her main focus would be serving the youth of the community.

Joseph Rhymes was the third candidate. Rhymes provided each of the board members with a document that contained his background and overview prior to his interview. He said that he wished to be part of the process of handling future issues.

The board entered a 20 minute executive session. After the session, they announced that Clarke had been selected to fill the seat. Clarke will serve for the remainder of the school year.

The meeting adjourned shortly after the selection was announced.

THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY HELD THEIR VETERAN BINGO ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5TH, AT TOWN HALL

THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—Throughout the afternoon, names were drawn for door prizes. A good crowd gathered, and winners received either a turkey, ham, gift card, or cash. The last black-out winner of the afternoon took home \$100 cash! All attending had fun. All proceeds will benefit local veterans, and their families, and funds will also be distributed to a 2022 graduate as a scholarship in June.



Elijah, the youngest BINGO player, not only enjoyed a hotdog meal, he also won a turkey. He was a big help as he came early to help set-up for the event with his mom and sister



Bethan was a very excited BINGO winner!

photos by Karen Huwe

MORE THAN 129,000 KIDS AGES 5 – 11 RECEIVE FIRST DOSE OF COVID-19 VACCINE IN LESS THAN A MONTH

Pediatric vaccine will help protect children and slow disease spread this holiday

THE TIMES

OLYMPIA—Across the state, more than 129,000 children ages 5 through 11 have received their first dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech pediatric vaccine since eligibility expanded to include younger kids Nov. 3. Vaccinating children is a crucial step forward as we work to stop the spread of COVID-19 and end the pandemic.

“While COVID-19 is often milder in children than adults, children can still get very sick and spread the disease to family and friends, which is an even bigger concern as people gather this holiday season,” said Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH, Secretary of Health. “As a father, knowing our children are vaccinated helps me breathe a sigh of relief. I am confident they are now much safer and more protected than they were just a month ago.”

Getting children vaccinated against COVID-19 can help lower their risk of infection, reduce their chance of getting seriously ill, and decrease their chance of hospitalization and death. While current overall vaccination numbers are encouraging, there are areas across the state with lower vaccination rates that have increased risk. Pediatric vaccination rates range from nearly 26% in Puget Sound to less than 8% in the South Central and North Central regions.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, COVID-19 has claimed the lives of 13 children and teens age 18 and younger in Washington. Vaccination is especially important for children with chronic health conditions that increase the risk of severe disease. Data reviewed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration found the pediatric vaccine to be safe and more than 90% effective in preventing COVID-19 disease.

The Pfizer pediatric vaccine is given in two doses at least 21 days apart, which means children vaccinated in early November are now eligible for their second dose. While one dose does offer some protection, completing the series boosts the vaccine's effectiveness. Kids are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after they receive their second dose.

Everyone age 5 and older is currently eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. To find a vaccine location near you, visit Vaccine Locator, Vaccines.gov, or call the COVID-19 Information Hotline at 1-800-525-0127, then press #. Language assistance if available. For more information, visit [VaccinateWA.org/kids](https://www.vaccinatewa.org/kids) or talk to your child's trusted health care provider.



PESTICIDE RECERTIFICATION PROGRAM OFFERED BY WSU, UI EXTENSION

THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA COUNTY—WSU and UI Extension are hosting a FREE “Last Chance” Pesticide Recertification Credit Program on Friday, December 10th, 2021, from 8:45 am to 3:00 pm. Individuals can participate either on-line via Zoom or in-person at the Clarkston Campus of Walla Walla Community College in Clarkston. Note that there is no charge to participate in the program. Five Washington and Oregon, and four Idaho recertification credits have been applied for.

Topics for the program include:

- Invasive and Noxious Weed Management Obligations and Strategies for Landowners by Doug Finkelnberg, UI Nez Perce County Extension.
- Management of Pulse Crop Diseases in the Pacific Northwest by Dr. Lyndon Porter, WSU Prosser.
- Identification and Management of Insect Pest in Legumes, Wheat and Canola by Dale Whaley, WSU Douglas County Extension
- Asian Giant Hornets and Cereal Aphids by Dr. Arash Rashed, University of Idaho Entomologist.
- Identification and Management of Winter Wheat Diseases by Dr. Tim Murray, WSU Plant Pathologist.

There are 2 ways to participate:

- Participate virtually using Zoom. The Zoom link for all 5 presentations is: <https://wsu.zoom.us/j/93979992050>. No pre-registration required. Registration required at 8:45 a.m. on the day of the program- sign in on Zoom link for registration.
- You may also participate in-person at the Clarkston Campus of Walla Walla Community College, located at 1470 Bridge Street in Clarkston, WA. We will be meeting in the Lecture Hall. Face masks are required. No food allowed. No pre-registration required.

For additional questions or information, please contact Debbie Williams at the WSU Walla Walla County Extension Office at 509-524-2685, dmoberg@wsu.edu.

TREES, TREES, TREES



Submitted photo

The Preston Hall Middle School staff decorated their own tree for the 2021 Festival of Trees. The annual event has Main Street looking extra festive this year.

BIRTHDAYS

December 9: Russ Hays, Jerry Jeremiah, Jim Bird, Patty Hernandez, Ray Meier, Sarah Reser.

December 10: Grant Woodworth, Bess Ammerman, Ron Thompson, Diane Fry, Sara Lytle, Lydia Fancuillo.

December 11: Carl Baker, Robert Ezell, Tim Mayberry, Niko Matthee, Caleb Solis.

December 12: Ernest Brunson, John Archer, Allen Huwe, Chad Fry, Dawn Ronning, Patricia Thomas, Ben Antonius, BethAn Wood.

December 13: Patsy Weber, Marilyn Wilson, Elena Perry, Richard Done, Donald Thiery, Helen Duckworth.

December 14: Shirley Wilson, Joy Leisure, Susan Herion, Heather Harris, Jay Lewis, Sasha Sickles, Rick Turner, Imbert Matthee.

December 15: Agnes VonCadow, Jason Henderson, David Hevel Jr., Carl Smith Jr., Stacie Huwe, Rick Turner, Betty Young.

Happy Birthday

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LEGALS

In the Superior Court of the State of Washington for the County of Walla Walla

Walla Walla No. (18-3-00015-1) Maritela A. Lopez, Petitioner, Jose L. Lopez, Respondent.

The State of Washington to the respondent Jose J. Lopez:

You are hereby summoned to appear within 90 days after the date of the first publication of this dissolution of marriage summons, after the 11/11/2021, and defend the above entitled action in the above entitled court, and answer the complaint of the petitioner, Maritela A. Lopez, and serve a copy of your answer upon the petitioner at the address below stated; and in case of your failure so to do, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the dissolution petition, which has been filed with the clerk of said court. If you do not serve your written response within 90 days after the date this summons was served on you, exclusive of the day of service, the court may enter an order of default against you, and the court may, without further notice to you, enter a final order and approve or provide for the relief requested in the petition. The court will not enter the final order until at least 90 days after filing and service. Serve a copy of your response on Maritela A. Lopez at 127 W. Tietan Street, Walla Walla, WA. 99362.

The Times
November 11, 18, 25,
December 2, 9, 16, 2021
11-11-a

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF BENTON IN PROBATE NO. 21-4-00679 -03 NOTICE TO CREDITORS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF NORMAN LEROY WELCH, Deceased.

The Personal Representative named below

has been appointed and has qualified as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, prior to the time such claims would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, serve their claims in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Personal Representative or the Personal Representative's attorneys of record at the address stated below and file the original of the claim with the Clerk of this Court. The claim must be presented within the later of: 1) Thirty days after the date of first publication of this notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim will be forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and non-probate assets.

Date of first publication: November 25, 2021

/s/ Christine Herd, Personal Representative.

POWELL & GUNTER
By: /s/ Benjamin J. Volmer,
WSBA No. 48779,
Attorney for Personal Representative.

1025 Jadwin Avenue
Richland, WA 99352
(509) 943-6781
The Times

November 25, December 2, 9, 2021
11-25-a

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA No. 21 2 00517 36 SUMMONS

ERIC AND MARGARET ANDERSON, as Trustees of the EMA Trust, Plaintiffs, v.

A 26 FOOT CIRCULAR PARCEL OF REAL PROPERTY QUITCLAIMED TO GEORGE B. DAGUE AND BERTHA L. DAGUE ON JUNE 8th 1917; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OR SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST TO GEORGE B. DAGUE and BERTHA L. DAGUE; and ALSO ALL OTHER PERSONS

OR PARTIES UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, ESTATE, LIEN, OR INTEREST IN THE REAL ESTATE DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT HEREIN, Defendants.

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO THE SAID DEFENDANTS, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OR SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST TO GEORGE B. DAGUE and BERTHA L. DAGUE; and ALSO ALL OTHER PERSONS OR PARTIES UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, ESTATE, LIEN OR INTEREST IN THE REAL ESTATE DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT HEREIN:

You are hereby summoned to appear within sixty days after the date of the first publication of this summons, to wit, within sixty days after the 18 day of November, 2021, and defend the above entitled action in the above entitled court, and answer the complaint of the plaintiff, and serve a copy of your answer upon the undersigned attorneys for plaintiff at their office below stated; and in case of your failure so to do, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the complaint, which has been filed with the clerk of said court. The nature of the action is as follows:

Plaintiffs seek to quiet title to a 26-foot circular parcel of real property ("the Subject Property") located in Walla Walla County in the State of Washington, which parcel of real property was quitclaimed to George B. Dague and Bertha L. Dague on June 8, 1917. Plaintiffs, together with their predecessors in possession, have been in the actual, open, adverse, notorious, and uninterrupted possession of the Subject Property for more than ten (10) years immediately prior hereto, and are entitled to a judgment of the court establishing the validity of that title and barring any further claim of any person or entity to the Subject Property.

DATED this 16th day of November, 2021.

HAWKINS LAW, PLLC
By: /s/ Brian H. Andrews,
WSBA #57791

Of Attorneys for Plaintiffs
The Times

November 18, 25,
December 2, 9, 16, 23, 2021
11-18-c

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA NO: 21-4-00255-36 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

RCW 11.40.030
In re the Estate of:
SHIRLEY M. BEALS,
Deceased.

The personal representative named below

has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the Court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) thirty days after the date of first publication of this notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and RCW 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: December 2, 2021.

Valerie J. Neuschwander, Personal Representative.
Attorney for Personal Representative:

Courtney Lawless, WSBA #57415
Basalt Legal PLLC
6½ N. Second Avenue,
Suite 200
Walla Walla, WA 99362
509-529-0630
The Times
December 2, 9, 16, 2021
12-2-a

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR FIBER-TO-THE-HOME DESIGN WORK

The Port of Columbia is seeking proposals for fiber design work from interested parties for its proposed Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH) Network in Dayton, Washington and outlying areas, referred to as the Dayton Community Broadband Project.

Proposals must be in writing and address each of the elements outlined in the Request for Proposal (RFP). Submittals should be delivered or emailed by 12:00 pm on Tuesday, December 21, 2021 to:

Port of Columbia
1 Port Way
Dayton, WA 99328
jennie@portofcolumbia.org

Proposals received after that date shall be considered subject to the acceptance of a prior received proposal. Faxed submissions will not be accepted.

The Port reserves the right to reject any and all proposals or to waive any irregularity. The terms of any final contract will be established by negotiation. The Port reserves the right to terminate negotiations for any reason.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate the qualifications necessary to fully, properly and timely carry out all of the obligations described in the RFP.

The Port of Columbia is an equal opportunity employer and encourages all qualified women and minority firms to submit proposals.

Questions can be directed to the Port Executive Director Jennie Dickinson by calling 509-382- 2577 or emailing jennie@portofcolumbia.org.

RFP packet can be found at <https://www.portofcolumbia.org/doing-work-for-the-port/requests-for-quotes-proposals-qualifications/>.

The Port of Columbia's mission is to maximize public resources and private investment to create jobs, provide infrastructure, and maintain and improve the economic vitality of Columbia County and its communities.

The Times
December 2, 9, 2021
12-2-b

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA NO: 21-4-00222-36 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

RCW 11.40.030
In re the Estate of:
STEVEN LOUIS GLASPEY,
Deceased.

The personal representative named below

has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the Court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) thirty days after the date of first publication of this notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and RCW 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: November 25, 2021.

Steve M. Irwin, Personal Representative
Attorney for Personal Representative:

Jeremy Hyndman, WSBA #44320
Basalt Legal PLLC
6½ N. Second Avenue,
Suite 200
Walla Walla, WA 99362
509-529-0630
The Times
November 25, December 2, 9, 2021
11-25-b

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

The Walla Walla County Conservation District (WWCCD) is issuing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for engineering services on the RCO 21-1015, Touchet River Mainstem Project Area 1 Design. The project area is located between RM 41.14 and RM 51.33 (approx. 46.2927, -118.3200), west of Prescott between the Highway 125 bridge and Prescott High School.

The engineered design may include a series of bioengineered wood structures, and other practices that provide increase habitat for salmon.

Engineered designs must adhere to the guidance included in the RCO Manual 18, Appendix D.

The RFQ can be obtained through the WWCCD office. For questions, please contact Grant Traynor (509) 956-3767 grant.traynor@wwccd.net or Renee Hadley (509) 956-3756 renee.hadley@wwccd.net.

WWCCD retains the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive minor irregularities in the selection process. Documents must be received at the WWCCD office (via email or in-person delivery) before 1 p.m. Thursday, December 23rd, 2021.

Walla Walla County Conservation District
325 North 13th Ave.
Walla Walla, WA. 99362
The Times
December 9, 16, 2021
12-9-b

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

The Walla Walla County Conservation District (WWCCD) is issuing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for engineering services on the RCO 21-1016, Coppei Creek Project Area 07 Design. The project area is located between RM 6.5 and RM 8.11 (approx. 46.1904, -118.1103), just north of the confluence of the North and South Fork of Coppei Creek.

The engineered design will focus on improving habitat conditions for salmon and reducing flood impacts to personal property. Design elements may include a series of bioengineered wood structures, reconnection of historic side channels, or other practices. Engineered designs must adhere to the guidance included in the RCO Manual 18, Appendix D.

The RFQ can be obtained through the WWCCD office. For questions, please contact Grant Traynor (509) 956-3767 grant.traynor@wwccd.net or Renee Hadley (509) 956-3756 renee.hadley@wwccd.net.

WWCCD retains the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive minor irregularities in the selection process. Documents must be received at the WWCCD office (via email or in-person delivery) before 1 p.m. Thursday, December 23rd, 2021.

Walla Walla County Conservation District
325 North 13th Ave.
Walla Walla, WA. 99362
The Times
December 9, 16, 2021
12-9-a

NOTICE OF FINAL BUDGET HEARING

The Council of the City of Waitsburg is working on a budget for fiscal year 2022 starting January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2022.

The Council will hold a final hearing on this matter at the regularly scheduled Council meeting on Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., or soon thereafter and all interest citizens are invited to attend the hearing, at which time the meeting will be open for public discussion on the proposed 2022 budget. Copies of the proposed budget are available at Waitsburg City Hall, 106 Main Street, Waitsburg, WA or on the City's website www.cityofwaitsburg.com on Friday December 10, 2021

Dated this 3rd day of December, 2021
City of Waitsburg
By: Randy Hinchliffe, City Administrator
The Times
December 9, 2021
12-9-c



Take the chill off at Ten Ton Coffee

216 Main St, Waitsburg
7:30 am - 2 pm daily

Gift subscriptions are a great gift!

Share your community with out of town friends and family



Help Rural Youth Enrichment Services make life inspiring for Touchet Valley Youth!

Give through Blue Mountain Community Foundation's Valley Giving Guide
Nov. 30 - Dec. 31, 2021.

Your donations help these local youth programs:

Touchet Valley Acoustic Music Project (Tvamp)

Bluegrass lessons and performance opportunities.

Waitsburg Urban Forestry

Keeping the heritage of trees alive.

Waitsburg Youth & Government

Students learning to shape the future

Go to <https://tinyurl.com/ydtzmd7k> to make your donation today!

Visit www.valleygivingguide.org for more information on this year's Valley Giving Guide.

Ladies' Gift Guide

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

I am always pleasantly surprised at the women's shopping options in our area. From top-notch clothing to quirky, one-of-a-kind jewelry, shops from Dayton to Walla Walla have us ladies covered!

It comes in handy when Christmas rolls around when you are shopping for your mom, aunt, sister, girlfriend, or wife. I have found that shopping for my mother is one of the most fun yet tedious parts of my overall gift giving.

Dayton has so many interesting stores, and with a current vintage revival, I had a blast exploring the Main Street Marketplace. The Marketplace, consisting of multiple individually run booths, specializes in everything vintage. There is an extensive selection of local art, handmade jewelry, and a personal favorite- locally made soaps! Main Street Marketplace is one of those shops that you go into without looking for anything in particular, knowing something will jump out at you. You won't leave empty handed.

We are lucky to live in an area that has many local artists and artisans. Over the past year, handmade charcuterie boards have shown up in many shops. And between Dayton and Waitsburg, one can easily piece together quite the charcuterie platter. A local woodworker, Ed Lambert, has a mill of his own and has posted some beautiful boards on Facebook, with prices varying. I've also noticed a couple of halibut-shaped boards on display at Ten Ton Coffee, created by Don's Carpentry.

Once you select a board, pop on out to Moose Creek Cafe and Bakery in Dayton, and browse their vast selection of jams, jellies, dipping oils, and crackers to create that perfect board. The bakery and shop is located on Main Street and is a shopping go-to for my family. They carry quality brands, including Stonewall Kitchen, and Rose City Pepperheads.

Moose Creek almost always has the coveted Cougar Gold cheese available, a not so well-kept secret in this area. They sell out quickly, so don't miss out.

Moose Creek's gift selection goes so far beyond just the food items. As you walk in the door, they have great toys, scarves, lotions and soaps, candy, bath bombs, jewelry, dining ware... I'd continue, but there is only so much room for this article. The best part is they are a local hometown shop with prices very well-aligned for



Left: Stop by Moose Creek Bakery and Cafe to grab a wheel coveted Cougar Gold.

Above: These handmade boards, available at Ten Ton Coffee in Waitsburg.

a small town.

Paige's Floral and Gifts, located across the street from Moose Creek, goes beyond just a floral shop. They hosted Dayton's Ladies' Night this year. In the shop they have a offer a wide selection of Washington-made candies and honey, Stonewall Kitchen baking mixes, houseplants, and home decor. And don't forget the flowers, a thoughtful bouquet can brighten up dinner or party. It can be the perfect hostess gift, remember to include a vase. The host-



Right: Gifts, flowers, baking mixes and plants are just the tip of the iceberg at Paige's Floral and Gifts, in Dayton.

ess will appreciate it.

Know someone who loves jewelry, needs a new beanie or simply loves to be pampered, swing into Blush Salon on Main Street in Waitsburg. Blush has a wide selection of CC Brand hats and beanies, gloves and scarves, and western jewelry, belts, and accessories. Conveniently, the gloves are just the right size to sneak a Blush gift card into.

The services offered at Blush are not just cut and color if a gift card is more mom's style. Eyelash extensions, manicures and pedicures, tanning, and facials are just a few of the things you can book with your favorite stylist at the Waitsburg salon.

After last week's successful search for men's gifts in Walla Walla, I returned to see what they had for women.

The first shop was 35th+Butter, and I decided that anything purchased from that store would make me happy if it were under the tree. (Hint to Ray, the velvet jewelry cases caught my eye.)

From the alpaca scarves to the quality leather totes, this is one of those stores that you cannot go wrong. A jar of the Woodford Reserve bourbon cherries would ideally add to that charcuterie board if you took that idea and ran with it.

35th+Butter has one of the cutest welcome wagons in the county, so, if anything, stop in to be greeted by Booter the Frenchie.



Top: Blush Salon has a wide range of hair care products, services, hats, and jewelry for that special woman in your life

Above left: Bourbon cherries at 35th+Butter.

Above right: This display at D'Oliveo offers a tasting and bottling options for any oils you like. Ginger and black garlic? Yes please!

Left: La Creuset enameled cast iron showstoppers!

Across the street is the D'Oliveo Tasting Bar, which has been a longtime favorite of mine. The moment you walk in the door, you are met with quality La Creuset cookware in the blues, reds, and yellows the brand is known for. They have coffee mugs, Dutch ovens, and enameled cast iron pans that will stand the test of time. Le Creuset is a kitchen envy brand!

The cookware, however, is not the only star of the D'Oliveo show. The flavored olive oils, balsamic, honey, salts, and loose-leaf teas are some of the best. Each is carefully curated, with selections boasting long-lasting quality and flavor.

This is another one of the shops that could be a one-stop-shop. The shop has an extensive selection of items from olive oil to tea towels and from stickers to measuring spoons. They also have a nice selection of wine, bubbles, and the glasses to serve them in.

My final stop for the day was another vintage treasure trove, the Country Store, in Walla Walla. This consignment store has two floors full of vintage goods, clothing and jewelry, handmade candles. I instantly fell in love with a 1970's mushroom-themed jar set and was drawn towards the vintage Pyrex collections being offered.

This was an excursion to scout out gifts for my mom, mother-in-law, and sister. However, many of these gifts are perfect for men as well. It's not just women who know their way around the kitchen or need a bespoke cutting board.

Winners of the first annual Waitsburg Christmas Lights Contest



Names and prizes will be announced tomorrow in our digital edition and on our Facebook page.



Photos by Beka Compton



The 2022 Baseball Hall of Fame Class has issues (part two)

By Eric Umphrey | THE TIMES

This week we will review the cases of the new players added to the BBWAA Hall of Fame ballot. The players are Alex Rodriguez, David Ortiz, Mark Teixeira, Jimmy Rollins, Carl Crawford, Jake Peavy, Justin Morneau, Prince Fielder, Joe Nathan, Tim Lincecum, Jonathan Papelbon, A.J. Pierzynski, and Ryan Howard.

Alex Rodriguez was a fourteen-time all-star, won the MVP award three times, has 3,115 hits, and ranks fourth on the career list for home runs and runs batted in. Does that look like a Hall of Famer? Absolutely. Does he have any chance of getting elected this year? No. Rodriguez admitted in 2009 to steroid use from 2001 to 2003, two days after it came out that his name was on a list of one hundred four major league players who tested positive for performance-enhancing drugs (PEDs). On August 5th of 2013, MLB suspended Rodriguez for 211 games for PEDs use as part of the Biogenesis scandal. Rodriguez appealed the decision and was suspended for the entire 2014 season. It will be interesting to see what percentage of the vote he receives in his first year. The argument for Bonds and

Clemens by some sportswriters has been that they would have qualified for the Hall of Fame before they began taking PEDs, and neither of them ever admitted to using.

In the Seattle Mariners farm system, David Ortiz was traded to the Minnesota Twins for Dave Hollis in August of 1996. After a slow start to his career, Ortiz was released by the Twins in December 2002 and signed as a free agent by the Red Sox in January of 2003, where his career would take off as a first baseman and designated hitter. Ortiz never won an MVP award during the regular season but would finish in the top five in the voting five times. He received the Edgar Martinez Award for best-designated hitter eight times and was named the 2013 World Series MVP with the Boston Red Sox. With a career .286/.380/.552 triple-slash line over twenty seasons and five hundred forty-one home runs. He will likely be elected to the Hall of Fame at some point during his eligibility. The one blemish on his record is he is one of the one hundred four players named for testing positive for PEDs during 2003. In 2016 MLB Commissioner Rob Manfred spoke at a press conference defending Ortiz. He said the tests in 2003 were inconclusive and that "Ortiz has never been a positive at any point under our program," which officially started in 2004, and that it would be unfair for HOF voters to consider the tests conducted in 2003. While Ortiz is popular enough among the press to get in on the first ballot, traditionally designated hitters take a little longer. I'd expect Ortiz to get at least 50% of the vote this year. Of all the first-year players, he is the most likely to get in.

Mark Teixeira will get some votes and probably stay on the ballot the full ten years but don't expect him to get elected. Players who are nominated and receive at least 5% of the vote are holdovers on the following ballot. Holdovers can only remain on the ballot for ten years. With only three all-star appearances and one-second place finish in MVP voting in 2009, it's hard to argue that he was one of the best players of his generation.

Jimmy Rollins did win the 2007 NL MVP award as a shortstop for the Philadelphia Phillies and four Gold Glove awards. However, a lifetime .264/.324/.418 triple-slash line doesn't compare with the shortstops who have been elected recently.

Carl Crawford had 480 stolen bases over his career. That number seems impressive until you find out that it is only 43rd all time. Of the top twenty stolen base leaders, only ten are in the Hall of Fame.

Jake Peavy won the Cy Young award in 2007 for the San Diego Padres. He made three all-star games and had the lowest ERA in the National League two times. Neither his strikeout nor win totals are close enough to get him in.

Justin Morneau had an MVP award and had four consecutive all-star appearances before concussions, and a series of other injuries shortened his career.

Prince Fielder hit a home run into the second deck at Tiger Stadium during batting practice at age twelve. A promising career was cut short at age 32 following his second spinal fusion surgery. He ended his career with 319 home runs. Coincidentally the same amount of home runs as his father, Cecil.

Joe Nathan's has 377 saves, and Jonathan Papelbon has 368; neither have the career statistics to get in as closers. With 422 career saves (6th most all-time), Billy Wagner did not crack fifty percent of the vote in his sixth year of eligibility last year.

Tim Lincecum has two Cy Young awards, four all-star appearances, and three World Series rings. Unfortunately, a ten-year major league career won't be nearly long enough for him to get in.

During his nineteen years as a catcher, A.J. Pierzynski was in two all-star games. He played for seven different teams during his career. He's unlikely to get the five percent to make it to next year's ballot.

Ryan Howard was off to a great start in his career before injuries to his Achilles' tendon and a torn meniscus. He collected a rookie of the year award, an MVP, and was an all-star three times. From 2006 to 2009, he hit 198 home runs.

Wolfpack Basketball vs White Swan Cougars

DAYTON/WAITSBURG—The DW Wolfpack basketball teams had their first game on Friday December 3, in Waitsburg against the White Swan Cougars. The Boys Varsity lost To the Cougars 55 - 36, the Girls Varsity lost their game, 62-13.



Karen Huwe

Top: Megan Forney is fouled going up for a shot. Sage Kilts (#34) looks on.

Left: Blake French (#15) goes high for the rebound. Reuben Yutzy (#14), Jasper Morrow and Monte Pettichord under the net.



DW WOLFPACK

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There is still time to add your business to this list! Become a sponsor of our local sports coverage. Call us at 509-337-6631 or email advertising@waitsburgtimes.com for more information.

heARTfelt Christmas coming to Waitsburg

THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—Coming out of a pandemic has been no match for Waitsburg's Christmas spirit. With Hometown Christmas, typically held the second weekend after Thanksgiving, on hold, due to the pandemic, community members have come together to bring plenty of Christmas sparkle to our little town.

A little later than normal, the Waitsburg's heARTfelt Christmas celebration will take place on Saturday, December 18. Enjoy local shopping, food, libations, Santa, and a parade through town. Be sure to take a walk or drive after the parade to appreciate all the lights and decorations in the neighborhoods.

Santa Claus will be in the lobby at the Plaza Theater on Saturday from 1 to 4 p.m. take a photo and be sure to let Santa know your Christmas wishes.

All along Main Street will be busy! The Weller Public Library will be serving hot

Santa on his sleigh during the 2019 Hometown Christmas parade in Waitsburg. He is excited to return on December 18, parade starting at 5 p.m.



Lane Gwinn

cocoa and cookies. Sign up for a new library card or check out a new book while there. The Friends of the Library has been working hard to update the library, so look around and see what is new!

There will be fun holiday gift shopping at The Gaudy Girls, Blush Salon, and Ten Ton Coffee.

Bundle up for a Christmas Parade on December 18. Horses, floats, and four-wheelers are just a few of the entries so far, and entries will be accepted through Thursday, December 16, late entries will be considered.

The parade route will be different from years past, so check out the map to find the best place to watch the fun.

To sign up for the parade, email ironwoodsolutions@yahoo.com, or call Cindy

Daves at (509) 520-9952. Submit completed applications to "Christmas Parade, P.O. Box 451, Waitsburg, WA, 99361."

After the parade, there will be hot cocoa around a fire pit at the pocket park on Main Street across from Town Hall. Wrap up the evening with a glass of wine, beer or cider at The Royal Block.



The parade route will be different than in years past. The parade will stage at the elementary school parking lot, go down Main Street to downtown. It will turn right onto 3rd St. and go through the Banner Bank parking lot back onto Main Street. The parade will not cross over to the north end of Main Street. Be sure to know the route so you don't miss it!



Above: Preschool teacher, Mrs. Montgomery, poses with granddaughters, Vaida (Kindergarten) and Emma (2nd grade)

Top right: Santa listens to Cannon (kindergarten) as he tells what he would like for Christmas

Right: Kinsley (preschool) shyly talks to Santa.



Photos by Karen Huwe



AN EARLY VISIT FROM SANTA

The Waitsburg Elementary held a Cocoa with Santa event Tuesday, Dec 7. Students were excited about getting their picture taken with Santa and telling Santa what they wanted for Christmas. The children also enjoyed the candy canes that Santa gave them.

Book Review: LANE'S PICK

The Thursday Murder Club:

A Novel

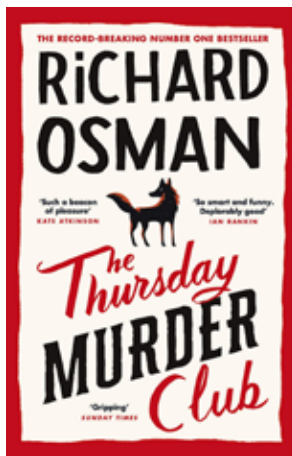
By Richard Osman

Meeting in the Jigsaw Room at a retirement village, four friends take up the tradition of amateur sleuths in murder mysteries.

It does become apparent that each brings their own strengths and experience to their work. Elizabeth is the founder of the group and digs through cold cases from the files of her friend, Penny Gray, a former police officer who is in a coma at the village's nursing home. Joyce is a retired nurse who serves as the principal chronicler of their cases.

Joining the two women are Ibrahim Arif and Ron Ritchie. Ibrahim is a retired psychiatrist who has an incredible ability to recall details. Ron is the wildcard, a troublemaker who was once a political activist.

A young police constable, Donna De Freitas, is invited to the jigsaw room to talk about safety. The four septuagenarians decide to help her by using their influence to get her on the case of a murder in the village. From here, the four race to solve the case before the police. There are enough mysteries and secrets about the four club members to ensure continuity in the sequels.



The Man Who Died Twice: A Thursday Murder Club mystery

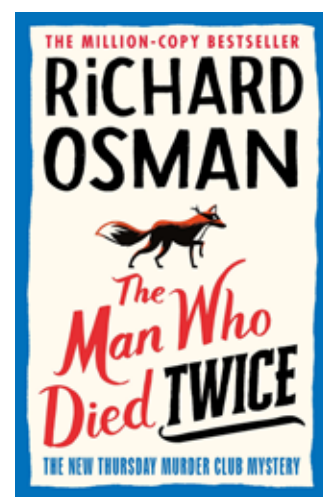
By Richard Osman

This is the second book of the series by Richard Osman. The four friends are still busy looking for answers to secrets. Elizabeth's past as an MI5 spy brings the group into danger, just what they like.

This story deals with vulnerability and revenge. Things are much more personal than last time. The man who died twice only lived once and was married to Elizabeth. Douglas is chaotic and reckless, not great traits for a spy. He brings his mess, along with a handler, Penny, to the retirement village. He hopes to hide out, weather a storm of his making and eventually be able to run off with stolen diamonds.

At the same time, Ibrahim steps out of his guarded life to become engaged with the world. He goes for coffee, sits in a bookshop to read and buy books, uses a smartphone to pay for parking, and does not react with fear when confronted by surly teens. The last bit is what pushes the four into a game of revenge.

These books are not the gritty mysteries I usually read. Not dark or Norwegian, these books are lighter, with entertaining characters and British quirkiness.



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FUN & GAMES

LAFF-A-DAY



"No, no, put it back! You have to cook that!"

GRIN and BEAR IT



"When we formed this carpool, I think we all assumed that one of us had a car."

PIONEER PORTRAITS

Ten Years Ago
December 8, 2011



[Photo Caption] The 2011 WP Cardinals hold aloft the coveted state 2B championship trophy after their 33-7 victory over the Morton/White Pass Timberwolves at the Tacoma Dome last Saturday. The students from Waitsburg became the first-ever football players to win the title on the high school's behalf. It's the second WP state sports title this fall.

Twenty-Five Years Ago
December 12, 1996

The Waitsburg Ambulance Service's primary ambulance, a 1986 Ford which was experiencing mechanical difficulties, should be back in service sometime this week, said Jack Otterson, WAS president. The ambulance powered by a 6.9-liter turbo-supercharged diesel engine, had developed cracked heads and oil consumption problems prior to receiving a new 7.3 liter powerplant, which will also be turboed for additional power. WAS, however, had to borrow around \$10,000 to pay for the transplant, Otterson said. "We had to borrow money from the bank," he said, "then we'll have to raise money from donations or from different sources."

Fifty Years Ago

December 9, 1971

Jack DeWitt, Waitsburg, was elected first vice president of the Washington Association of Wheat Growers at their annual meeting held in Spokane last week. DeWitt, who manages Foundation Farms, south of Waitsburg, has also served as president of the Walla Walla County Association of Wheat Growers. Elwood Brown, Bickelton, was elected president of the WAWG and L. Jerald Sheffels, Wilbur, second vice president.

Maggie Romine, high school senior and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Romine has been selected for Merit's Who's Who Among American High School Students. The honor was based on Miss Romine's "participation and leadership" in the Washington Girls' State program and "outstanding scholarship."

Seventy-Five Years Ago

December 13, 1946

Miss Elizabeth Ann Danielson and Mr. Joseph Abbey were united in marriage Sunday afternoon, December 8, at the Methodist Church with the Rev. Aubrey Winsor officiating.

Waitsburg's Community Christmas Tree was erected in front of the theatre Tuesday and is loaded with colored lights, adding holiday gayety to the city streets. Fir trees have been erected in front of the business houses.

R. R. Rinehart was elected fire chief Monday, Byron Gusse is president; Art Stedman, secretary; Dick Seaman, first captain, and Glen Callahan, second captain.

One Hundred Years Ago

December 9, 1921

Everett Greer celebrated his 7th birthday Dec. 1st at the home of his grandmother, Mrs. Lytton. Those present were Hubert and Dorothy Mount, Alpha and Merle Austin, Wallace, Thelma and Robert Barnes, Evelyn, Nellie, David and Charles Lakin, Richard Barnes, Kathleen Flanders and little host.

Evelyn Loundagin, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Loundagin, while playing with her little playmates near the Loundagin home Saturday, fell and fractured the bone of her right arm.

The barn at the Reed Jonas farm about six miles northeast of this city was entirely destroyed by fire Friday night. All the hay in the barn and a quantity of harness were lost as well, but no stock.

One Hundred Twenty-Five Years Ago

December 11, 1896

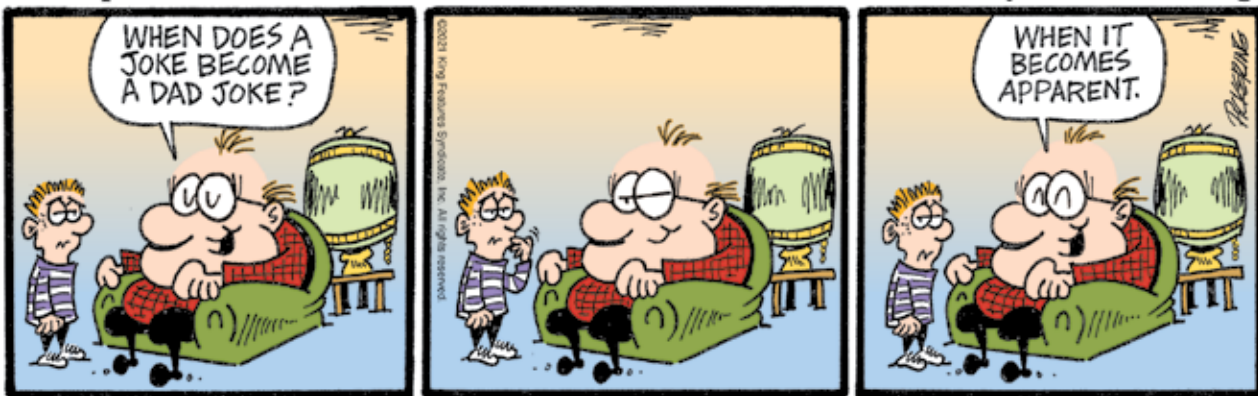
Prof. J. N. Taggard and wife have resigned their positions as teacher in the Huntsville schools and will leave soon for the Sandwich Islands where they have accepted positions as teachers there.

The Waitsburg Football team are doing some hard practices since the snow has gone off and the frost is out of the ground. The boys will put up a good game if rightly trained. They will probably play the Dayton eleven in a few days.

Mrs. A. L. Kinnear and two children of Tacoma arrived in the city last week and will spend the winter with her uncle P. A. Preston.

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



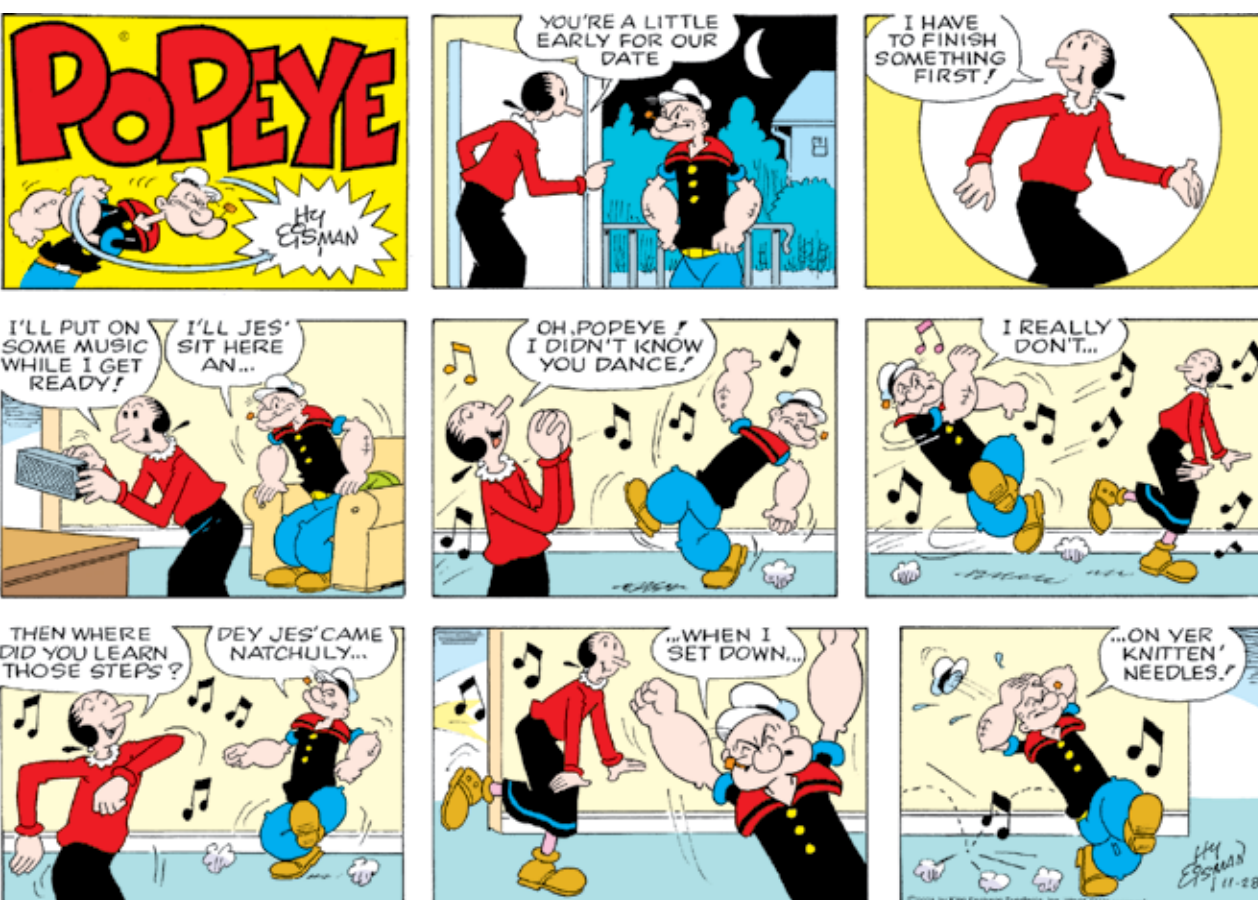
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

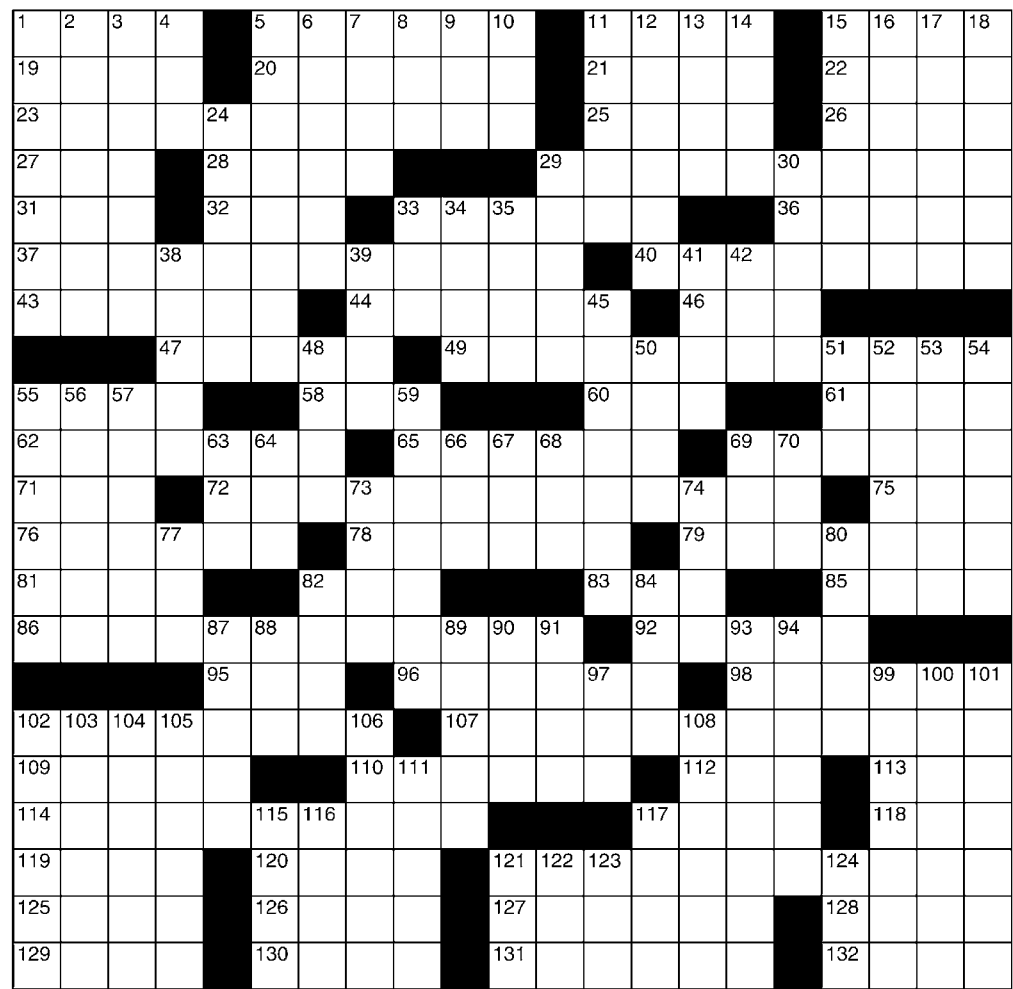


PUZZLES & LIFESTYLES

Super Crossword

ANIMATED WOOFERS

- ACROSS**
- 1 Agree (with)
5 Ability to cope well with difficulty
11 Mini-devils
15 Girl
19 Forget to say
20 Vocation
21 Heist booty
22 — Stanley Gardner
23 She played Kira Nerys on "Deep Space Nine"
25 Sicilian resort city
26 Rain-starved
27 Get riper
28 Taken with
29 Legendary nude horse rider
31 Small bird
32 Enhaloed Fr. woman
33 Lightning source, as shortened in weather reports
36 Like wicker baskets
37 Rotating rocket ride at Disney theme parks
40 Alternatives to dice
43 Has the helm
- 44 Exactly
46 Lime drink
47 "Oh, go on!"
49 Kevin Bacon's "Footloose" role
55 Spring-loaded stick
58 R&B's Rawls
60 Suffix with script
61 Elvis — Presley
62 Twitched, as a muscle
65 Pasta strip
69 Raiment
71 — and yang
72 Depressing or untidy sort
75 Santa —, California
76 Overprotect
78 Most ashen
79 Discovered
81 Old cracker brand
82 Short time, for short
83 Sheeran and O'Neill
85 Regatta tools
86 Grammy nominee for writing the Lee Ann Womack hit "I May Hate Myself in the Morning"
- 92 Retort to "No you're not!"
95 Moray, say
96 Gin mill
98 Be emphatic
102 Moniker for Boston's locale
107 Flying disc renamed
112 "Law & Order: —" (NBC series since '99)
114 Silly grin
117 Gravy Train competitor
118 Insult, in rap
119 Be very mad
120 Baseball's Ty
121 Their names begin eight answers in this puzzle
125 Wields
126 Major city in Norway
127 Squirrel food
128 Actress Hathaway
129 Period before 6-Down
130 Close-call cry
131 Present in a different form
- 132 Attention-getting cries
- DOWN**
- 1 Piano recital pieces
2 Free-verse poet
3 Kitchen hook
4 Hellenic H
5 Red apple
6 It follows Holy Week
7 Stooges, e.g.
8 New Year in Vietnam
9 Zodiac sign
10 Mess up
11 "Word has it ..."
12 Munchies from Mars
13 Pint-size
14 Smeltery junk
15 Entice
16 Get there
17 Split-off bit
18 Alternatives to coupes
24 Sun blockers
29 Oscar winner Sophia
30 Proprietor
33 Uncle, in Spanish
34 Sky shiner
35 Head, in French
38 Creditors' takebacks
- 39 Square in the first column of a bingo card
41 Speed
42 Nuptial vow
45 Try to equal
48 "We're No Angels" actor — Ray
50 Regatta group
51 Gym pad
52 Pop singer Grande
53 Intersection
54 Presses and stretches
55 Hitchcock film of 1960
56 Downer drug
57 India's Indra
59 Takes stuff out of a suitcase
63 Nero's 1,550
64 Up 'til
66 Popeye's Olive
67 Lofty poem
68 "ER" roles
69 Exist
70 Luggage-screening org.
73 Oil gp.
74 "Frozen" heroine
77 Fawn nurser
80 Hen's perch
82 Road deicer
- 84 T. rex, e.g.
87 U.S. flag sewer
88 Meadowland
89 Sappy tree
90 Earthen cooking pot
91 Person, place or thing
93 Motorist's distance marker
94 Attach with a click
97 Siouan tribe
99 "All finished!"
100 "Kids" actress Chloë
101 Bridge supports
102 Amount a sack will hold
103 Stimulate
104 Naval petty officers
105 Most secure
106 OK for eating
108 Traffic cones
111 Funny bone locale
115 Garbage barge
116 Dance violently
117 Razor cutting org.
121 Uber order
122 Fabulous filer
123 Fabled flier
124 "Zip-a-Dee-Doo- —"



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MY RECIPES Luke Chavez

Cranberry Pumpkin Bread



While, to some, cranberries are seen only on holiday tables in the form of a jellied sauce out of a can, for me they are a beloved year-round ingredient. The bright red fruit, with its distinctive tart flavor, can add the perfect sparkle to both sweet and savory dishes. The American cranberry, *Vaccinium macrocarpon*, which is delicious either as fresh plump berries or sweet dried fruit, is native to North America. Interestingly, after Wisconsin and Massachusetts, Washington State is one of largest American producers of cranberries, much of it grown up and down the Long Beach peninsula. Driving out to our family cabin on the coast, we pass acres of the fruit growing in bogs along the highway, as well as signs for an Ocean Spray operation, a Washington State University cranberry research extension program, and even a cranberry museum. On top of seafood, I always stock up on jars of local cranberry jam and bags of fresh cranberries for my freezer before heading home. Here the crimson delights are folded into a moist spiced pumpkin bread adding zing to a holiday treat.

Ingredients:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon ground ginger
- ¼ teaspoon ground clove
- ¼ teaspoon ground mace
- ¼ teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ¾ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- 6 tablespoons unsalted butter, room temperature
- 1 cup sugar, plus more for topping
- 2 large eggs
- 1 cup canned pure pumpkin (see notes)
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- Zest of one orange, finely grated
- 2/3 cup buttermilk
- 1 cup fresh cranberries, coarsely chopped
- ½ cup walnuts, coarsely chopped (optional)

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Butter a 9 x 5 x 3-inch loaf pan, then line bottom and long sides with parchment paper.

In medium bowl, whisk flour with dry spices, baking soda, salt, and baking powder until blended and set aside. Use an electric mixer to beat butter in a large bowl until fluffy. Gradually pour in sugar, beating until blended with butter. Next beat in the eggs, one at a time, followed by the pumpkin, vanilla, and orange zest. Add about half the dry ingredients, beating in slowly, then half of the buttermilk. When smooth, beat in the remaining dry ingredients, and remaining buttermilk, until fully mixed-in. With a rubber spatula, gently fold in the cranberries and nuts (if using). Pour batter into prepared loaf pan and sprinkle the top with 1 tablespoon sugar.

Set pan in oven on middle rack. Bake bread until golden on top, and tester inserted into center comes out clean, about 1 hour 10 minutes. If using a thermometer, make sure center reads at least 180 degrees. Set pan on rack and cool bread for 15 minutes. Use a knife to loosen bread from pan by gently cutting around edges. Release bread from pan, remove parchment paper, and allow to fully cool on rack. Serve slices at room temperature, or lightly toasted.

Notes:

If using canned pumpkin make sure it is labeled "pure" pumpkin, not flavored pie filling. You can also roast your own pumpkin or try other winter squash, such as acorn or Hubbard. Cut squash in half, spoon out the seeds, lightly oil and roast cut side up at 350, until tender. Cool, then scoop out squash and mash smooth.

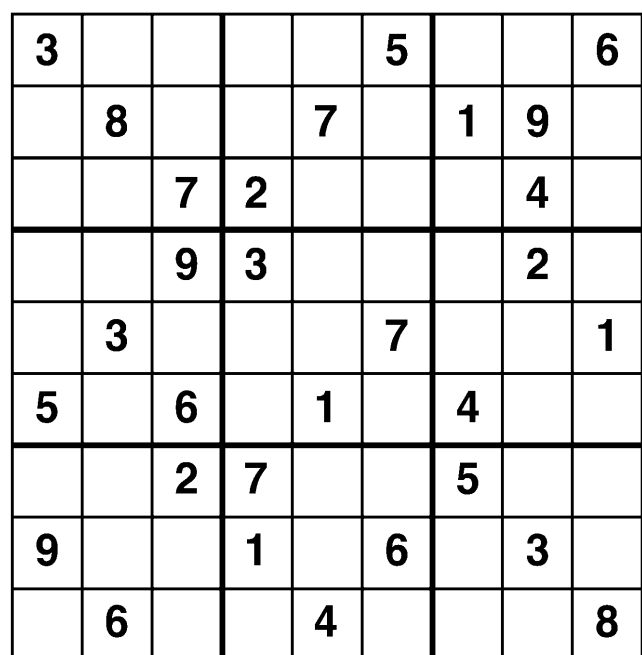
Fresh cranberries can be found in the produce department of most grocery stores this time of year. They can also be found in the freezer section. If you want to substitute with dried sweet cranberries, use ½ cup in place of the 1 cup fresh.

This bread is a lovely sweet to have on hand while hosting holiday guests, perfect as part of a brunch spread, or as an afternoon snack with coffee and tea. Also makes a lovely, home-made gift, or an item for holiday bake sales. Delicious toasted with a smear of sweet butter or cream cheese.

Enjoy!

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

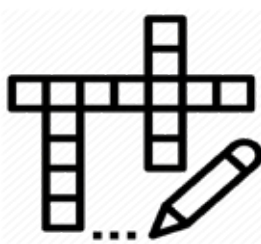


Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

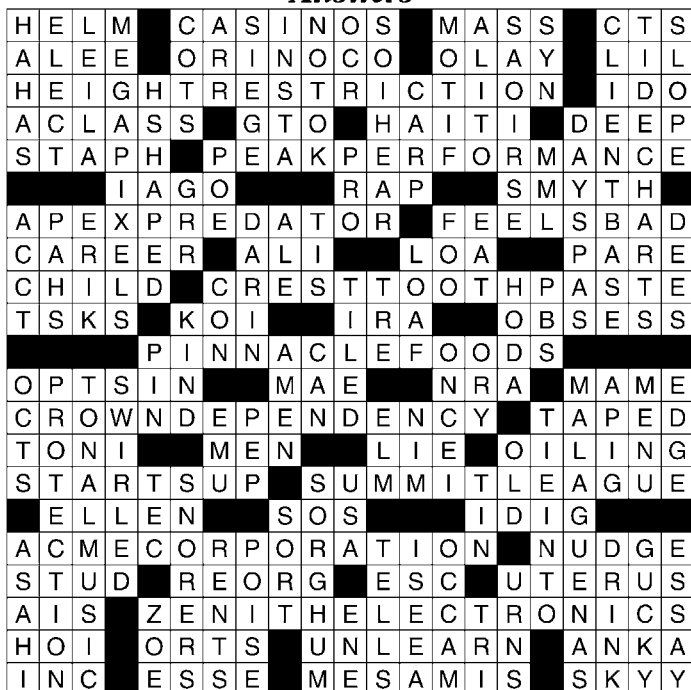
- ♦ Moderate
- ♦♦ Challenging
- ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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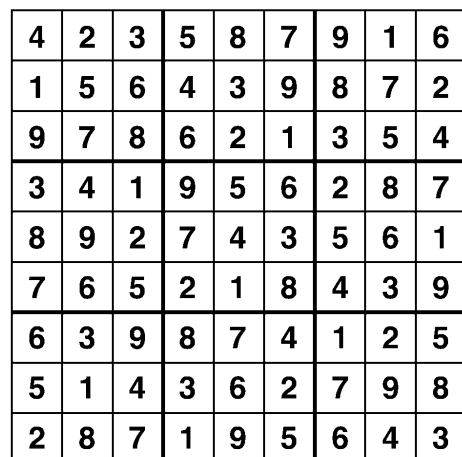
Super Crossword

Answers



Weekly SUDOKU

Answer



Weller Public Library continues progress

By Karen Huwe | THE TIMES

Behind the scenes, progress has been continuing inside and outside the Waitsburg Weller Library since the new concrete floor was installed. Further improvements to the building to make the library ADA accessible, cleaning, and receipt of sizeable donations have transpired.



Five library members spent almost four hours giving the library a good cleaning. Windows were shined, floors and carpets were cleaned, molding scrubbed, and shelves dusted. Guests of the library

have noticed and said the library looks wonderful. The book drop was reopened for patrons' convenience to drop off books.

Gravel has been placed outside the back door, where a future concrete pad for an accessible parking space will be poured. A ceiling has been added in the back room. The volunteers are preparing the back room for electricity to be installed, including lights, plugs, and an electrical box for the future installation of the handicap chair lift.

The Weller Library and Friends of the Library have received some sizeable donations recently. Barb and Bruce Abbey gave the Friends a donation. Barb said she recognized how hard volunteers have been working on the library, and the gift was a way they could help. Larry Conover donated to the Friends in memory of his wife, Pam, who was always a supporter of Weller Library. Sally Baker donated in memory of her mother, Betty. In the letter she enclosed with the donation, she stated 'that her mother would have been the first to donate to the library's improvements. Baker added that the library was her first job, where she worked on Saturday afternoons for the librarian, Miss Marian Kingman, for 35 cents an hour! Along with the donation from Columbia REA, Roger Hevel has made a generous donation to assist with the cost of the handicap lift. Walla Walla Electric has donated to the library with electrical services.

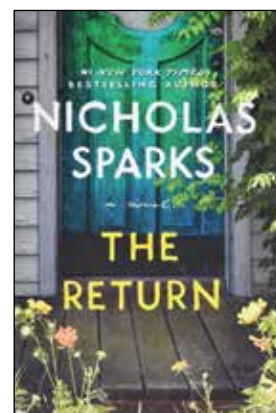
Exciting things are happening at the Waitsburg Weller Library. The Friends recently started a book club, and all are welcome to participate. Two books will be discussed on December 16, 6:30 p.m. at the library. "Skipping Christmas" by John Grisham and "The Return" by Nicholas Sparks. The Friends are extending an invite to the community to come to the library during Waitsburg's heARTfelt Christmas celebrations on Sunday, December 18, for cookies and cocoa. The library will be open by 4:30 p.m. and stay open during the lighted Christmas parade. The parade route is a little different this year, however, patrons may be able to watch from outside as the parade passes through the Banner Bank parking lot to turn left onto Main Street. The parade starts at 5:00 p.m.

A big thank you to the following volunteers that have assisted with these latest improvements: Louie and Marie Gagnon, Allen & Karen Huwe, Terry Lawhead, Tiffany Baxter, Lisa Winnett, Becky Huwe, and Naomi Long.

BOOK CLUB READS:

The Return

by Nicholas Sparks
Published September 2020
New York Times best-selling author Nicholas Sparks returns with a book in the tradition of his best-selling books Dear John and The Lucky One.



The story follows an injured Navy doctor, Trevor, to his family home. He returns to a dilapidated cabin he inherited from his grandfather to regroup from devastating injuries sustained in Afghanistan.

Of course, there is a complicated love interest, Natalie, who keeps him at a distance even though there is a strong attraction between the two. He suspects she is hiding a secret.

A teenage neighbor, Callie, lives in the trailer park next to his inherited cabin. He hopes Callie, who he discovers his grandfather had befriended, can help him understand the older man's death.

Skipping Christmas

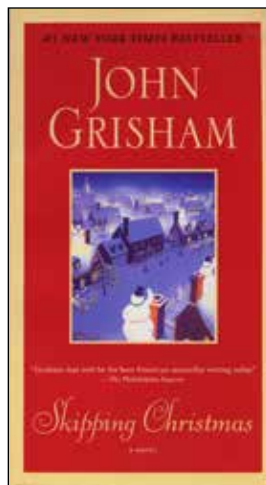
by John Grisham
Published November 2001

A comic novel by John Grisham about a couple, Luther and Nora Krank, who try to escape their annual holiday frenzy by taking a cruise. Eschewing their normal shopping, decorating, and celebrating means they can put their Christmas budget towards a Caribbean trip instead.

The neighborhood is in an all-out campaign to get the Kranks to reconsider as their undecorated house will nix chances to win the best decorated block prize.

There are angry carolers, picketers, and boy scouts that feel abandoned by the couple's plan to cruise.

Best plans and all, they find their daughter decides to bring home a new fiancé to see how the family does up the holidays. For her they will change course. But is it too late?



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