



The Times

Thursday
March 18, 2021
Vol. 144 No. 3
www.waitsburgtimes.com

SERVING WAITSBURG, DAYTON AND THE TOUCHET VALLEY

Published Since 1878

ONE DOLLAR



Beka Compton

Did you know that a moose can run as fast as 35 miles per hour? This young moose wasn't worried about speed, however, as he soaked up the last few moments of daylight before bedding down on a hillside.

Dayton-Waitsburg students select athletic combine mascot

The selection process was postponed in March 2020, after combine officials learned of selection process problems and concerns

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—The students at both Dayton and Waitsburg School districts have selected a new mascot for the Dayton-Waitsburg Athletic Combine, Waitsburg School District announced Monday.

The process for selecting a new mascot began in November 2019, when the Dayton Waitsburg Athletic Combine Committee voted to continue the combine indefinitely. Both schools allowed their respective student bodies to submit mascot suggestions before voting. In March of 2020, the DWACC postponed the final selection after school and community concerns were raised over the voting process. Some students and parents stated the voting process felt rushed and unfair.

The selection process was unexpectedly delayed due to restrictions from the COVID-19 pandemic, however, the schools were able to narrow down mascot options to the DW Thrashers, DW Valley Kings, and the DW Wolfpack.

Stephanie Wooderchak, Waitsburg Secondary Principal, announced that the 6-12 grade students voted for the DW Wolfpack. Local artists Bo Stevenson and Ross Hamann are currently working on mascot mock-up designs, which should be completed in the next three to four weeks.



Ross Hamann



Bo Stevenson

Bo Stevenson and Ross Hamann will collaborate on a final mascot design that will incorporate features from each of their original artwork and suggestions from the Dayton and Waitsburg ASB officers. We should have a mascot design in 3 to 4 weeks. Thanks to Bo Stevenson and Ross Hamann for their work to create the design for DW Wolfpack!

Washington State v. Blake has big impact on communities

Columbia County Prosecutor looks for options to mitigate ruling's impact on county.

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON—On Feb. 25, the Washington State Supreme Court struck down as unconstitutional a law that makes it a felony to possess illegal drugs, even if a person didn't know they were in possession. The court's ruling said the state law was unconstitutional because it criminalized passive, unknowing conduct in violation of due process protections.

Columbia County Prosecuting Attorney Dale Slack said the Supreme Court warned the legislature that Washington's strict liability drug possession statute, RCW 69.50.4013, was a problematic law but they didn't go back to fix it.

The justices concluded that lawmakers had been aware of the statute's flaw for many years but decided not to change it. Therefore, the whole law was unconstitutional, meaning every case that involves drug possession must be reexamined.

Now, local law enforcement officers will be relying more on informants and controlled drug buys, rather than simple possession to make arrests, he said.

Slack said prosecutors preferred using "possession of controlled substances" to get people into treatment and now need to rely on collateral crimes like burglaries, assaults, and domestic issues to achieve the same outcome.

This ruling has the potential for an "avalanche" of other legal consequences, Slack said.

He told the board of county commissioners last week that after this ruling, there is no state law making it illegal to have hard drugs in a person's possession and every case dealing with simple possession in the county is retroactively unconstitutional.

With this ruling, anyone convicted of "simple possession" may be able to have their conviction thrown out. The court could rule that they are owed any fines they paid. For the vast majority of felony cases, a \$600 fine is imposed by the court. There have been 120 controlled substance cases in Columbia County since 2004, said Slack.

"It is not our fault," Slack said. "We have been following the law, and also good policy, in trying to keep our community safe, and now we're going to potentially get saddled with this debt from a law that has been declared bad."

Slack hopes state legislators will develop a scheme where the state will reimburse these claims since most of the fees and penalties go to the state. This would help take the financial burden off the county.

The legislature could introduce a new law, specifying only a person who knowingly or intentionally possesses a controlled substance is guilty. However, a new law cannot be made retroactive, and cases vacated due to the ruling would not be affected.

Slack told the board of county commissioners this week, he might be able to craft a local ordinance outlawing the possession of controlled substances in Columbia County. He shared that other counties and municipalities are also looking at this option.

There are many unknowns, and prosecutors are working on the issues created by this action.

"It is just going to be a mess for a lot of people, going forward," he told the commissioners.

Slack thinks when people know about this ruling and its immediate consequences, they will force the legislature to do something about it.

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All Sports



TOUCHET VALLEY LIFE

NEWS BRIEFS

WALLA WALLA COUNTY VACCINATION CLINIC 3/20

THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA—Walla Walla County Department of Community Health (DCH) and healthcare partners will open the county's mass vaccination clinic on Saturday, March 20, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be approximately 2,300 first-dose appointments available for eligible Phase 1A, 1B1, and 1B2 county residents.

The soon-to-be eligible Phase 1B Tier 2 includes high-risk critical workers who work in the following specific congregate settings; agriculture, fishing vessel crews, food processing, grocery stores, corrections, prisons, jails or detention centers, public transit, remaining first responders and people age 16 or older who are pregnant or have a disability that puts them at higher risk. Additional information on Phases can be found on the Washington State Department of Health website.

Eligible county residents began scheduling appointments on Monday, March 15. Those who are interested in receiving a vaccine should complete the Washington State Phase Finder Tool and print out or screenshot their eligibility verification to provide at the time of their scheduled appointment.

After completing the Phase Finder Tool eligible residents should complete the following steps:

- Step 1: Go to <https://www.covidwvc.com> and click the "Upcoming Vaccine Clinics," button.
- Step 2: Scroll to the "Schedule an Appointment," section and click "Schedule an Appointment," after confirming eligibility.
- Step 3: Select an appointment time and complete the registration process.

No walk-in appointments will be accepted. All eligible residents must have an appointment to receive a vaccine. Residents without internet or computer access can call the DCH helpline at (509) 524-2647 and leave their name, date of birth, phone number, and a message stating that they do not have access to the internet or a computer.

DCH encourages all residents to visit the County COVID website or text COVIDWW to 888777 for information on upcoming vaccination clinics and to use the DOH Phase Finder to verify eligibility.

WSD KINDERGARTEN, PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION MARCH 29-APRIL 1

THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—Waitsburg Elementary will hold Kindergarten and Preschool registration for the Fall of 2021 on Monday, March 29th through Thursday, April 1st. Registration packets will be available for pickup in the elementary office from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

All children who turn 5, on or before, August 31 and live within the Waitsburg School District boundaries are eligible to register for Kindergarten for the Fall of 2021.

All children who turn 3, on or before, August 31 and live within the Waitsburg School District boundaries are eligible to register for Preschool for the Fall of 2021.

A current immunization record and an official state birth certificate will be needed to register. Official Washington State birth certificates can be obtained at your local public health office.

If you are not able to register your child on one of the registration days, or if you have any questions, please contact Liz Alleman in the elementary office at 509-337-6461.

PRESCOTT LIONS CLUB SERVING SATURDAY BREAKFASTS AGAIN

THE TIMES

PRESCOTT—If breakfast is your jam, you're in luck! The Prescott Lions Club is back in the kitchen for Saturday morning breakfast, the third weekend on the month.

Starting March 20, breakfast will be available from 8 a.m. until 11 a.m., at the Lions Building, 101 S D Street. Masks will be required, and all necessary COVID-19 precautions will be taken.

COLUMBIA FAMILY CLINIC ANNOUNCES NEW PCP, LINDSAY MCLAUGHLIN



THE TIMES

DAYTON—Columbia County Healthcare System announced the addition of Primary Care Provider and Board-Certified Nurse Practitioner Lindsay McLaughlin, at the Columbia Family Clinic.

Born in Las Cruces, N.M., McLaughlin grew up in a rural setting, and spent her childhood adventuring around her grandfather's cattle ranch.

"I've basically wanted to do rural, primary care for as long as I can remember," McLaughlin said, in a release.

She holds a bachelor's degree in biomedical science, as well as a bachelors in nursing, from Northern Arizona University. McLaughlin has practiced as a nurse in both Arizona and New Mexico for several years, with her care experience ranging from a progressive care unit to a rural urgent care center near the Grand Canyon.

"I decided to get my master's degree, with a Family Nurse Practitioner speciality, from Chamberlain University almost three years ago, and I love being a nurse practitioner," she shared. "I specialize in primary care across the lifespan, and I enjoy doing dermatological procedures, as well."

McLaughlin moved to the area with her husband and three children, who keep her busy! When she's not providing medical care, she says she enjoys gardening, art, reading, and various home improvement projects.

"I think the most important aspect of primary care, outside of being a competent and safe provider, is to really listen to your patient and be respectful of their wishes," she said. "Patients are the most important part of their healthcare team, and I enjoy educating and empowering people with the tools they need to affect the changes they desire in their life, and health."

McLaughlin said she is pleased to be in Dayton, and she feels very blessed to be a part of the Columbia Family Clinic team.

DAYTON KIWANIS CLUB DISCUSS PUBLIC HEALTH AND ART.

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

DAYTON—The Dayton Kiwanis Club met via Zoom on March 10. The club meets every second and fourth Thursday of the month at noon.

The meeting began with an update from Public Health Administrator Martha Lanman, who spoke about Columbia County's COVID-19 statistics and current standings. At the time of the meeting, Columbia County had not had a new case of the virus for 13 days, with Lanman saying that it is a "good sign of where the county was."

She said case testing has dropped to less than half of what the rate was for February, which was a welcomed bit of data as the county approached the first anniversary of the very first positive COVID-19 case.

Lanman shared that she is on multiple calls each week, discussing what Phase 3 of the Roadmap to Recovery reopening plan will look like for Columbia County businesses. Governor Insee announced last week that all counties would be advancing to Phase 3, effective March 22.

According to Lanman, the vaccination clinics that have been held at the fairgrounds are going very well. She shared feedback from the vaccination clinic staff who believe the clinic can give out more vaccinations if supplies were available. Beginning on March 22, eligible tiers will expand to B2 and B4, which include agriculture workers. Most of the Columbia Pulp and Seneca employees would be eligible for vaccinations, according to Lanman.

Booker Rest Home is one of only three long-term-care facilities in the state that did not have any positive COVID-19 cases. Lanman wanted to extend a big thank-you to the staff at Booker and the Columbia County Health System for the work they did to keep residents safe over the past twelve months.

The Kiwanis Club heard from successful master sculptor Keith McMasters as he shared his journey to becoming a successful, full time artist and curator. Based in Hamilton, Montana, McMasters has close ties with the Dayton Area. A separate story, Master sculptor Keith McMasters speaks at Dayton Kiwanis Club, explores his story in depth.

The meeting adjourned following McMasters' presentation, and a handful of jokes from Club members.

Touchet Valley Weather March 17, 2021

Waitsburg's Seven Day Forecast

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Few Showers	Few Showers	Mostly Cloudy	Few Showers	Sunny
High: 58 Low: 40	High: 67 Low: 42	High: 59 Low: 37	High: 56 Low: 36	High: 55 Low: 37	High: 56 Low: 35	High: 54 Low: 36

Weather Trivia

Why does lightning seem to flicker as it flashes in the sky?

ANSWER: Lightning is not just a single stroke, but a succession of many strokes.

Local Almanac Last Week

Day	High	Low	Normals	Precip	Precipitation
Tuesday	55	32	53/36	0.00"	0.05"
Wednesday	52	28	53/36	0.00"	0.52"
Thursday	53	30	54/36	0.00"	-0.47"
Friday	57	32	54/37	0.00"	42.3°
Saturday	59	30	55/37	0.00"	45.4°
Sunday	57	32	55/37	0.00"	-3.1°
Monday	40	35	55/37	0.05"	

Data as reported from Walla Walla

Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
First 3/21	7:01 a.m.	7:02 p.m.	9:03 a.m.	11:37 p.m.
Wednesday	6:59 a.m.	7:03 p.m.	9:27 a.m.	Next Day
Thursday	6:57 a.m.	7:04 p.m.	9:55 a.m.	12:41 a.m.
Friday	6:55 a.m.	7:06 p.m.	10:30 a.m.	1:44 a.m.
Saturday	6:53 a.m.	7:07 p.m.	11:12 a.m.	2:44 a.m.
Sunday	6:51 a.m.	7:08 p.m.	12:04 p.m.	3:39 a.m.
Monday	6:49 a.m.	7:10 p.m.	1:06 p.m.	4:28 a.m.
Full 3/28				

The Times

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Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Sat. 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

CWWFD2 meeting update for March board meeting

Training planned for Incident Qualification Cards, no word on status of grant applications

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—Columbia-Walla Walla County Fire District 2 met for a regular Firemeeting on March 10, 7 p.m.

Commissioners Jake Long, Deb Fortner, Bruce Abbey, Randy Charles, and Randy Farley were present. Eight other district members attended the meeting. Sabrina Smith of Waitsburg joined the meeting as a new volunteer.

District Clerk Anne Higgins gave a brief update on monthly expenses, reminding members that they needed to go to the Main Street Station to sign vouchers. Fortner also reminded department members that any package deliveries must be scheduled when someone is present at the station. Packages had been left by the door.

Commissioner Deb Fortner reported that there had been a total of three station workdays since the previous meeting, as the fire district continues mitigation efforts following a burst pipe. She shared that Walla Walla Electric donated lighting equipment for the upstairs portion of the station. Many boxes of station supplies, including the kitchen, have been put away, but she is still waiting for the contractor to complete related construction projects.

Interim chief Mohny reported that he had reached out to a local photographer, Scott Kirk, about volunteer ID cards. According to Mohny, Kirk does not create rigid ID cards (comparable to a driver's license), as the district had initially envisioned; however, he could create a flexible option at the cost of \$150, excluding the price of a badge carrier.

Fortner said that she had reached out to Walla Walla County Emergency Management (WWCEM), and her contact there said that volunteers would have to go through a State Patrol background check in order to obtain the ID cards through WWCEM.

Mohny reported that he has not heard anything from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regarding the 50/50 grant program, nor has he heard from FEMA about a grant that the district applied for earlier this year. Mohny spoke with Kate Hockersmith of Waitsburg, who agreed to help with grant writing. Fortner said that she would be forwarding grant information to one of the new volunteers interested in grant writing for the department.

Mohny shared that in-person training sessions were still unable to happen under current COVID-19 restrictions. There are planned Zoom-facilitated sessions and a field-day training in April for qualified members to get Red Cards. A Red Card, also called an Incident Qualification Card, is an accepted interagency certification that a firefighter is qualified to do the required job when arriving on an incident issued by the National Wildfire Coordinating Group.

The meeting adjourned shortly after a discussion on district-related training schedules.

City, County, and FCZD on board with plans for emergent removal of sediment from the Touchet River

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON—The Flood Control Zone District (FCZD) board of supervisors and the manager, Charles Eaton, are meeting before the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) on the first Monday of the month.

City of Dayton Mayor Zac Weatherford came before the FCZD administrators on Mar. 1 to let them know about the City's desire to take over the permitting process from the county for sediment removal from the Touchet River.

Weatherford's reasons were twofold; to expedite the process and complete a more thorough removal of the sediment from city boundary to city boundary.

The county is seeking two permits for a smaller project to make the river channel viable and have its capacity restored. The work will include scalping sediment, mainly in the county portion of the river, and major removal of sediment from under the Hwy. 12 and railroad bridges.

FCZD manager Charles Eaton said for both parties to work on permitting would be a waste of taxpayer money.

The County has spent ten to fifteen thousand dollars working with Anderson/Perry & Associates on the permitting process. Eaton said if the city were to take the project over, the FCZD would no longer be eligible for reimbursement from FEMA.

The permitting process is lengthy due to the need for a full biological assessment for endangered species, for bull trout. Eaton said it will be mid-summer before work in the river can begin.

Representatives from the USACE, FEMA, the City, the County, the Flood Control Zone District manager and County Commissioner Marty Hall, who represents the FCZD board of supervisors, met on Wednesday of last week, to hash it out. Identified as an eminent need is to open the river channel, which takes priority over all else.

Hall said he was encouraged by the meeting.

"It was the consensus of the city and county as well as representatives from the USACE and FEMA that we continue into the permitting process with the county and the FCZD as the lead. The hope is that a unified voice will be more effective, and all parties are optimistic that work will be able to commence before the anticipated high water, with spring melt off."

FCZD Manager Charles Eaton said if the permits cannot be obtained for the more immediate work, the work will be continued in mid-summer.

Community Calendar

Waitsburg Monthly Meetings

Waitsburg City Council:

Third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.
Call-in information available at www.cityofwaitsburg.com/government-1

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 Celebration Days:

Meetings TBA

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

Dayton & Columbia County Meetings

Board of Columbia County Commissioners

First and second Monday 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.

Coalition for Youth & Families

Fourth Wednesday monthly at 3 p.m.

<https://coalitionforyouthandfamilies.org/get-involved>

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, March 18

Corned beef
Red potatoes
Cabbage
Sourdough bread
Fruit, Milk

Tuesday, March 23

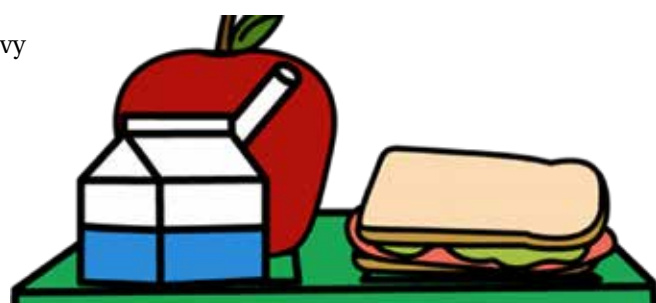
Fried chicken
Mashed potatoes & gravy
Corn
Caesar salad, Roll
Grapes
Milk

WAITSBURG SENIOR CENTER

504 Main Street
11 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, March 23

Salisbury steak
Mashed potatoes
Vegetable (chef's choice)
Fruit
Bread
Cookie



WAITSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

Beginning February 25th, Waitsburg School District will no longer be providing home meal deliveries. Families wishing to continue receiving meals at home must pre order online and pick up the meals from school. Orders must be received by Wednesdays at 5:00 PM for pick up the following week and may be picked up Monday or Thursday, 8 a.m-9 p.m.

For more information, call Susan Wildey at (509) 337-6461, or visit www.waitsburgsd.org.

Thursday, March 18

B: Irish pancakes
L: Shepherd's pie
Roll
Steamed broccoli
Grapes

Friday, March 19

B: Scram eggs & bacon
L: Teriyaki chicken
Rice
Snap peas
Mandarins
Fortune cookies

Monday, March 22

B: Breakfast Sandwich
L: Turkey gravy
Mashed potatoes
Roll
Green beans
Apples

Tuesday, March 23

B: Yogurt parfait
L: Pizza
Baby carrots
Pineapple
Cookie
Grapes

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

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Each Sunday
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City council approves ILA with reservations

Engineer discusses City's proposed wastewater treatment plant project

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON—It was a reluctant city council that agreed to sign a five-year contract with the county for Law Enforcement, Dispatch, and Municipal Court services last week during their regular monthly meeting.

Dain Nysoe objected to “strong-arm tactics” contained in a letter from the county’s prosecuting attorney dated Feb. 22, urging the contract to be signed within two weeks of the date of the letter or face arbitration.

As the Public Safety Committee Chairman during mediation, Nysoe said the contract doesn’t meet the committee’s original expectations.

Overall, the contract contains everything agreed to in mediation and that council authorized in Nov. 2020, said Weatherford. However, it did not include an exit option requested by the city but was objected to by the county.

Despite some misgivings, Weatherford said he thinks it is important to move forward with the contract but continue looking into other options for law enforcement services. Delphine Bailey and Dain Nysoe agreed with the city’s need to have its own

law enforcement department. The contract is for five years and gives the city ample time to research this option.

The City Finance Committee, city staff, and the mayor will continue to discuss the implications the \$612,500 yearly payment to the county will have on the city’s finances and Dayton residents. The City anticipates major cuts to services as a direct result of the ILA.

“This isn’t an easy decision to be made,” Weatherford said.

Delphine Bailey, Christine Broughton, and Byron Kaczmarek voted to approve the contract. Mike Paris and Dain Nysoe cast dissenting votes with Misty Yost, who works for the county, abstaining.

Mayor Weatherford discussed city projects in his report to the city council including the sewer video project for sewer cleaning, and scoping work is scheduled for Mar. 29 to April 1.

The Cameron Street chip seal project and the Front Street Bridge projects have gone out to bid, and asphalt is planned for a portion of East Tremont Street between Fourth and Fifth Streets.

Weatherford said he met with the Flood Control Zone District board of supervisors and manager, representatives from Anderson/Perry & Associates, FEMA representatives, state program delivery managers, and the U.S Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) to talk about sediment removal from the Touchet River and clear up any confusion about the county/city jurisdiction projects in order to protect FEMA eligibil-

ity for funding.

Some of the issues with regard to potential flooding include the city’s concerns about an emergent portion of the sediment from the Main St. Bridge and railroad track bridge and where Patit Creek and the Touchet River meet. The city is also working with the county to remove woody debris and damage to a culvert has been repaired.

The city received a grant to purchase radios for emergencies and has four to five thousand sandbags to prepare future high-water events. The city also has a mechanism to fill sandbags on-site.

“I think we were able to dodge a bullet with this last winter storm,” he said.

The City is keeping watch on weather patterns and maintains frequent contact with the county over the potential for flooding.

Weatherford said the City’s Finance Committee has asked that a community survey go out in utility bills to assess public sentiment about programs and infrastructure. City staff will establish other ways to engage senior citizens in the process.

Misty Yost reported on the Chamber of Commerce. She said plans are in the works for All Wheels Weekend and the Dayton Days parade. However, the events’ committees are being very cautious with regard to the COVID-19 situation.

Brix and Brew has been officially moved to November and will be held on Nov. 5 this year. The Awards

CITY COUNCIL- PAGE 6

CCSO

March 8

Citizen contact. Dayton High School, 3rd Street

Assist at Valley View Trailer Park, Highway 12

Missing person reported at Dayton City Park, 1st Street

March 9

Welfare check at football field/track. Cottonwood Street

Assist at Blue Mountain Counseling. Washington Street

Harassment reported, Shangri La RV Park. Rose Gulch

March 10

Assist at Kyle’s Towing, Main Street

Warrant confirmation at Columbia County Courthouse. Main Street

March 11

Disturbance reported at Kyle’s Towing, Main Street

9-1-1 Call, Blue Mountain Insurance. Main Street

Citizen contact, PDQ Dayton. Main Street

March 12

Traffic stop, Highway 12

Citizen contact at Shangri La RV Park. Rose Gulch

Assist at Dayton Hotel. Main Street

March 13

Animal call. Cameron Street

Burglary reported at City Lumber & Coal Yards. 3rd Street

Fight at WC Sports Bar and Grill. Waitsburg

March 14

Welfare check at Knoblock apartments. 5th Street

Prowler reported. Tremont Street

Welfare check at Best Western. Main Street

BIRTHDAYS

March 18: Sherrie Larsen, Ben Daniel and Marisa Hoops.

March 19: Verna Allen, Elaine Reese, Norma Johnson, Terry Jacoy, Josh Mayberry and E. Neil Stephens, Beka Compton

March 20: Arlene Winnett, Andrew Wright, Kristopher Patton, Stacey Grende, Sophie Henry and Paul John.

March 21: Brad Huffman, Doris Williams, Linda Stonecipher, Margie Huwe, Lane Huffman, Rebecca Stokes, Ken Lenhart.

March 22: Garrett Buffington, Kenneth Lewis, Mary Hamblen, Gia Fluharty, Amy Morrow and Cole Janovich.

March 23: Jayce Bayer, Sally Baker, Mary Hunziker, Beryl Witt, Ron Bishop, Seth Straayer, Jennifer Pierson, Sandy Baker.

March 24: Michael Smith, Fred Hamann, Chloe Pearson, Kim Iverson, Randy Sorick, Jeff Harper, John Dodson and Lacey Maki.



WWCSO

March 8

Attempted fraud. Touchet

Unwanted phone calls from an inmate at the Umatilla County Jail. Waitsburg

Hit and run with property damage. Burbank

March 9

Female subject reporting possible harassment at work and home by unknown individuals. Prescott

March 12

Domestic Dispute between boyfriend and girlfriend where a vehicle was damaged. Waitsburg

Computer fraud. Walla Walla County

March 13

Unknown subject damaged locks on a gate at the entrance to a property in Walla Walla County. Walla Walla County.

Warrant service, use of drug paraphernalia, vehicle prowl 2 reported. Walla Walla County

March 14

Warrant arrest. Walla Walla County
Subject arrested for suspicion of DUI by Washington State Patrol. Walla Walla County

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Angela Ferguson, O.D.
Jeremy Beam, O.D.
Rick Harrison, O.D.
Justin Dalke, O.D.

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.

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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 edited 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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Frances Donley

April 12, 1938 — March 8, 2021

Frances Donley, 82, died March 8, 2021 in College Place, Washington. Interment will be in the Waitsburg Cemetery and at Hanalei Valley in Kauai.

Frances Eileen Donley was born April 12, 1938 in Huntsville, Washington to Clinton and Vivione Donley. Frances was the oldest of five children and attended elementary and secondary school in Waitsburg, Washington, then took classes at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Growing up on wheat farms influenced many of her activities and whenever harvest time approached, Frances and her siblings spent hours "pulling rye" from the fields accompanied by Shep, "the smartest dog ever." Frances was active in 4-H and at the Southeastern Washington Fair, she, along with her sister, Judi, and her brother, Bill, were awarded ribbons by the 4-H Garden Club. Gardening continued to be a passion and no matter where she lived she planted and nurtured beautiful flower gardens. After she retired, Frances said her one regret was that she had not gone into landscaping as a profession.

Frances started working in her teens and kept active professionally until well after many people retire. Many of her jobs were administrative and technical, including checking calculations for routing planes at Los Angeles International Airport, setting up a self-insurance program for Golden Grain, and updating computers to prevent Y2K problems during her work at the VA Hospital in Walla Walla. She also held several roles in law enforcement, including serving as a matron in jails in the Seattle area and as a detective with the Seattle police force. One of Frances' brushes with fame came in the 1960s when she was selected to serve as a police escort for Tom Jones when he appeared for a performance in Seattle.

How she found time is not clear, but in addition to her other hobbies, Frances was a voracious reader with interests ranging from classic fiction and history to etymology. She instilled in her children a love of reading, and a love of learning. Of all of her interests, though, the most important was travel. Frances was always going places. With her daughter, Becky, Frances traveled to China, Australia, and Europe. In 1990 she traveled to New York with the Walla Walla Choral Society to sing in Carnegie Hall. When she was 70, she jumped from an airplane.

Ms. Donley was devoted to her children and family and relocated several times to be near them. She is survived by her son, Jon Hays; daughters Rebecca Donley, Kelly Rowan, and Chellaigne Weins; her sister, Judi Annabel; brother Bill Donley; 5 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild. Frances is preceded in death by her daughter, Dawn Hays; her sister, Delores Jones; and her brother, Clint Donley.

Services are to be held at a later date. Friends and family can sign her online guestbook at www.mountainview-colonialdewitt.com

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the guest book at www.mountainview-colonialdewitt.com



Velma A. Sickles

July 15, 1927 – February 18, 2021

Velma Adeline Sickles, 93, passed away peacefully following an extended illness.

Velma was born on July 15, 1927, in White Bluffs, WA to Denzil C. and Neoma R. Gluck Mock. The family moved to Waitsburg in 1933 and she graduated from Waitsburg High School in 1945. She attended the University of Washington where she majored in music. In 1948, she returned to Waitsburg where she met Bob Sickles while working in the cannery. The couple married on February 6, 1949.

Velma worked at Maybac's until she became a mother and stayed at home with her children. She loved to play the piano and taught many students at her home over the years. Velma worked at the Waitsburg Elementary School for 21 years, 19 of those as the secretary. She also worked with her husband Bob doing the books for their insurance business in both Waitsburg and Washtucna. Velma was a dedicated member of the Christian Church where she was the organist for 43 years, treasurer for 40 years and a member of the choir. She and her husband Bob sang duets for many weddings and funerals. Velma was a founding member and treasurer of the Odako Club. She was also a member of the Waitsburg Historical Society and the WA State School Retirees Association.

Velma loved spending time with her grandchildren, doing puzzles and decorating for the different holidays. The annual family trips to Wallowa Lake and the Oregon Coast were among her favorite things to do. Velma's family was her greatest treasure.

Velma is survived by her two daughters, Sherrie (David) Morris and Dawn (Jeff) Nichols both of Waitsburg; two sons, Ed Sickles (Heide) of Seattle, Steve Sickles (Carolyn) of Walla Walla; 16 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and her brother, Darrell Mock.

A memorial service will be on Friday, April 9, 2021, at 2:00 PM at the First Christian Church of Waitsburg, with Pam Conover, officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to the First Christian Church of Waitsburg or the Waitsburg Historical Society through the Herring Groseclose Funeral Home, 315 W. Alder St., Walla Walla, WA 99362.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guestbook at www.herringgroseclose.net



Fundraising efforts by the Friends of the Touchet Valley Golf Course are paying off

Fall construction planned for irrigation reservoir

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON—Fundraising efforts are paying off for the Friends of the Touchet Valley Golf Course, as they look forward to construction of an underground sprinkler system at the golf course.

A fiscal sponsorship agreement was made with the Blue Mountain Community Foundation (BMcF), Walla Walla, last year. According to Sean Thurston from the Friends of the Touchet Valley Golf Course, the agreement created a fund specifically for an irrigation reservoir allowing tax-deductible donations for the project.

Thurston said Golf Course Architect John Steidel was hired in 2019 to recommend modifications to improve the quality of the golf course, reduce water use, and reduce maintenance costs. One of Steidel's recommendations was to install an irrigation reservoir to mitigate an intermittent water supply issue from the West End Irrigation District. Local water experts agreed with Steidel's advice, and he identified a location and provided a plan for the reservoir design.

Thurston said the budget for the reservoir is \$113,000.

"We raised over \$80,000 in 2020, which includes almost \$50,000 in donations to the Blue Mountain Community Fund in December, alone," he said.

Total funds raised for the reservoir are about \$95,000. He hopes the remainder can be covered by grants, and donations, in 2021.

The reservoir is being engineered by the county Public Works Department with construction planned for the fall.

Touchet Valley Golf and Recreation, formerly known as the Dayton Country Club, created an aggressive five-year strategic plan for the golf course in 2019. The plan calls for partnering with multiple organizations to fund and construct an underground irrigation system and potentially expand the existing

course.

The Underground Sprinkler System Installation project has been broken into three phases; Planning and Fundraising, Irrigation Reservoir Construction, and Underground Sprinkler System Installation.

Fundraising for Phase 3, the Underground Sprinkler System Installation, will take place in 2022.

Tax-deductible donations can be made payable to the Blue Mountain Community Foundation. Include the fund name: TVGC Irrigation Project and mail the donation to Blue Mountain Community Foundation P.O. Box 603, Walla Walla, WA 99362.

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-Colleen
McCoy

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

The City of Dayton is taking applications for two Temporary/Seasonal employees to work in the park, cemetery and where needed. Duties will include mowing, weed-eating, trimming, restroom maintenance, general grounds keeping. The wage is \$13.69 per hour, no benefits included. The job will be for 90 working days. Must have a valid Washington State drivers license and be at least 18 years of age. Jobs are open until filled. Get an application and job description at Dayton City Hall in Dayton, 111 South 1st Street, or call 509-382-2361. You can apply online at www.daytonwa.com. Any questions call 509-382-4571 or 509-382-2361, ask for Jim or Rob.

Position open in the Dayton School District for a paraprofessional to assist with middle school students. To apply, submit a classified application, letter of interest and resume. Applications can be found on the employment page of the District website at www.daytonsd.org or the District office at 609 S. 2nd Street. For more information contact Jana Eaton at 509-382-2543. Closing date March 26, 2021 or until filled. EOE

The Dayton Chamber of Commerce is seeking applications for the full-time Manager position. The Chamber promotes tourism, events, economic development and provides marketing for Dayton. Applicants should have good skills in public relations, collaboration,

administration, management, public speaking, marketing, QuickBooks, social media and budgeting. Submit resume and cover letter to chamber@historicaldayton.com by March 26. Compensation: \$40-50K, based on experience.

Cook Wanted. Lyons Ferry KOA needs a high energy person for 2021 season. We need one person for the restaurant as a cook / chef that is ready to take on the task of a small family style restaurant. This position requires physical fitness, ability to move with urgency, multitasking and flexible scheduling. We need "can do" people, good attitude and great work ethics. Cook with experience is preferred. Most important is the willingness to pitch in where needed and get the job done.

Expect to work weekends and holidays. Contact Joanne (509) 399-8026

The Dayton School District is currently looking for qualified adults to serve as substitute teachers, paraprofessionals (teacher's aides) and bus drivers (training available). Class B CDL with school bus endorsement is preferred but not required Contact Jana Eaton at the District office (509-382-2543) or learn more from the District website www.daytonsd.org employment page. EOE

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NEWS & LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE STATE OF
WASHINGTON
IN AND FOR THE
COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA
NO. 21 4 00045 36
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
RCW 11.40.030

In the Matter of the Estate
of

VELMA A. SICKLES,
Deceased.
The personal
representative named below
has been appointed as
personal 16 | 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.
The claim must be presented
within the later of: (1) Thirty
|| days after the personal
representative served or
mailed the notice to the
creditor as

provided under RCW
11.40.020(3); or (2) four
months after the date of first
publication of the 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 11.40.060. This
bar is effective as to claims
against both the decedent's
probate and nonprobate
assets.

Date of Filing Notice to
Creditors with Clerk of the
Court:

March 4, 2021
Date of First Publication:
March 11, 2021
Personal Representative:
Dawn A. Nichols
Attorney for the Personal
Representative:

/s/ Michael V. Hubbard,
WSBA #8823
Address for Mailing or

Service:
Hubbard Law Office,
P.C. 145 Main PO Box 67
Waitsburg, WA 99361
The Times
March 11, 18, 25, 2021
3-11-a

**ORDINANCE SUMMARY
BY TITLE ONLY FOR
PUBLICATION PURPOSES**
ORDINANCE NO. 1976
AN ORDINANCE OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF DAYTON, WASHINGTON
AMENDING TITLE 4 OF
THE DAYTON MUNICIPAL
CODE, CREATING A NEW
CHAPTER 4-9, UTILITY RATE
REDUCTION DISCOUNT
PROGRAM

Section 1. Amendment.
Section 2. Severability.
Section 3. Summary
Publication.

The full text of Ordinance
1976 adopted the 10th day
of March 2021 is available
for examination at City Hall,
111 S. 1st St., Dayton, WA
during normal business hours,
Monday – Friday, 7:00 a.m.
to 4:00 p.m. Full text of the
Ordinance shall be mailed
upon request.

By: /s/ Zac Weatherford,
Mayor

Attest: /s/ Trina Cole, City
Administrator


Approved as to form: /s/
Quinn Plant, City Attorney
The Times
March 18, 2021
3-18-a

IN THE SUPERIOR
COURT OF THE STATE OF
WASHINGTON
IN AND FOR THE
COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA
No.: 21-4-00049-36
PROBATE NOTICE TO
CREDITORS

(RCW 11.40.030)
IN THE MATTER OF
THE ESTATE OF:
ROBERT K. WALKER,
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 personal representative
served or mailed the notice to
the creditor as provided under
RCW 11.40.020 (1)(c); or (2)
four months after the date of
first publication of the 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 11.40.060. This
bar is effective as to claims
against both the decedent's
probate and nonprobate
assets.

DATE OF FIRST
PUBLICATION: March 18,
2021
Personal Representative:
Robert T. Walker
Ann A. Parmley, WSBA
#49063
Of Attorneys for Personal
Representative
Address for Mailing or
Service:
2225 Isaacs, Suite A, Walla
Walla, WA 99362
The Times
March 18, 25, April 1, 2021
3-18-b



**The deadline for legal
publications is noon on
Tuesday prior to
publication.**

**Send notices to:
legals@waitsburgtimes.com**

CITY COUNCIL - FROM PAGE 4

Banquet will be in January 2022.

Mayor Pro-tem Dain Nysoe asked city staff to provide the council with information about the City's bonding capability for a new swimming pool. Nysoe would like cost estimates to demolish the existing pool if bonds or other financing are not available for its replacement.

"It is a constant reminder to the citizens of Dayton that we do not have a pool," he said.

Planning Director Meagan Hayes reminded the city council about a public hearing on Mar. 16 regarding a variance on South Seventh Street and the application for Conditional Use Permit for the assisted living facility the hospital plans to lease from the construction contractor.

Her department has received another vacation request in an alley adjacent to South Willow Street. Information about that will be presented at the April council meeting.

Hayes has been pursuing website updates and additions, including a Build Dayton resource with information for construction developers.

The Planning Department should complete the Main Street Safety Action Plan by the end of March and in committee in April. Hayes will work on a draft for review for the city council.

A grant award through the Department of Commerce will allow for a hotspot at City Hall. She will have an agreement at the next meeting.

The Dayton City Council considered and approved the following:

Ordinance No. 1976: Amending Title 4 of the Dayton Municipal Code, creating a new chapter, Utility Rate Reduction Discount Program. Mayor Weatherford said the city could establish reduced utility rates for low-income senior citizens and residential customers inside and outside the city. The program will be administered by the Blue Mountain Action Council, Walla Walla.

Resolution No. 1456: Amending the by-laws of the Dayton Historic Preservation Commission. The Commission is asking for regularly scheduled meetings to take place on odd calendar months. If necessary, special meetings can be held.

Resolution No. 1457: setting a public hearing to take testimony for, or against, the vacation of the public right of way on East J Street (East of South 6th Street). The right-of-way portion is 60' x 120' and is undeveloped vacant land, which dead-ends into the City Cemetery. 100-percent of adjoining property owners have signed the petition for vacation of the right-of-way. The public hearing will take place during the next regular meeting of the Dayton City Council on April 14.

Resolution No. 1458: authorizing the Mayor to execute an interagency agreement between the Washington Department of Commerce and the City for coronavirus relief funding for activities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus in partnership with local service providers for the Community Development Block Grant-CV1 consortium area. The funds could be passed through to the Blue Mountain Action Council to provide eligible public services and microenterprise assistance for residents in Columbia County. The award is in the amount of \$27,613. The Finance Committee will review this agreement at their next meeting.

Resolution No. 1459: authorizing the Mayor to execute a Real Estate Purchase and Sale Agreement between the City and Bryan Martin for 43 acres of land to site wastewater facilities. This is to complete the City of Dayton Wastewater Treatment Facility Update Project. The city will pay earnest money in the amount of \$16,000. Martin will give the city six months to establish compatibility for the project. If the sale proceeds, the city will pay no less than \$290,000 for the property per the agreement. Jake Hoppeter, Principal Engineer for Anderson/Perry & Associates who was at the meeting, said the property seems very "promising."

Hoppeter said a constructed wetlands method of wastewater treatment is designed as a mechanical system, followed by wetland polishing and additional treatment. If compatible and with the proper permitting, this property would be used for wetland polishing and treatment of effluent with indirect discharge into the river.

The excitement surrounding the project is amazing, according to City Administrator Trina Cole. She said this project is considered across the state as "ground-breaking."

City officials meet monthly with representatives from the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indians, Washington Water Trust, the Department of Ecology, and other agencies to discuss the project.

The mayor read a letter from the Department of Ecology dated Feb. 24, 2021, saying this type of project has never been implemented in Washington State, and the agency is very excited and supportive. This innovative treatment approach could serve as a model in Washington state.

"We are confident through continued collaboration the proposed treatment design will be approved by DOE, and the city can move forward with seeking funding for the facility Regional Director Eastern Region DOE," said Weatherford.

Resolution No. 1460: authorizing the Mayor to execute an Interlocal Agreement with Columbia County for providing Law Enforcement, Dispatch, and Municipal Court services. The City will pay to the County a sum of \$612,500.00 per year for the services. The amount of compensation will be increased per year at a rate equal to 100-percent of the Urban Consumer Price Index, West Size Class B/C of the preceding year, to take effect on Jan. 1 of the successive year, beginning Jan. 1, 2022. The contract is for five years.

There is a special city council meeting on Thursday, March 25 at 6 p.m. to consider candidates and appoint a candidate for a vacant seat on the Dayton City Council.

ENTIRE STATE OF WASHINGTON ADVANCES TO PHASE 3

THE TIMES

OLYMPIA—Governor Jay Inslee announced on Thursday, March 11, a state-wide move to Phase 3 of the Roadmap to Recovery Plan. The state will continue to assess COVID-19 recovery with a county-by-county approach.

The move to Phase 3 will become effective for the entire state on March 22. The return of in-person spectators for professional and high school sports is one of the many exciting advancements as the state recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Because of the progress we've made by decreasing our case rates and hospitalizations, as well as our tremendous efforts to get more people vaccinated, our reopening plan is once again based on counties, not regions," Inslee said during a press conference last Thursday. "We are excited to take this step, and we will keep evaluating our progress and the impacts of these changes, to determine how and when we reopen further."

Additionally, Inslee announced that starting Wednesday, March 17, everyone in Phase 1B, Tier 2, will be eligible for their COVID vaccine. This includes workers in agriculture, food processing, grocery stores, public transit, firefighters, and law enforcement. Phase 1B, Tier 2 also includes people over the age of 16 who are pregnant or have a disability that puts them at high-risk.

The new phase allows for up to 400 people to attend outdoor and indoor events as long as capacity does not exceed 50% and physical distancing and masking protocols are enforced. Larger capacity venues are capped at 25% occupancy, or up to 9,000 people, whichever is less, and must follow spectator guidelines.

Additionally, Phase 3 will allow up to 50% occupancy up to 400 people maximum for all indoor spaces. This applies to all industries and indoor activities currently allowed including restaurants, gyms and fitness centers and movie theaters.

"Some of the hardest hit businesses in Washington will be able to return to 50% capacity as we continue on the road to recovery," Inslee said. "On March 22, we make one more step to beating this virus and rejuvenating our economy."

More information about Phase 3 will be available this week on the Governor's webpage at <https://medium.com/wagovernor>.

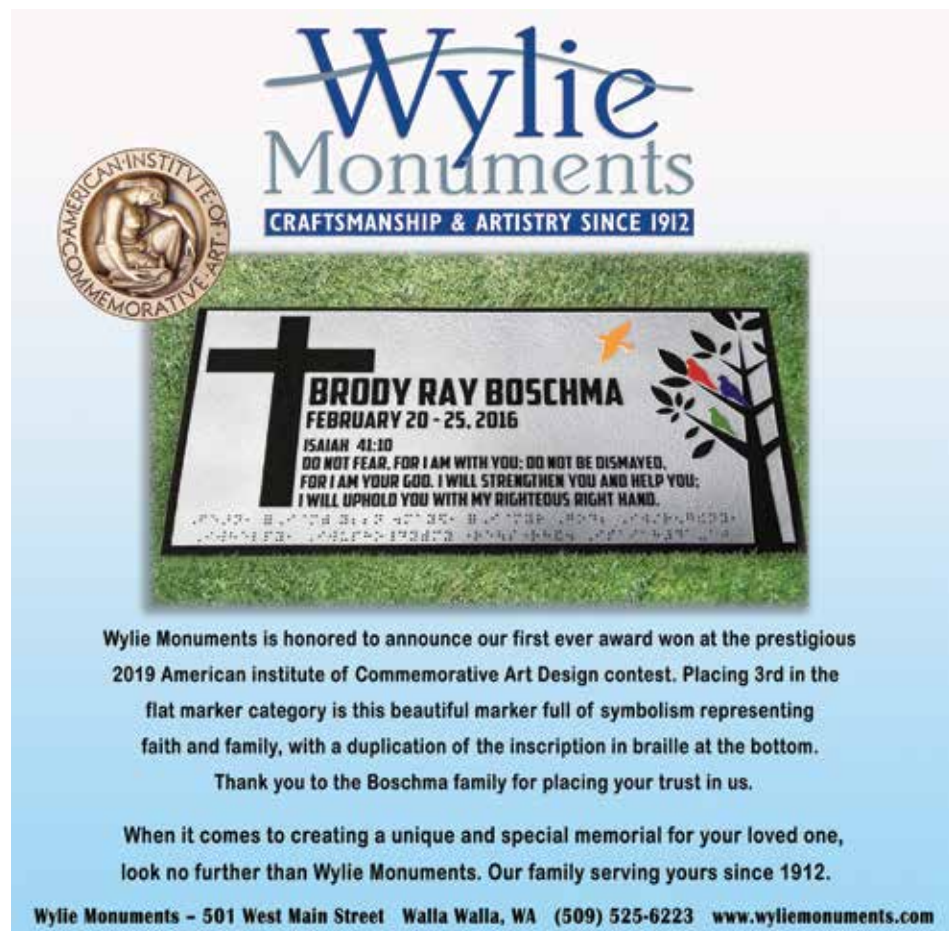


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I WILL UPHOLD YOU WITH MY RIGHTEOUS RIGHT HAND.

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Master Sculptor of Stationmaster

Master sculptor Keith McMasters speaks at Dayton Kiwanis Club meeting

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

The bronze Stationmaster, which watches over the Historic Dayton Depot, was sculpted by Montana-based master sculptor Keith McMasters. The Stationmaster and Companion was dedicated and installed in 2010. McMasters was the featured guest during the March Kiwanis Club meeting, sharing words of inspiration and his journey through the world of fine art.

McMasters was born and raised in Colfax, Wash., and the surrounding Palouse area. His love for art was nurtured from a young age. His grandmother went through reams and reams of drawing paper as she encouraged his drawing and artistic ability.

Upon graduating high school, McMasters dreamed of becoming a Western Art sculptor, capturing cowboys, ranchers, and the wild range. But, like many budding artists, McMasters had to pick up work outside of art. He spent twenty years in the resort industry, where he managed a resort near the Gorge in Washington, before ending up at Bluewood Ski Resort.

"Twelve of those twenty years were spent at Bluewood, in Dayton, and that's where we got to know him," said Nealy. "I'll never forget the one day, I think it was in 2000, that his accountant said that he could quit his day job. His sculpting was becoming popular and profitable enough that he could do it full-time."

McMasters joined the meeting from ISO Art, his gallery in Montana, earning a laugh as he shared that he was calling into his very first Zoom meeting.

McMasters shared that he had been inspired by his long family line of cowboys, as well as the colors, artistry, and culture of the Nez Perce Indians, which he grew up around.

"For me, it's always been about cowboys and Indians, my whole life," he said. "I drew incessantly. We spent summers, and vacations, really anytime we could at my grandparent's ranch, in between Tekoa and Oakesdale up in the Palouse. We loved spending time there as kids, and she really encouraged my artistic abilities."

McMasters went on to share that J. Shirley Bothum, a renowned sculptor and family friend, who was based near Clarkston, WA, at the time, began inviting McMasters to his art studio. Bothum's work has been recognized by many galleries and museums, including the Smithsonian Institute. His subject matter focuses on historical figures including Sacagewea, and western life.

"As a kid, he knew I really loved art and he invited me over to the studio," McMasters said. "I don't really remember him showing me how to do anything, I just remember that he had lots of cool stuff, and I thought 'oh my goodness, someday, if I could do that and have some of this cool stuff, life would be wonderful.' And, I'll be darned, fifty years later, the things I happen to think were so neat, and orig-

inal works of art, and Indian artifacts, are what I have surrounded myself with for the past decade, maybe even longer."

McMasters said that he loved his time in Dayton, but he always felt this pull to go to Montana. As a kid, his father took him there on a vacation, and McMasters, to this day, vividly remembers his feelings seeing the Welcome to Montana sign as he crossed the state line.

"I have carried that feeling with me my entire life," he said. He shared that while his life in Dayton was great, he and his wife decided that they needed to make a strategic plan to move, as many of his clients were in the state.

In 2012, McMasters and his wife, Mira, moved to Hamilton, Montana, where he is living out his dream.

"At that particular time, as hard as it is to believe, the healthcare industry was looking for quality people from the food processing industry," he explained. His wife was the quality director at Seneca Foods, in Dayton. "This is the part I found hard to believe: It was because the quality procedures and techniques were more advanced than what they had in the healthcare industry."

The first of many steps that brought them closer to Montana, Mira McMasters

took a job with Bruce Scrimshaw, in Los Angeles, where she spent three years in a large hospital, earning industry experience. While she was working, McMasters spent much of his time sculpting at home, with a job-searching site opened on his internet browser. One day, job search engine Monster.com showed an opening in Hamilton, Montana, for a Director of Quality and Risk Management. Mira ended up getting the job, ultimately moving the couple to their current home.

A series of events cemented the couple's Montana destiny, including purchasing their dream cabin, and falling in love with a Main Street space for a studio on the first day. The studio morphed into a successful art gallery.

"I thought I'd find out who owned it and buy it or lease it. For about two months, the building was dark," said McMasters. "One day, I pulled up and the lights were on. I looked in the window, and I saw all of this original, beautiful, collectable artwork."

After some discussion with the owner, who did not want to sell, he learned that the owner was the son of one of McMasters' idols, Dr. Van Kirke Nelson, of Kalispell. They eventually struck a deal, as things continued to fall into place for the McMasters, and the partnership



ISO Art



Keith McMasters

Top: *Along the Banks*, a life-sized bronze sculpture, will sit at one of the busiest intersections in Hamilton, Montana.

Bottom: Keith McMasters working on a sculpture.



Keith McMasters

The *Stationmaster and Companion* stands, frozen in time, as the stationmaster waits for the next arriving train at the Dayton Historic Depot.

continued for many years.

McMasters is now working as a sculptor and curator, alongside business partner Doug Nelson at their gallery ISO Art.

Many McMasters' life-sized sculptures are being cast at a foundry in Bozeman, Montana. One of his pieces, *Along the Banks*, was commissioned by a private buyer for the City of Hamilton. The city will place it at the busiest intersection in the town, nestled in an attractive park-setting.

Much of his work is inspired by the western books he read as a child. As a partner at ISO, he has curated a large collection of Western-inspired paintings and sculptures, often serving as a middleman between collectors and buyers.

The gallery, ISO Art, is located at 221 Main Street in Hamilton, Montana, where he and his partner feature art from Z.S Liang, Will James, Grace Hudson, including sculptures from names like Charles M. Russell, Earle Erik Heika, and of course McMasters.

AudioFarm | Music Review

Birds, Birds, Birds!

By John Avery | THE TIMES

Spring is just around the corner, and though my garden might not look like much more than barren winter scraps, it's certainly starting to sound like a new season. The birds are chirping again, a delight so lovely that it competes for valuable ear-time with my headphones. The days of monotonous yardwork are upon us, and I am here to recommend listening material to keep your ears happy as you work.

In honor of our returning avian friends, today's theme is all about birds. First up, a new album from

a different kind of musical bird: Andrew Bird! The extremely talented folk-indie musician returns in a collaboration with his one-time Squirrel Nut Zippers bandmate, Jimbo Mathus. On *These 13*, their styles meld together into a perfect blend of Americana; Bird's vocals and instrumentation give the album a delicate glow, which plays well with Mathus' rougher, more classic take on folksy blues. Listen to the subtle cathedral echo on "Beat Still My Heart" as Bird sings:

"There's a song, it's just a melody. A refrain that keeps haunting me. I'm alone, but I am free."

The album is full of allusions to aging, death, even poverty, but it's more warmly humanistic than sad. There are gospel influences here that give the record a spiritual feel, but it's ultimately an

amalgam of several styles, crafted by two veteran musicians whose companionship anchors a lovely record.

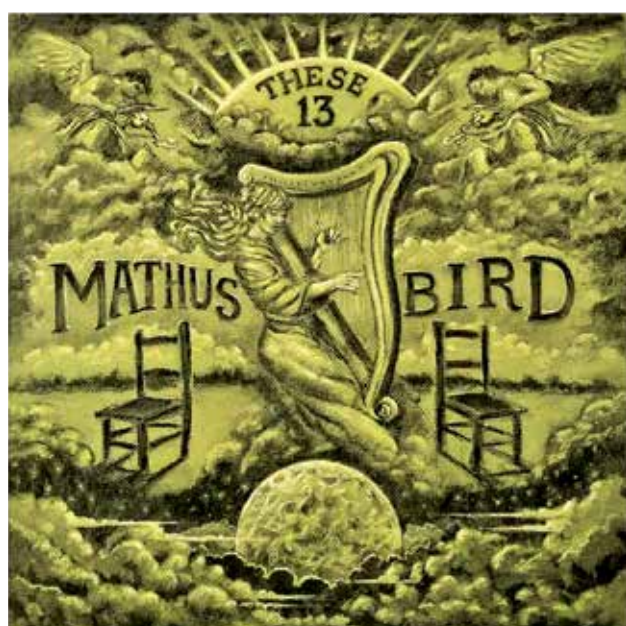
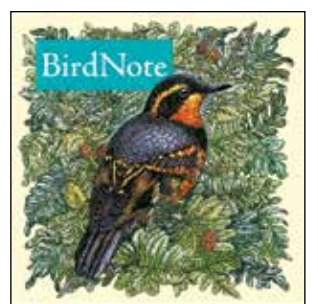
Another great release is Bill Callahan's *Gold Record*. On its opening track, "Pigeons", Callahan's velvet voice lulls you into storytime:

"Well the pigeons ate the wedding rice and exploded somewhere over San Antonio."

Quite the opener! Callahan's style is intimate, softly sung over a gentle guitar and a few backing instruments. The melodies stick with you though, despite (or perhaps because of) how simple they are. Callahan never overloads his songs, allowing single themes to breathe with imagery. He is a consistently great artist and, man, I could just listen to that voice all day.

Last up, check out the podcast *BirdNote*, a daily minute-long podcast about all things birds. I first caught it in syndication on public radio out of Astoria, Oregon. Each episode features a bird call and delves briefly into a specific bird fact. Did you know South America has over 300 species of hummingbirds? Or that a finch's coloration brightens if it eats more fruit? This podcast is such a joy. Maybe someday I'll identify the owl that's been hooting ominously at my small dogs each night. Eep! Catch all three of this week's suggestions on Spotify!

Enjoy!



March Madness is here again

NCAA Men's Tournament local teams and times

By Eric Umphrey | THE TIMES

Gonzaga, Eastern Washington, Oregon, and Oregon State were all selected to the NCAA Division I tournament this year. Due to COVID-19, the entire tournament will be played in Indiana across multiple locations in the state. If a team chooses not to participate or has an outbreak, there is a 48-hour window to name another team to take its place. Once the tournament begins, there will not be any replacements, and if any team cannot play for medical reasons, they will forfeit the game, and their opponent will advance to the next round. As long as five players on a team are healthy and available, a team is eligible to play in the tournament.

Gonzaga went 26-0 this season and is the overall top seed in the tournament. As a result, they will get to play the winner of a Thursday play-in game between Appalachian State (17-11) and Norfolk State (16-7). If you are interested, the play-in game will be on TruTV at 5:30 pm Thursday, March 18th. Gonzaga's game will be on Saturday, March 20th at 6:20 pm on CBS. Gonzaga has been the top-ranked team in the country all season and will try to be the first undefeated national champion since the 1976 Indiana Hoosiers.

The Eastern Washington Eagles (16-7) enter the tournament as a #14 seed and

have a difficult draw against a #3 Kansas (20-8) team that always seems to make this tournament. This game takes place on Saturday the 20th at 1:15 pm on TBS. Kansas withdrew from the Big 12 tournament due to players testing positive for COVID-19. Teams must produce seven consecutive days of negative test results to play. It is unknown whether the Kansas Jayhawks will be at full strength when they face the Eagles. The Eagles are also coming into the tournament on a hot streak, winning fifteen of their last eighteen games to close out the regular season.

Oregon (20-6) is a #7 seed and will face #10 VCU (19-7) at 6:57 pm on TNT this Saturday, the 20th. The Ducks had the best record in the PAC-12 conference this year. You can't help but wonder whether two losses to Oregon State, once at home in the regular season and once in the conference semifinals, didn't cause Oregon to drop from a #4 or #5 seed down to the seventh seed. This is a team that is finally healthy and could go deep into the tournament.

Oregon State (17-12) comes into the tournament as a #12 seed and will face #5 Tennessee (18-8) at 1:30 pm this Friday the 19th on TNT. Oregon State got into the NCAA tournament by winning the PAC-12 tournament. It was the first time the Beavers have won the PAC-12 tournament. Since teams were only allowed to play games inside their conference, it's hard to know how formidable an opponent Tennessee will be. However, winning the conference tournament and making the NCAA tournament is quite an accomplishment for a team that was picked to finish last in the PAC-12 at the start of the season.

DW Volleyball shows improvement against TCP, WWVA

THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—DW Volleyball claimed a well-earned victory against Columbia Burbank, scoring 19-25, 25-16, 25-8, 17-25, 15-10.

Senior Sadie Seney led the charge, with 13 kills, four digs, one block, one assist, and eight aces. Katherine Houchin finished the game with a total of eight kills, five digs, one assist and one ace. Teagen Larsen had 14 assists, three dis, one kill and two aces, and Megan Forney had six assists, four digs, and two aces.

DW Volleyball played against Tri Cities Prep on March 11, making progress as a team. DW lost in

three sets, with scores of 17-25, 7-25, 16-25.

Seney ended the game with two aces, seven kills, seven digs, and one block. Houchin recorded eight digs, six kills, and one block for the DW stat book.

Coach Tracy Barron said that the team worked really hard on covering the DW hitters and blockers, and moving and adjusting to the court as the game progressed.

Movement and progress was the key to closer scores on March 14, when the DW ladies played against the Walla Walla Valley Academy Lady Knights. DW lost in three sets, with scores of 11-25, 15-25, 14-

25.

Katherine Houchin led the team's statistics, with 11 digs, three assists, and four kills. Seney had two blocks, sixteen digs, and six kills against the Knights, and Claudia Benavides earned herself a place in the sports spotlight with thirteen digs, two kills, one assist, and one ace.

"The girls played a hard game," siad Barron. "They adjusted their passing and coverage as it was needed. The ability to adjust really shows how far they have developed as a team."

DW Football victorious against Mabton, 32-20

THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—Dayton-Waitsburg Football played Mabton High School at Mabton on Saturday, March 13, with a 1 p.m kickoff.

"The weather was almost too nice with the sun and 62 degrees outside," said head coach Troy Larsen. "We had a starter go down in the first half with heat exhaustion and our conditioning was tested with the rest of the team playing for the first time with any sort of heat."

After a slow start, Dayton-Waitsburg adapted and started to play better. Monte Pettichord started out 3-16 with two interceptions before getting out and finishing the day at 13-30-2-5 touchdowns (TD) and 2 interceptions (INT).

DW's three senior receivers started to find open field, with Shawn Evans leading the charge, catching the first three TD's and ended the day with 6-107-3, while Mason Finney electrified the team by catching a short sprint out pass and taking it 80 yards for a TD.

Colton VanBlaricom had another solid game catching only first downs and a TD, going 3-57-1.

Hudson Reser kept Mabton honest by rushing 12-51, mixing runs on

the inside and outside with Pettichord making some nice reads and pulling the ball for 5-43 yards respectfully.

"Mabton has a good quarterback that loves to keep the ball and does a really good job scrambling around letting his receivers find some green grass to sit in," said Larsen. "The DW defense lost two receivers for TD's, but overall did a great job staying with the WR's and had 2 interceptions and 7 pass break ups."

The DW defensive line and linebackers (LB) kept good containment and tallied three sacks, limiting any long scramble runs. Sophomore LB Benny Bryan had a breakout game with 12 tackles, while Colton VanBlaricom flew around from his safety position for 11 tackles. Mason Finney, Adam Puckett, and Theo Anderson continued to have solid defensive games with 10 tackles a piece.

"DW will host Riverview High School this Friday night at 7pm and we are looking forward to a larger crowd with the new Phase 3 guidelines," Larsen added. "Friday will also be the DW Homecoming game and Senior night."

Dayton-Waitsburg 32, Mabton 20.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Final
DW	6	6	13	7	32
Mabton	0	14	0	6	20

Prescott Tigers Soccer two wins, one loss as season ends

THE TIMES

PRESCOTT—The Prescott Tigers were on fire for the COVID-19 Fall Sports season, and the soccer team was no exception. The short season saw more wins than losses, with a 3-2 record being reported.

In the March 9 game against Walla Walla Valley Academy, Prescott's scoring players were Adrian Rubio, who scored on a penalty kick (PK) at 16:00, again at 74:00. Vicente Garcia scored on a play from Rubio at 19:00, and again at 79:00.

Prescott's saves were made by Ivan Martinez, who totaled two saves, and Hector Garcia, with one. WWVA saves were made by Jordan Butcher, who ended the game with five. The game ended with Prescott up against WWVA, 5-0.

During the March 11 game against RCHS, Prescott scores were made by Brandon Caro, ona play from Vicente Garcia at 60:00.Prescott's saves were completed by Hector Garcia, who ended the game with four saves.

Riverside Christian's scores were

made by Daniel Allen, at 24:00, Joel Be-laire at 37:00, and Aaron Villa at 42:00, and 70:00. Prescott fell short of victory, with a final score of 1-4.

For the final game of the season, Prescott's scoring plays were completed by Adrian Rubio (PK) at 25:00, and again at 60:00. Jaime Escalante scored on a play from Brandon Caro at 31:00. Ivan Martinez ended the game with four total saves.

St. George's Aidan Kelly made a free kick goal at 68:00, for St. George's only game point, Nico Morales ended the game with three saves. Prescott's senior plays landed one last win, with a final score of 3-1.

"Definitely awesome to finish up with a W. But really we're looking for improvement, and I think we did over the course of five games in 10 days. We were running on fumes today for sure. Of course, we honored our seniors, Antonio Hernandez and David Suarez," said coach Mark Grimm. "Tony's been a four-year player, state champion, and a huge part of our team. David, I can't say enough about being a senior and no to little experience, but wanted to be part of it. Unfortunately, like most at this time, didn't have a full season. But we're all thankful for what we did get."

Prescott Volleyball closes season with 7-3 record

THE TIMES

The Prescott Tigers claimed a home-match victory on March 9, against Liberty Christian, in straight sets. Scores were 25-11, 25-20, and 25-15

Coach Bob Young shared that Prescott improved to 6-2 on the season. They continued to play solid ball. The Tigers served at 86% with 13 aces and a .333 hitting percentage with 13 kills. He said that Prescott controlled the first set and came from behind in the second and third after slow starts.

Senior Frida Gonzalez led the Tigers with 92% serving, six aces, and two kills; Junior Angeles Ayala hit .545 with six kills on 11 swings.

"That was a solid team performance. We shut the door on the Patriots in the 2nd and 3rd sets after a bit of a slow start with poor serve receive," said Young. "We showed our muster with strong serving and pressure offense. Frida took command in that first set with her power serving and switching looks on them. Angeles is becoming a force in the middle. She's becoming much more aggressive in her net play. We'll need to play together as we take on Touchet on Thursday."

Prescott Volleyball fell short of victory against Touchet High School, on March 11. Scores were 23-25, 25-14, 21-25, and 23-25.

Prescott fell to 6-3 on the season after a hard-fought match against Touchet on Prescott's Senior

Night. Both teams battled every point all night long, and neither team allowed sustained runs, Young shared.

Prescott Seniors recognized during Senior Night were four-year starter Jena Rowlette; three-year starter Frida Gonzalez; two-year starter Karina Quiroz; two-year defense specialist, Adelita Benito; 1-year outside hitter, Ericka Eulloqui.

The Tigers were led by the play of their middles, Senior Jena Rowlette and Junior Angeles Ayala combined for 15 kills and six blocks. Junior Michell Morales added five aces to top Prescott from the service line. Freshman Fatima Becerra led the defense with five digs and 2.25 passing.

"That was a whale of an effort by our girls. They left it all on the court. Congrats to Touchet as they played well. They handled everything we threw at them," said Young. "Coach Mim always gets them to play hard. We were a bit off from the service line, giving them 16 errors against 14 aces. Cut that number in half and the outcome goes our way. Tonight was the most combined swings by any Prescott middles that I can think of, 48 with 15 kills. Jena and Angeles led our attack. I want to thank our seniors for leading our program over the past few years and demonstrating to the girls behind them what it means to play Tiger

volleyball."

Prescott claimed a final victory on the season closer, against Desales High School, with four sets scores of 25-16, 25-23, 20-25, and 27-25. The team's final record was 7-3.

The Tigers were led once again by the middles, Jena Rowlette with seven kills, 11 aces, and two blocks, and Angeles Ayala with 12 kills on .545 hitting and two blocks. Senior Setter Karina Quiroz dished-out 20 assists.

"I'm so proud of the fight in these girls. We didn't serve very well tonight (committing 18 errors) but we still played hard. We stubbed our toes out of the gate in every set and fell behind. But what a second set comeback though! That was Tiger volleyball at its best, playing with grit and intensity. Jena served lights out. Her ability to deliver in the clutch is off the charts," said Young, reflecting on the season. "Kudos to the Irish, they didn't fold and came back strong to make it a match right down to the wire. I'm glad Frida came up big to finish off the 4th after struggling early on. This group of girls competed well all season long and pushed Prescott volleyball into a new era of high expectations for the program. I'm proud to be their coach"

Chat with Mike: Author Susan D. Matley

By Mike Ferrians | THE TIMES

Perusing a resume of Susan Matley's entire work history would be a kick. She has been an actress, an accountant, a family historian, a life-long journalist, and a musician. Her "right" and "left" brains have an effective partnership, which serves her well in the world of speculative fiction, but I'll get to that later.

Many readers will remember Matley as one half of the Cowboy song and poetry duo "Nevada Slim and Cimarron Sue." I first met Susan in that role, but life has altered course since I last saw her.

She and her late husband Bruce Matley retired from Cowboy music in 2015, the year she published her first sci-fi/fantasy book, *Small-g City*, with Wolf Singer Publications. In 2016 she published a sequel entitled *Big-G City*.

In 2018, the Matleys decided to move from their home in Prescott to Walla Walla. Soon afterward, Bruce was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. He passed away in November of that year.

Bruce had always been the first-test reader for Matley's fictional stories. Adjusting to widowhood has been graced with the support and partnership of other writers, including Martin McCaw, a long-time Prescott resident now living in Walla Walla, and her high school creative writing teacher, the celebrated Japanese-American poet James Masao Mitsui, with whom she still corresponds.

Last December, the third book in the G-City series came out: *Beyond Big-G City*, and yes, there is a fourth book in the works.

"Writing is an anchor for me," Matley said during a recent visit. "It's my artistic expression, of course. But I have always been a writer. I have loved reading and writing basically ever since my big sister taught me

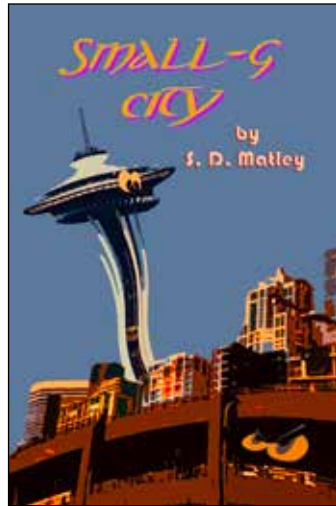
to read."

Matley's writing career has spanned several genres, including poetry, American Western historical fiction, and a life-long interest in Greek mythology. Her research discipline, love of the ancient pantheon, and her own life experience have come together to create a fictional yet recognizable Seattle. Populated by members of the pantheon (both Gods and gods) who live, move, and struggle, impacting both the mortal



Courtesy photos

Susan Matley and her first book *Small-g City*



and immortal worlds. Matley describes it as "speculative fiction" – a phrase of which I was not familiar.

"It's a broad category," she said. "Anything that combines reality with elements that alter reality in some way."

The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood, and to a lesser extent, the Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowling are considered speculative fiction.

Matley's first book, *Small-g City*, introduces us to a series of Little-g gods who keep the world's precarious mortal infrastructure intact. Ralph is a Little-g god who is responsible for the aging Alaskan Way Viaduct.

Meanwhile, Zeus, the CEO of Olympus, Inc., is ready for retirement and wondering if any of his immortal offspring can handle the job.

For anyone wondering, yes, I picked up the book. It's whimsical, imaginative, and at times hilarious. It also has me wondering whether the next bridge I drive over will hold up or not.

"It all started as a short story idea," she said. "At some point, I realized it needed to be a bigger story.

The characters and the scope of the idea started to grow. I have always enjoyed Greek mythology since I was a kid, so that was a very organic way to expand the ideas. I didn't start out with the idea of a series of books. It just evolved."

It's still evolving. She is now working on the fourth book with the working title, *Beneath Big-G City*. She disciplines herself to write 1,500 words a day, five days a week. In addition to writing the G series books, her work is featured in two anthologies, also published by Wolf Singer.

"I have a small and loyal following," Matley said of her series so far.

In addition, she keeps up a weekly blog available on her website, www.susandmatley.com.

Her site also contains a page entitled *Bricks and Mortar*, which is devoted to encouraging the support of local independent businesses in the age of growing internet commerce.

Accordingly, you can find Matley's books on sale at Book and Game Company and Earthlight Books, both on Main Street in downtown Walla Walla.

I have all three books in my possession. I'll enjoy keeping in touch with Susan D. Matley as I journey through her fictional world. Occasionally I may have questions, such as, "What job does Ralph have now that the Viaduct is gone?"

Waitsburg Farmers Market scheduled later this spring

Organizers are looking for local vendors for the Memorial Day Weekend kickoff

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—Fresh produce, hand-crafted soaps, and local art are just a few of the items that Noelle Olson, Doug Biolo, and Janet Lawrence hope to see at the upcoming Waitsburg Farmers Market.

Olson, owner of Dusty Britches Farm in Waitsburg and market manager; and Biolo and Lawrence, co-owners of Nancy's Dream Garden Center in Waitsburg, are excited to announce plans for a summertime market that focuses on locally grown fruits and veggies, local art, handicrafts, and foods, featuring businesses from Waitsburg, Prescott, and Dayton.

Olson played a key part in starting a farmers market in 2019, but said that the 2020 pandemic closed the market for the season.

"It's going to be a community thing, to help people get their products out there and make a little income," said Biolo. "The more local, the better."

The farmers market is currently set to open up on Memorial Day weekend, and run through Labor Day weekend, though Olson noted that the season could possibly go longer depending on the market's summer success. The market will be open every weekend during the summer, with hours to be announced.

The goal, according to Olson and Biolo, is to have at least ten vendors committed to the summer season. Space rental is \$10/per day, plus tax, and vendors are required to provide necessities like coolers. Vendors are liable for their own products.

Olson said that two vendors, Dusty Britches Farm and Walla Walla Butter, have already committed to the

market for the summer, and she is particularly interested in bringing in a local honey vendor, hand-crafted soap and/or cosmetics company, a metal and/or wood artist, additional produce vendors, and artisanal foods vendors.

The group said that they are also very interested in bringing in a food truck or other lunch vendor, as long as it does not conflict with businesses already in Waitsburg.

The Waitsburg Farmers Market will be adhering to COVID-19 guidelines, enforcing social distancing and current masking requirements.

If businesses are interested in participating in the Waitsburg Farmers Market, or if there are any questions, contact Noelle Olson at (509) 205-4344, or Doug Biolo at (971) 219-6137. The market is also on Facebook, and updates will be provided on both the Waitsburg Farmers Market and Nancy's Dream Garden Center Facebook pages.

NO!!!! Russ, say it ain't so!!!

A real fan's reaction to 'Why the Seahawks should trade Russell Wilson NOW,' an article by Adam Shein, a contributing columnist for NFL.com.

By Merrilee Buroker | THE TIMES

Ok, first off, the author, Adam Shein, makes some devastatingly good points. If we trade Wilson now, it's most likely the apex of his value, given his disgruntledness and the uncertain state the Seahawks seem to be in right now. Some high draft picks would be nice. The salary cap is always an issue. Bobby Wagner and KJ Wright are aging superstars. Shaquille Griffin, in my opinion, has never developed into the CB we hoped he would be. He's been good, so maybe that is unfair given the restrictions to coverage and tackling, etc.

It's not the same game it was in The Legion of Boom Era. But, still, way too many passes are completed against Griffin, in my opinion. We don't have a pass rush. You have to have a great defense to have a successful offense.

There are just so many problems with our beloved team right now. So, should we just scrap the whole thing and start over? Trade our best players to make room for new blood? There is a TON of unbelievable talent in the NFL, but talent alone does not get the job done. In the horse world, there are lots of fast horses. But there's something else that turns talent into winning. Call it "heart," call it "a will to win." Whatever you call it, it's that IT FACTOR. Wilson has IT. And that quality, whatever you want to name it, is rare.

All this talk of trade this guy here, get that guy from over there, it's like the NFL is just one BIG fantasy football league. I'm old school. Maybe it's a woman's per-

spective. I think with my heart, not just my logic. My heart wants our "family" to stay together. Russell has been so endearing, with his enthusiasm and eternal optimism, and his "Go Hawks".

It's hard for me to accept that players are just commodities. There is no loyalty in professional sports anymore. It used to be that players would spend their whole career on one team. I'm glad that players have more control, more options, and can make money. Good for them. But where does that leave the Fan? I used to get frustrated with my Dad because he would abandon our Seahawks for whatever team was WINNING, while I BLEED Blue and Green. Win or lose, good times and bad.

It kinda looks like we're headed back to the bad ol' days. It will break my heart to see Wilson in a foreign uniform, saying, "Go Saints". The whole concept of fandom, the human instinct to team up, the "Us against them, yay for our side" mentality is fascinating in itself. Maybe it goes back to the tribal struggle for food and shelter; Yay! We got the Sabertooth tiger, and you didn't!"

We as humans tend to choose sides based on loyalty to tribe, nation, city, family, and a host of other invisible divisions. We are a Ford Man or a Dodge Gal. We are a Democrat or Republican. A Yankee or a Rebel. We choose teams in this way all the time. For some reason, it's human nature. That's why sports teams are big business. We love to choose sides and root for our tribe. So, Russell playing for another team is UNTHINKABLE TREACHERY! It would be like Stonewall Jackson suddenly deciding to play for Ulysses Grant. Rommel deciding it would be a better fit for him in the British army. Montana playing for the Chiefs. It's just WRONG.

Now I know how those cursed Patriots fans feel. Brady leaves and then wins a Superbowl for another team! That's gotta hurt, even for those dang Patriot Fans.

I gotta take a chill pill after that rant. Geez, Louis-iana. See what I did there? Wilson goes to Saints...Louisiana....CRIKEY!!!!



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FUN & GAMES



John Parkinson began his apprenticeship to a London apothecary in 1585. He went on to have a distinguished career as a medical practitioner. In 1622, he gave up this career to concentrate on his garden in London's Long Acre. He started researching and writing his first book, *Paradisi in sole paradisi terrestri*. The book included descriptions and illustrations of hundreds of plants, their origins, alternative names and medicinal properties. Parkinson was given the title First Botanist to the King by King Charles I. — Brenda Weaver

Sources: www.parksgardens.org, wikipedia.org

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Cold-hardy bloomers

Here are eight colorful annuals that you can plant in early spring:

- Senetti pericallis
- Campanula
- Cyclamen
- Calla Lily
- Ranunculus
- Fuchsia
- Dianthus
- Calceolaria

— Brenda Weaver
Source: www.costafarms.com



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PIONEER PORTRAITS

Ten Years Ago
March 17, 2011

Seated on an original bar stool, project manager Jim German points to the first bay of the former American Legion building which owner Charles Smith is turning into a new “working man’s bar.”

In the footsteps of The Troublemakers the Up-And-Coming band, Rezonators performed a benefit for the aviary.

The Times is pleased to announce that long-time photographer, sports enthusiast and local resident Tracy Daniel has joined the newspaper as its first dedicated sports writer and photographer. Together with Publisher Imbert Matthee and Managing Editor Dian McClurg, Daniel will help cover high school sports in the Touchet Valley and beyond, focusing on the Cardinals, Tigers and Bulldogs.

Twenty-Five Years Ago
March 21, 1996

H.W. “Bill” Zuger is the recipient of the 1995 Community Service Award given each year by the Waitsburg Commercial Club. The club, founded March 18, 1911, is celebrating its 85th anniversary, with past presidents attending the club’s annual dinner Tuesday evening.

When the flood waters from the Toucher River flowed over the Waitsburg and Dayton areas Feb. 7 and 9, the damage the high waters caused was obvious. What was not visibly apparent was the havoc the flooding was creating underground, affecting many rural residents’ household water supply. “Approximately 15 wells may have been affected by the flooding,” said Al Schoenhuth, director of environmental health for Columbia County

The 11th annual Child Abuse and Neglect’s Fun Run is scheduled April 6, beginning at 10 a.m. at Rooks Park in Walla Walla.

Fifty Years Ago
April 1, 1971

Waitsburg voters put the stamp of approval on a levy measure designed to raise an additional \$176,719 for operation of Waitsburg Schools for the 1971-72 year.

A happy, proud and tearful Queen of the Days of Real Sport, Anne Hubbard poses for The Times following her coronation by DRS President King Witt and the Queen’s Dance held in Waitsburg last Saturday.

Terry Hofer has purchased the Palm Club from Maurice K. “Pete” Huwe with the sale effective on Wednesday, March 31.

“We’re clean as a whistle,” reported Supt. Lloyd Olson at a school board meeting Thursday regarding the district’s financial house-keeping.

Seventy-Five Years Ago
April 5, 1946

Earl Smith came in first with Howard Smith second in one of the roller skating events sponsored last week by the Waitsburg Parent-Teacher Association.

“Bill” Dickeson handed in his resignation as night watchman Tuesday evening at the regular meeting of the City Council.

All local residents who have not been immunized for smallpox in the past three years, are urged to do so at once following the statewide emergency created by the smallpox epidemic in King County.

One Hundred Years Ago
April 15, 1921

The Touchet Milling Co. of Huntsville, which has been laying low during the recent wheat market cycle, announces that it is preparing to resume operations about May 1st with increased output and capitalization.

The dream of Samuel W. Southard Post, American Legion bids fair to become a reality for the Legion boys are to have a comfortable home of their own. The Legion has secured an option on the Park Hotel brick building on Preston Avenue.

Mrs. G. W. Bateman accompanied by her little daughter, Facy, was a visitor in Dayton Saturday to see her father W. L. Rinehart who has been ill.

One Hundred Twenty-Five Years Ago
April 10, 1896

Put it down indelibly on the tablets of thy memory that in this neck o’ woods we had rain on Easter Sunday and therefore entitled to rain every Sunday for seven Sundays.

Geo. Lloyd is at Tacoma this week attending Grand Lodge of A. O. U. W. of which he is an Inside Watchman.

On Thursday afternoon from 2 to 5, Mrs. S. W. Smith, Mr. J. B. Caldwell and Mrs. J. E. Maxwell entertained royally their ladyfriends at the palatial home of Mrs. Smith. The guests numbered 100 and a more delightful and charming reception would require unusual ingenuity to plan or execute.

LAFF - A - DAY



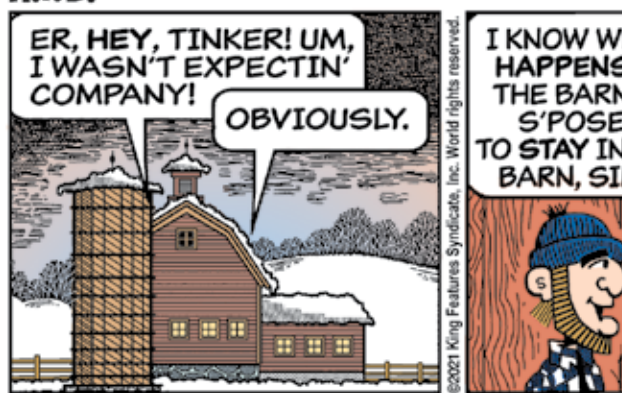
“Well, if you won’t marry me, Annabelle, will you at least help me get up?”

GRIN AND BEAR IT



“Is this your only store?”

R.F.D.

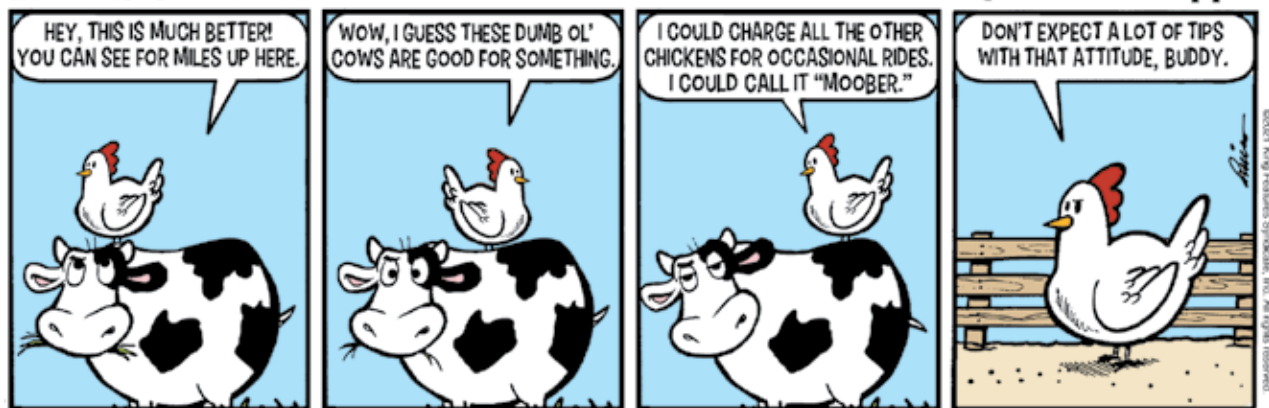


by Mike Marland



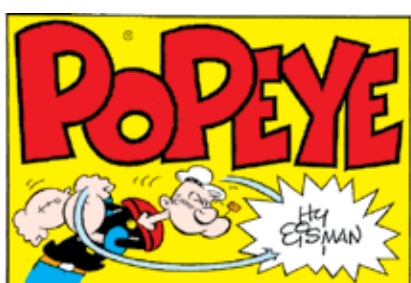
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

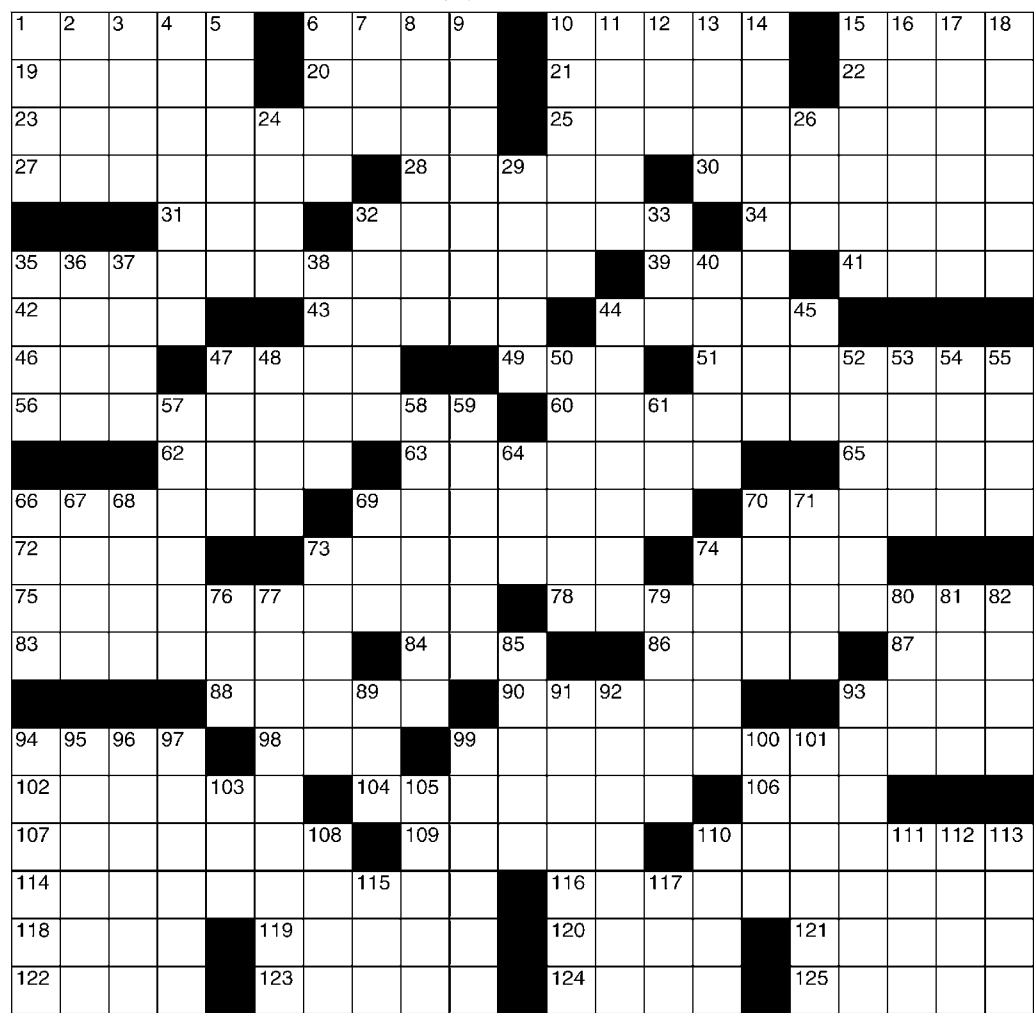


PUZZLES & LIFESTYLES

Super Crossword

JUMBLE OF TREES

- ACROSS**
- 1 Item in a place setting
 6 Duffels, e.g.
 10 Grand tales
 15 Hence
 19 Boundary
 20 "— Three Ships"
 21 — Park (Edison's home)
 22 Took off
 23 Really big tree?
 25 Fundamental tree?
 27 Longs for
 28 Franz who composed "The Merry Widow"
 30 Early settler
 31 "Erin Burnett OutFront" channel
 32 Passes on, as a story
 34 French brandy
 35 Chinese ideology centered around a tree?
 39 Actor Mahershala
 41 "Family Guy" creator MacFarlane
- 42 Soon
 43 Two of Henry VIII's wives
 44 Coagulates
 46 "Gunga Din" studio
 47 Recorded digitally, in a way
 49 LAX datum
 51 Wharf locale
 56 Tree-dwelling hooded snake?
 60 Tree whose trunk curves?
 62 Cut of pork
 63 Dutch Renaissance scholar
 65 Rake part
 66 Nuances
 69 Item in a place setting
 70 Of delicate beauty
 72 A shot
 73 Love-struck
 74 Farm vehicle
 75 Tree sold at a low price?
 78 Cantaloupe growing on a tree?
 83 More flavorful
 84 Indy circuit
 86 Auction site
 87 Union promise
 88 Slant
- 90 Millionaire-making game
 93 Menial type
 94 Provoke
 98 Corp. wheel
 99 Charm exuding from a tree?
 102 Nancy of the House
 104 Like sown seeds
 106 "Ally McBeal" co-star Lucy
 107 In total
 109 — Gay (WWII B-29)
 110 Tea-scenting blossom
 114 Tree that makes people think like a French novelist?
 116 Window sections through which trees are visible?
 118 Richard of "Wicked Woman"
 119 "Für —" (piano piece)
 120 Romances
 121 Florida bird
 122 Mail in
 123 Steven of Aerosmith
 124 Fit of pique
- 125 Plow inventor John
DOWN
 1 Pleased
 2 Citrus fruit
 3 Hi-fi parts
 4 Microchip material
 5 Ships' rears
 6 Slant
 7 Viper variety
 8 Old warship
 9 Deary
 10 Prepare for a pyramid
 11 Oyster bead
 12 People with clout
 13 Applaud
 14 Asked for
 15 Nasal singing tones
 16 Curtis of cosmetics
 17 Overthrow
 18 Potato stuff
 24 Suvari of Hollywood
 26 Ghostly cry
 29 "Siddhartha" novelist
 32 Soul music is a form of it
 33 — soda (cleanser)
 35 Singer Cohn
 36 Jimmy Durante's "Dinka Doo"
 37 "Park" a ship
 38 Central Georgia city
 40 Gets bested
 44 Vivid crimson
 45 Egg pouch
 47 Slender woodwind
 48 CBS military law show
 50 Fez dangler
 52 Small and 70-Across
 53 Chief Norse god
 54 Talk wildly
 55 Deuce taker
 57 Hackneyed
 58 Grid of fine lines in an eyepiece
 59 Franklin of soul
 61 — -de-sac
 64 See 71-Down
 66 Splinter group
 67 Laugh sound
 68 Golf coups
 69 Thurman of Hollywood
 70 Funny Carvey
 71 With 64-Down, hostile swarming insect
 73 Suit fabric
 74 Old computer language
 76 Entertainer Zadora
 77 Gift for a drawer, perhaps
 79 Dealt (out)
 80 In — of (replacing)
 81 Gas leak giveaway
 82 Zilch
 85 Suburb of Dallas
 89 Hack (off)
 91 Prohibits
 92 High crime
 93 Bird feathers
 94 Gaps
 95 Mammal's fur
 96 Comic Tracey
 97 Roly-poly
 99 Cavalry soldier
 100 Actor Ruck
 101 Talked like Cindy Brady
 103 Alert at sea
 105 Car contract
 108 As is fitting
 110 Joke
 111 About
 112 — -do-well (idler)
 113 Punta del —
 115 1,000 G's
 117 Luau bowlful



MY RECIPES Luke Chavez

Braised Brisket a la Mexicana



Long before the current food truck craze, my earliest culinary discoveries were made as a kid in Los Angeles, sampling what was available from the city's ubiquitous taco trucks. With the variety of succulent meats, braised or char-grilled, served over soft hot tortillas, garnished simply with chopped onions and cilantro, hot sauce and lime, my love for tacos was forever cemented.

Though the setup for this favorite recipe is easy, braising will take up to six hours, plan accordingly. Perfect for a taco night for two, with plenty of leftovers, or as part of a spread to feed a crowd. This is a great use of a flavorful and affordable cut of beef, just make sure you braise it long enough.

Ingredients:

- 2-3lb beef brisket, flat cut
- Salt & Pepper
- 1 tablespoon oil or lard
- 1 yellow onion, quartered lengthwise, root end attached
- 8 cloves garlic, whole
- ¼ cup apple cider vinegar
- 1 cup Mexican beer (see notes)
- 1 cup beef or chicken broth
- 3 dried arbol chilies, stemmed and seeded (see notes)
- 4 dried guajillo chilies, stemmed and seeded (see notes)
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 tablespoon ground cumin
- 1 tablespoon dried oregano
- 1 teaspoon ground coriander

Directions:

Pre-heat the oven to 250 degrees. Generously season brisket with salt and pepper. Heat the oil in a Dutch oven over medium heat. Sear all sides of brisket in oil, browning edges, about five minutes per side. Remove beef and set aside on a platter. Next, add the dried chilies, stirring constantly for 3 to 5 minutes. Chilies will darken and soften in the oil. Remove and add to platter with beef. Now, add the onion quarters and more oil if needed. Sear on all sides, about 3 to 5 minutes. Then add the garlic cloves and cook for another 2 minutes, stirring to brown without burning. Add the vinegar scraping up all the browned bits from the bottom of pan. Return the brisket, with fat cap up, and chilies to the pan, along with the stock, beer, bay leaf and dried spices. Bring to a simmer, cover with lid and place in middle rack of oven.

Braise for 5 to 6 hours until meat is fork tender. Check and adjust oven to maintain a gentle simmer. When brisket is done remove from oven and allow meat to rest in liquids with lid off for 20 minutes. Then pull the meat out, place in a bowl and use two forks to shred, discarding any large pieces of fat that remain. Strain out the vegetables from braising liquid. Return liquid to pan and set over medium high heat to reduce slightly. Taste for seasoning, adding more salt to taste. Then add the shredded beef back and stir to incorporate. Serve with warm tortillas and your favorite taco fixings (see notes).

Notes:

This shredded beef is perfect for tacos with either corn or flour tortillas. Garnish with your family's favorite taco toppings. It is also a lovely filling for enchiladas or burritos. Serve leftovers with fried eggs and plenty of tortillas on the side, for a hearty breakfast. This past weekend, I served it over soft homemade corn tortillas, with pickled onions, crumbled panela (a Mexican cheese), crema and spicy green salsa.

Dried chilies are an essential item in Mexican pantries, with guajillo and arbol among the most popular. Find them in grocery stores with a large Latin section, or at Mexican grocers. Carniceria El Sol, in Walla Walla has a large selection, including some more obscure varieties, which recently came in handy when I was testing mole recipes.

While working with dried chiles it is important to not touch your face, they burn! You can wear rubber gloves as added protection. Snap stems off, break chilis in half, then seeds and membranes can easily be shaken out. Save the seeds for use as a chili flake spice.

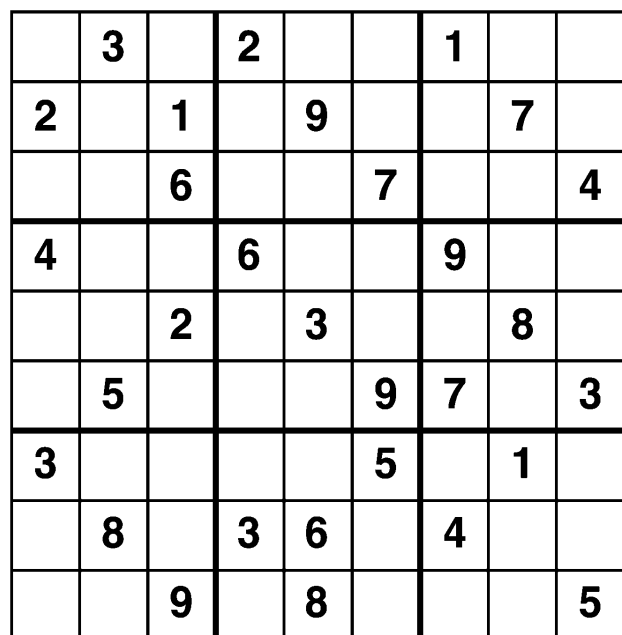
Beer is often used as an ingredient in Mexican kitchens. My favorites to cook with are Modelo Especial lager and its darker sister beer Negra Modelo, the latter of which I tend to use when braising beef. Experiment with other dark or amber domestic beers for this recipe.

Buen provecho!

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

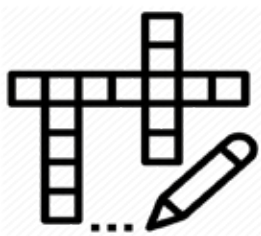


Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

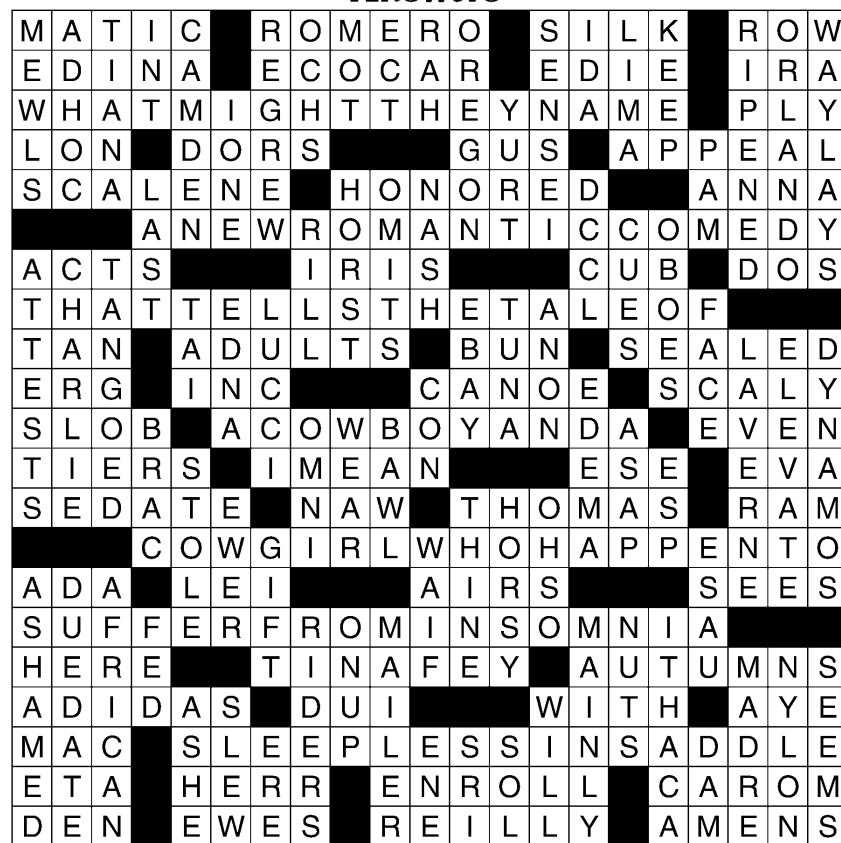
- ◆ Moderate
- ◆◆ Challenging
- ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Super Crossword

Answers



Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

2	1	8	9	6	7	3	4	5
5	9	6	1	3	4	7	2	8
3	7	4	5	2	8	1	6	9
1	2	3	8	7	9	4	5	6
7	8	9	4	5	6	2	1	3
6	4	5	3	1	2	9	8	7
4	6	2	7	8	3	5	9	1
9	5	7	6	4	1	8	3	2
8	3	1	2	9	5	6	7	4



THE LAST PAGE

Spring sprang, or has it?

By Vicki Sternfeld-Rossi | THE TIMES

Spring seems to have sprung, and I'm cautiously optimistic but not totally convinced winter is over. I see the rhubarb peeking out from the dirt, daffodils look like asparagus about to open, and even my chives are about five inches tall. Yet, I'm not convinced, and with good reason, I have a photo I took last year of a vase of daffodils on a snow-covered patio table on our deck.

This is my third spring here, so I am no longer a total newbie. Therefore, I believe I have enough authority to rename the winter to spring transitional months on the Waitsburg calendar. First change: Fickle February, it looks like spring, with occasional sun, crocus, and snowdrops, then the next day a torrent of rain, followed by some warm temperatures, then one and a half feet of snow. If that's not fickle, what is?

March should be renamed either Maniacal March or Menopausal March (synonyms?). One day it's hot, then cold, then moody gray skies, then sunny days; I put the top down on my car only to reemploy it an hour later, so I don't freeze or get drenched. Daily mood swings and hot flashes are nothing compared to the schizophrenic days of March in Waitsburg.

In my feeble attempt to overcome these fickle and moody months, I've started organizing our seeds, raking leaves, pinecones, fallen branches, cleaning up the lawn, taking inventory of the herbs that survived the snow and are beginning to sprout, while planting tulip bulbs and hacking at the dirt and weeding. It's therapeutic; I can take my moodiness out on the dirt, rocks, and weeds while I accomplish something.

My garden preparation system includes using my "picture this" app (thank you Gail), to confirm that the plant I'm about to yank is a weed; they nearly always



are. I know Shakespeare once wrote, "a rose by any other name would smell as sweet." I cannot even start to list the variety of names that show up on the app for my weeds. The first one I snapped is known as carpet burweed, lawn burweed, jojo weed, Bini-eye, onehunga weed, spurweed, and solvia. The second picture revealed disc mayweed, rayless mayweed, wild chamomile, and pineapple mayweed. The common denominator: A weed by any other name is still a weed and NOT sweet.

I am watching my newly planted Snow Drops (thanks, Kate and Sarah) start to wither. I'm itching to start planting, but my instinct is to douse plant starts and seeds with water. But, considering this is Menopausal March, anything is possible; a heatwave, a cold snap, snow, frost, or a windstorm could take my seeds off to someone else's garden.

A few days ago, I needed the physical work of weeding to relieve the frustration of living through the chaos of the remodel of our previously remodeled bathroom. The bathroom cabinets and vanity are in the dining room, baskets of shampoo, toothpaste, towels, etc., are strewn all over the bed in the guest room, and dust was all over.

While I am anxiously awaiting the right time to start the garden, I am putting our bathroom back in some semblance of order. We were lucky, no leaks, just an old rotting sub-floor without any structure underneath. It has been corrected, with only one emergency Home Depot run to return the original flooring we chose and pick out new flooring. It was a considerably less onerous project than it could've been, and probably less frustrating than determining if March weather will stabilize so I can get a head-start on our garden competition.

Book Briefs

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

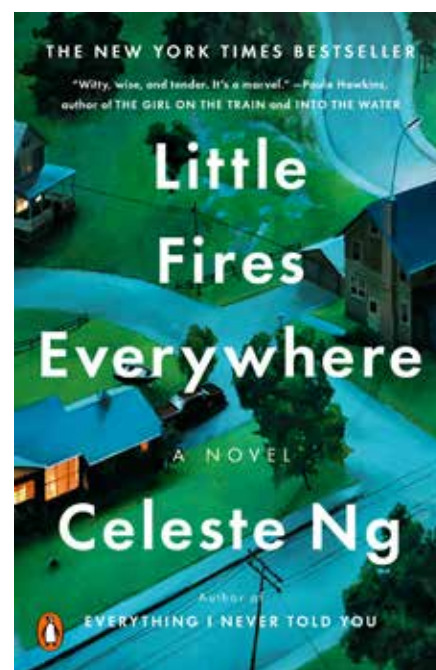
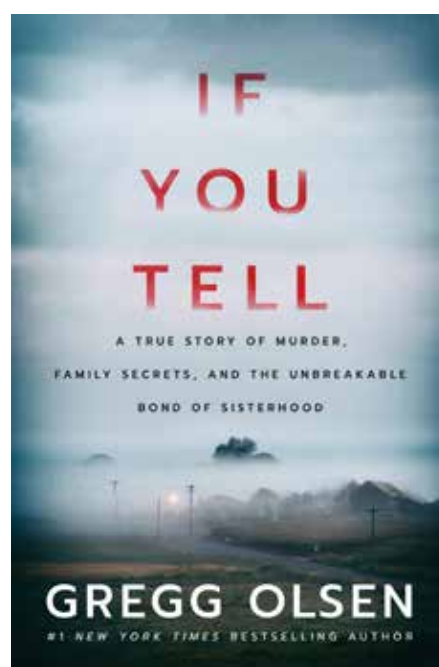
If You Tell: A True Story of Murder, Family Secrets, and the Unbreakable Bond of Sisterhood, by Gregg Olsen.

A horrifying, true story, *If You Tell* is the story of the sadistic killer Shelly Knotek living in Raymond, Wash. and the sisters who ultimately stopped her. In 2003, Knotek and her husband, Dave, were arrested and sent to prison for murders of Kathy Loreno, Ronald Woodworth, and Shane Watson.

People Magazine called this book a "stunner about sibling love, courage, and resilience," and they hit the nail right on the head! Olsen manages to capture the horrors in the

Knotek household from the mid-90s to the early 2000s when Knotek's older daughters, Nikki and Sami, were able to get the police involved. The author channeled his inner James Patterson and created a story that reads like a thriller. I went into this story blind and desperately wanted to forget that this book was based on actual events.

If You Tell is available to read on Amazon Kindle, as well as paperback purchase. It is highly recommended for crime enthusiasts, but a fair warning: It's a tough read and not for the squeamish.



Little Fires Everywhere, by Celeste Ng

Any book that becomes a TV show with leads like Reese Witherspoon and Kerry Washington is worth checking out! *Little Fires Everywhere* was a major hit on Hulu, and the book is even more fiery than the show.

Artist and single mother Mia Warren (Kerry Washington) arrives in Shaker Heights, a suburb of Cleveland, and crosses paths with picture-of-perfection Elena Richardson (Reese Witherspoon). Mia and her daughter, Pearl, move into Richardson's rental unit. While things are clearly uncomfortable from the start, chaos erupts after a Richardson family friend is embroiled

in a custody fight while attempting to adopt a Chinese-American baby. Lines are crossed, obsession takes hold, and long-kept secrets are unearthed with devastating consequences.

Little Fires Everywhere explores identity, the nature of art, and the impossible burden of secrets. I had to slow down and soak in the emotion of this book; it may disappoint readers looking for a fast-paced read. It's emotional, thought-provoking, and it is complex.

This book is available on Amazon for paperback purchase, as well as Kindle and Audible Audiobook. Give yourself time to process the story!

Friday Take and Bake at Blue Mountain Co-op

Menu for Friday, March 19

Order by noon on Friday

Pick up between 4pm and 6 pm at BMS Co-op

Italian Week

Pane Integrale alle Olive e Rosmarino
Whole wheat olive and rosemary bread served with every order

Salame Artigianale & Giardiniera \$9
Homemade Northern Italian style salame with assorted garden pickles

Minestrone alla Milanese \$7
Vegetable soup Milanese style with Arborio rice, basil and red wine

Tortellini in Brodo \$9
Filled pasta in rich beef broth

Lasagna alla Bolognese \$14
Beef/Veal/Pork lasagna

Bucatini all'Amatriciana \$11
Bucatini with tomato and home cured pork belly

Cotoletta Ripiena con Spinaci e Patate \$19
Prosciutto filled pork loin with sautéed spinach and roasted potatoes

Acqua Pazza \$21
Assorted shellfish and fish in broth with chickpea crostini

Tiramisú \$8

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COUNTERFEAT

Hop on in!

