



CELEBRATE EVERYDAY

The Times

Thursday
May 19, 2022
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SERVING WAITSBURG, DAYTON AND THE TOUCHET VALLEY

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ONE DOLLAR



Times Archive/Dena Martin

Phil Monfort riding in the Celebration Days Parade in 2017. This years celebration is plowing ahead, kicking off this Friday night with the Sunset ATV Cruise and the Classic Car Cruise.

THIS WEEK

Congratulations



Cecil and Betty Ann (Rogers) Fletcher were married on May 18, 1952. They recently celebrated 70 years of marriage at a gathering at the church in which they were married, Dayton First Congregational Church



Waitsburg Celebration Days brings ATVs, classic cars, and live music

The weekend kicks off on Friday evening with the ATV Sunset Cruise

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—The third weekend of May is here, and after two years of cancellations, Waitsburg Celebration Days is back and bigger than ever.

The weekend-long event will kick off on Friday, May 20, with the annual Sunset Cruise ATV Ride. ATV riders can check in at the Waitsburg Fairgrounds, near the former parimutuel betting booths, starting at 4:00 p.m. Route information will be available at check-in, and riders and drivers are asked to stay on the route. The ride begins at 5 p.m.

Celebration Days Hostesses Ashlyn Brooks and Hope Adkins will be joining the ATV crowd during check-in for a meet and greet event. Desserts will be available for by-donation purchases to take along on your ride.

If you'd rather stay in town and enjoy a backyard bbq or dinner at any of the town's restaurants, the Sunset Car Cruise will make its way through Waitsburg and along the back roads, starting at 6 p.m.

You won't want to wait to get a seat on Main Street Saturday morning, but don't worry about making pancakes and coffee at home. The American Legion will begin serving breakfast at 7 a.m. at the Town Hall, 121 Main Street, and Ten Ton Coffee opens at 7:30 a.m. for all of your caffeine needs. Vendors will open up at the Bruce Mansion, 330 Main Street, at 9 a.m.

Parade festivities get going right away, with the crowd-favorite Kiddie Parade starting at 9 a.m., followed by the Main Street Parade at 10 a.m. As press time, nearly 40 floats, mounted royalty courts, and local service organizations were entered for the parade. Late entries will be accepted up until the morning of the parade. Contact Erica Grende or Cindy Daves for parade entry applications. Please note that Main Street will be closed to traffic on Saturday morning.

Make your way over to Preston Park between 10:00 a.m and 3:00 p.m. to check out the classic cars, trucks, and bikes entered in the One of a Kind Auto Show. The Waitsburg Fireman's Association will be hosting a 21-and-over beer garden, with proceeds benefitting the local association and volunteer firefighters. The Waitsburg Home and School Association will be serving hot dogs for lunch, raising money to help fund projects including the back-to-school bags that HASA provides for all Waitsburg School District students each fall.

With engines revving, Karen's ATV Poker Ride will head out at 11 a.m. with cash prizes for qualifying riders. Registration for the event closes on Friday, May 20. Event information can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/hzksus>.

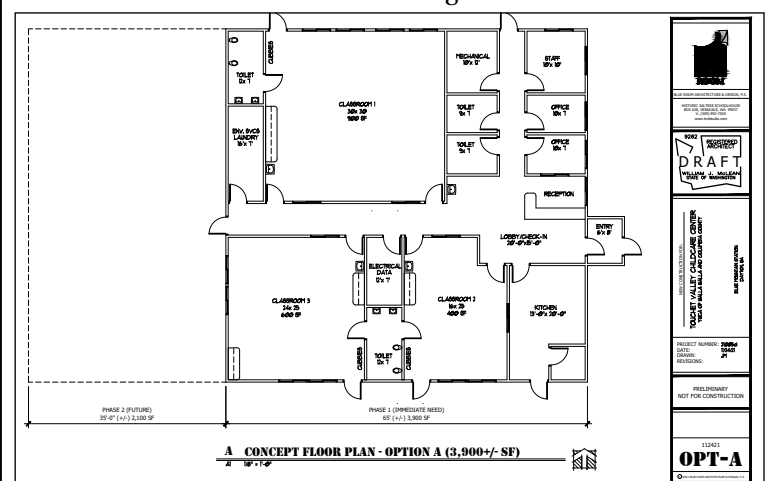
Other Saturday afternoon events include a Civil-War Era Firearms display at the Plaza Theater, and the historic Bruce

Childcare facility task force moving ahead with a public meeting

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON—The committee on the task force looking into developing a childcare facility and early learning center in Dayton will provide the public with an opportunity to learn more at a meeting on Monday, May 23 at 6 p.m. at the Columbia County Fairgrounds Pavilion. Former State Representative Terry Nealy will moderate the seven-member panel. Childcare will be provided.

"There appears to be a lot of misinformation out there, including this is government-run daycare, that hospital district taxes are being used to build and operate it, that the hospital is going to take every available spot, and so many, many more inaccuracies," Columbia County Health System Shane McGuire said about the reason for the meeting.



Blue Room Architecture Principal Architect John McLean's Phase I design concept for a new 1950 sq. ft. childcare facility in Dayton. It has three classrooms; for infants, toddlers, and one for pre-schoolers. This design can serve up to 42 children and can be expanded on to serve 70 children, the goal for Columbia County.

For the past two years, the committee has researched the need, funding, and location options for the proposed facility. Once built, the Walla Walla YWCA would operate the center.

The committee considered and ruled out several locations for the facility. The First Christian Church on South Third Street, the former migrant farm workers' camp on the east end of town, and the city park property fell short of the ideal.

This past March, two of the three Port of Columbia commissioners voted against a proposal for the \$1.7 million facility to be built on the port owned land adjacent to the Blue Mountain Station. The two commissioners said it would not be a good use of Port resources. The Port's Executive Director Jennie Dickinson has long maintained that a lack of quality, affordable childcare is an economic issue for families and businesses in Columbia County.

The task force is currently exploring other locations. After a location is chosen, site studies will be performed, and construction estimates will be provided.

Paul Ihle, a social worker with CCHS, sits on the task force. He said the committee has re-

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NEWS BRIEFS

NEWS BRIEFS

LETTERS

WAITSBURG FFA CELEBRATES 90TH ANNIVERSARY AT ANNUAL BANQUET

THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—On May 25th, The Waitsburg FFA will be holding their FFA Awards Banquet at 6:30 p.m. in the Waitsburg Elementary Multipurpose Room.

"This year will be our 90th anniversary for Waitsburg FFA. The FFA chapter was founded in 1931 (the 1931-1932 school year)," Waitsburg FFA Reporter Alexis Reeves reported. "We would like to invite any FFA member's family to attend, as well as past FFA alumni and friends."

The Awards Banquet starts with a dessert social provided by the current FFA members' families. The program will include recognizing members for their achievements throughout the year, as well as recognizing retiring officers, and reminiscing on the events from the past year.

"At this year's banquet, we would like to enroll members and elect officers for the newly chartered Waitsburg FFA Alumni and Friends Chapter," Reeves explained. "If you would like to be a member please email Mrs. Abel with your name and mailing address (attendance at the banquet is not required). At this time there is no individual fee for an annual membership as the \$200 annual dues have been paid."



LOCAL GROUP LAUNCHES POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

THE TIMES

DAYTON—A group of citizens in Dayton has launched a Political Action Committee to raise money to support candidates in local elections, and to raise awareness of local issues. The PAC is called Neighbors United for Progress.

N.U.P. chair Elise Severe said that the PAC was registered with the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission in early May, with Teeny McMunn as treasurer. Other officers are Shellie McLeod, vice-chair; and Kari Dingman, secretary.

"We are a multi-partisan group, and our major focus will be on good governance," Severe said of N.U.P. "One of the most important purposes of government is to support the maintenance of services and amenities to keep our community attractive to new businesses and residents. We will support candidates who pledge to do that."

Severe pointed out that Columbia County's birth rate is lower than its death rate. "We can't sustain our population and economic base without new people moving to the area," she said. "We need people to shop in our stores. We need businesses to supply jobs. And we need kids to enroll in our schools."

N.U.P. has announced that it will support Republican Jack Miller in the race for Columbia County Commissioner, District 3, in this fall's election.

More information on the Neighbor's United for Progress PAC, including how to participate and how to contribute, can be found on their Facebook Page.



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WHAT'S NEXT COLUMBIA COUNTY?

THE TIMES

To the editor:

What is happening to the formerly friendly and welcoming Columbia County?

After various new members of our community government were sworn into office last January many beneficial, well researched and planned projects were halted.

Available Port Commission land is no longer being considered as a potential location for a desperately needed, privately run, childcare center. Some of the commissioner's objections to this project included their own personal opinions on the quality of the private entity that would staff the center and their own viewpoint on how other people should parent their children. It is not the Commissioner's job to make moral judgements on private businesses.

Several years ago, our community requested to be included in the WA State Trail system. That opportunity has been halted by two Port Commissioners. The project had been well researched & potential problems worked out by professionals hired to do that job. Some commissioners think their own private research on the trail is more accurate than the work of licensed, experienced professionals. These commissioners had a lot of misinformation in their opinions while they dismissed the research done by the professionals. Two commissioners focused on the issue of Homeless people using the trail. Homeless people are human and have every right to be on a public trail. They need our compassion and help, not to be treated as troublemakers. Anyone who wants to access our community can use the public highways. Trails do not mean homeless people would invade our community.

There are problems with the public school system.

The Public Health Department had an unusually high turnover of staff during the peak of the Pandemic. Empty positions were not filled by County Commissioners, even with funding available. A new hire has been added that may not support the basic policies of the Public Health Department. Do the County Commissioners want to move the responsibility of many Public Health duties to Walla Walla County?

A well planned and researched sewage wastewater system, that is required by WA State, has been blocked by some new City Council members. The city could be subject to heavy fines, paid for by the citizens of Dayton, if we don't initiate a plan. Untreated sewage is a health problem for all people.

What will be eliminated next in Columbia County?

Citizens of Columbia County, we need to keep our community viable and moving on a forward path.

Carol Anderson
 Dayton, Wash.

CAMP WOOTEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

THE TIMES

TOUCHET VALLEY—Sixth graders in the Touchet Valley are just a couple of weeks away from the annual trip to Camp Wooten, nestled in the Blue Mountains.

Parent volunteers are needed as cabin chaperones, in order to make the experience possible for the kids. Cabin chaperones are assigned a single cabin for the four-day trip, with four- to six students per cabin. Chaperones oversee the overall safety of the cabin, including enforcing lights-out time, morning routines, and activity attendance. As many as 10 volunteers are needed.

Interested parents may contact Jamie Trump at jamiet@daytonsd.org.

The Times

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Affordable housing concerns presented to Port

By Justin Jaech | THE TIMES

DAYTON- The Port of Columbia held its regular meeting at 5 p.m., May 11, 2022. All commissioners were present, Genie Crowe, Johnny Watts, and Seth Bryan. Port Director Jennie Dickinson was also present in person. Members of the public attended both in person and on Zoom.

The meeting began with a presentation on affordable housing in Columbia County by Community Council representatives Catherine Veninga, Rachel Elfenbein, and Laura Prado. The presenters used the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) definition for affordable housing, a household that spends less than thirty percent of its gross income on housing costs, including utilities.

Based on the median income of \$66,300 in Columbia County, an affordable home price is about \$240,000. Home prices in the area have been rising much faster than the median income in the past ten years. Rent costs are similarly affected.

The port is interested in the issue of affordable housing as it impacts the economic health of the community. The shortage of affordable housing may discourage potential employers from locating in Columbia County if employees cannot find accommodation. Rising rents and house costs also affect employee retention, further degrading the county's economic vitality.

After the presentation, commissioners accepted the new portable electronic device policy.

In the director's report, Dickinson said approximately thirty volunteers participated in a Rock Hill Trail workday, working on water drainage and increasing the trail's width.

Updating port assets, the director said Three Pines Bookkeeping is terminating its month-to-month lease at the Port to move to a permanent home office. Columbia Pulp has moved out of 521 Cameron St., putting that property available for lease.

Dickinson told commissioners that a "Lincoln Car" was coming to Dayton. No, not a Lincoln Town Car, but a train car that President Lincoln once slept in. Once exhibited in Dayton twenty-five years ago, the car will return for this year's All Wheels Weekend. The rail company will use a locomotive to position the Lincoln Car behind the Courthouse during All Wheels Weekend, and the owner will provide tours.

The Director said the Chamber of Commerce is holding a childcare forum at the fairgrounds pavilion at 6 p.m. on May 23, 2022 to provide information on childcare possibilities.

Dickinson said she would prepare a letter to the Dayton City Council to explain how businesses may be affected by its delay in approving and replacing the wastewater plant, particularly heavy water users such as food and beverage processors. Watts said he wanted to review the letter before it was sent.

The Port ordered fiber for the broadband project. A single supplier can provide all the American-made fiber by July.

Crowe read an open letter to those who attended the April 14, 2022, port meeting. Reading the letter into the record at the meeting, she said, "As Chairperson of the Port Commissioners, I would like to comment on our meeting of April, specifically our discussion on whether to seek funding for the Touchet Valley Trail. I speak for myself, as Chairperson of the Commission, and would like to apologize to the public for the disservice in the way the issue was presented.

"First of all, it was a disservice to all those who attended because it was a long meeting, partly because of the extended comment periods we provided. I noticed many of you leaving after the third hour of the meeting. You came to hear the vote on the issue and were not awarded the opportunity.

"It was a disservice to the experts, Anderson Perry, SPVV Landscape, and our manager, Jennie Dickinson since they were not provided an opportunity to clarify or rebut the concerns voiced by Commissioner Bryan. To have given them an opportunity would have been getting into the fifth hour of the

meeting.

"Ultimately, it was a disservice to you, Commissioner Bryan, for not being given the clarification you needed on the extensive issues you addressed. I acknowledge the tremendous time and effort you took in documenting and presenting your concerns. Unfortunately, you didn't get those issues clarified and, therefore, were missing important facts to help in making a well-informed decision.

"This is not intended as a reprimand to either Commissioners Bryan or Watts. I alone am at fault here for not yet presiding over a well-run and time-efficient meeting; yes, we're all greenhorns with only four months under our belts as Port Commissioner or as Chairperson.

"It is my hope that in the future, we three Commissioners come to the meetings with all questions and concerns asked and answered by our experts beforehand so that we can be confident we're making the best-informed decision.

"I am not an expert nor intend to be in any issues pertaining to proposed Port projects - that's why we solicit the best facts and opinions of our manager and consultants who have prepared the information for us. That's why we held a special workshop to get all our questions answered. Are they fallible? Of course, they're human too.

"If we question any of what is provided to us, it is our personal responsibility to seek those answers before attending a meeting where a decision is being requested of the Commission. It is also my hope as Chair of this Committee that we can hold a meeting that does not take four hours again.

"It is not my desire to sit and address what should have been asked and answered before the meeting. Our meetings are intended to be a place where we come informed, having already asked the questions of our experts. And if we have, in fact, asked those questions in advance and have not received clarification to our satisfaction, it's totally acceptable to bring those issues up again at our meetings before our decisions are made - and not be making a decision based on unanswered concerns.

"With your attention to detail, Commissioner Bryan, and with your commitment to our community, Commissioner Watts, I sincerely think we can do good things for Columbia County."

Crowe next read a letter responding to the concerns of Bryan. The letter from Anderson Perry & Associates dated May 11, 2022, provided the following information:

Engineers do not try to predict problems with homelessness, vandalism, right to farm, crop spraying, etc.

Maintenance costs were determined after researching other agencies and trail operators in the region.

The maintenance of restrooms associated with the trail is included in the plan. The State Park Department will maintain the restroom at the trailhead at Lewis and Clark Trail State Park. The Waitsburg and Dayton trailheads provide an area for portable toilets should the Port decide to rent them for part of the year.

Snow removal is not an issue as other regional trails do not perform snow removal. Nearby property owners are protected by State law against liability for actions of recreation site users.

The concerns about property ownership are based on maps too inaccurate to determine property ownership and are mislabeled as to ownership. Much more accurate means of determining property ownership confirmed the Port's right-of-way.

Anderson Perry addressed the concerns about WSDOT and RCO grant funding responding to the issues Bryan had raised at the meeting.

Bryan responded, "Thank you for that. I make no apologies for my decision. We were presented with information at the workshop, and we were given the final draft of information to make a decision off of, and we were given the grant information to look at, so I made my decision. I made my interpretation of what those grants said, and I stand by that decision. I wouldn't say I came to the meeting with questions, I came with legitimate concerns, and I didn't have any questions I wanted to ask. I don't think all the

questions I had were answered in the presentation."

Bryan said he wanted to talk about the lack of housing in the community and floated an idea to use the excess 6.9 acres associated with Blue Mountain Station. He suggested apartments, duplexes, and townhouses. He said it could be an attractive piece of property for an investor to come in and purchase if the port did the infrastructure work. He also mentioned another seven acres of property on Rock Hill that might be used for housing. The commissioners considered the idea and decided more background information was needed before discussing the idea in any depth.

Bryan also suggested looking into a more downtown Dayton presence for the Blue Mountain Station retailers since foot traffic was so poor at the current location.

At 6:57 p.m., the commissioners went into an executive session to discuss real estate.

FIFTEEN DAYTON, WAITSBURG AND PRESCOTT STUDENTS RECEIVE RASTY E. AND NONA F. KETCHERSIDE SCHOLARSHIPS

THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA—The Walla Walla Community College Foundation is pleased to announce the Rasty E. and Nona F. Ketcherside Scholarship recipients for 2022-2023. The generosity of lifetime Waitsburg farmers Rasty and Nona Ketcherside provide 15 Dayton, Prescott, and Waitsburg residents the opportunity to pursue their educational dreams at Walla Walla Community College this fall.

- Lilly Bone
- Lexus Brooks
- Michelle Brooks
- Roselin Burris-Ramirez
- Brittani Combs
- Mackenzie Forney
- Megan Forney
- Lana Hardin
- Jonathan Iglesias
- Ella Larson
- Brayden Mohney
- Alma Romero
- Kody Rooper
- Mirian Sanchez-Cardenas
- Terran Villaro

The Rasty E. and Nona F. Ketcherside Scholarship was established in 2002 with a donation from their estate to help support students from the surrounding areas. Rasty and Nona dedicated their lives to farming and the gentle care of their land and the animals on their farm between Dixie and Waitsburg.

Their lifelong care and concern for those around them extend to each of the 2022-2023 Ketcherside Scholarship recipients, who will receive a scholarship to attend Walla Walla Community College.

The WWCC Foundation exists to eliminate financial barriers to students' educational dreams. They raise, manage and grant financial support in order to assure student access, equity, and educational excellence at Walla Walla Community College. Thanks to generous support from the community, the WWCC Foundation awarded more than \$600,000 in student scholarships and emergency assistance to hard-working WWCC students in 2022-2023.

Visit www.foundation.wvcc.edu

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Worship 10:00 a.m.
337-6589
Pastor Stan Hughes

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

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

Lunches

WAITSBURG SENIOR CENTER

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

Tuesday, May 24
Chicken & dumplings
Vegetable
Pea salad
Fruit juice
Brownie

WAITSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

Thursday, May 19
L: Sloppy Joe
Potato wedges
Veggie
Fruit choice

Friday, May 20
B: French toast
L: Pizza
Pasta salad
Veggie
Fruit choice
Cookie

Monday, May 23
B: Scrambled eggs, hash-brown, sausage
L: Chicken fried steak
Mashed potatoes & gravy
Dinner roll
Veggie
Fruit choice

Tuesday, May 24
B: Biscuit & gravy
L: Chicken cordon bleu
Garlic bread
Veggie
Fruit choice

Wednesday, May 25
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Spanish rice
Veggies
Fruit choice



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DAYTON WASTEWATER TREATMENT PROJECT STALLED AGAIN

Land purchase voted down in split city council vote.

By Justin Jaech | THE TIMES

DAYTON- The Dayton City Council held a regular meeting at 6 p.m., May 10, 2022. Mayor Zac Weatherford and council members Misty Yost, Teeny McMunn, Dain Nysoe, Kyle Anderson, and Tyler (Tiger) Dieu were present at St. Joseph's Catholic Church parish hall, while Laura Aukerman attended on Zoom.

The city council voted unanimously to authorize the mayor to sign an annual membership for \$35 with the Municipal Research and Services Center of Washington (MRSC). MRSC is a nonprofit organization offering local governments in Washington legal and policy guidance on most topics, including major legislation, Public Records Act, Growth Management Act, and other issues facing cities and counties. Nysoe said the organization had been prompt and responsive in addressing his questions and called it a valuable resource.

The council authorized the mayor to sign a proclamation declaring May 2022 as Older Americans Month on behalf of Aging and Long-Term Care.

The council also approved the Dayton Alumni Parade Route.

The mayor received three letters of intent to fill the vacant city council position vacated by the resignation of Marchand Hovrud. Dave Schreck submitted his letter on April 18, Heather Hiebert submitted hers on April 19, and Shannon McMillen submitted her letter of intent on May 4. The mayor asked each applicant the same series of questions and then retired into an executive session at 6:33 p.m. for twenty minutes to discuss the appointment.

After the council returned to the public session, Aukerman moved to appoint Shannon McMillen to the open position. Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed with Aukerman, Yost, Anderson, and Dieu voting for McMillen's appointment and McMunn and Nysoe voting against it.

Reporting for the Public Safety Committee, Anderson said the city had filled the swimming pool with 120 yards of soil, with perhaps another 250 to go. The city intends to fill the pool at least to the four-foot level.

Aukerman, reporting for the Public Works Committee, said the committee could not meet because she was out of town.

She said, "Wastewater treatment plant is huge. It's huge on our list. We have not in any way, shape, or form decided that it's a no-go. I mean, it has to happen. So as soon as I get back to Dayton, my goal is to move forward with that."

Presenting the finance report, Deb Hayes reminded the council that the current insurance policy covers all properties, including those the city might purchase. She said a new wastewater treatment plant built under the current plans would not result in added exorbitant insurance costs as suggested. She also said the insurance policy covered flood damage with a \$200,000 deductible for each

event.

Weatherford presented Resolution 1489 A, authorizing a final purchase agreement with landowners Bryan Martin and Barker Family Farms for the wastewater treatment plant using the completed low slope water treatment design. The current plan had been brought forward by prior city councils and mayors, including Mayor George, and was previously blocked by the current council over the land purchase.

Anderson continued to propose replacing the current wetland plan with one using wastewater for irrigation. Weatherford reminded the council that an irrigation plan would not return water to the water table, and many supporting agencies and organizations would no longer offer support or funding.

Anderson said he had documentation for "a ton of funding" available for irrigation projects and experts who support the irrigation idea. He did not provide the council with the specific funding information or names of the experts. The information offered before the meeting by Anderson on portable fluid storage tanks was provided by the manufacturer, C-efficiency Systems Inc.

McMunn spoke in favor of continuing with the current low slope discharge plan as it is already designed and approved with substantial funding backing the project. She didn't see the advantage of starting the design phase again, delaying the project by years. She was concerned over the risk that after the expense of a re-design, it could result in a more expensive project.

McMunn suggested that the Martin and Barker properties might be bought on a contingency basis and held for a few months, allowing further research into the Anderson irrigation plan.

Nysoe said that the owners of the proposed properties would probably object to a contingency plan since the city had been trying to urgently buy the properties and then backed out. He said the city should authorize the purchase of the properties to move forward. Nysoe moved to accept Resolution 1489 A, seconded by Yost.

Aukerman said she wanted to discuss an e-mail from the Columbia Conservation District, "One of my concerns is that the packet includes discussion and e-mail from the Columbia Conservation District, the Washington State Fish and Wildlife conditional use comments, the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board, the Blue Mountain Trust, Tribes of the Umatilla conventional use comments, Technical Advisory Group meeting minutes, and I reviewed some of that, and there seems to be a lot of really interesting information in there that can help us make a better decision. What are your thoughts, council members?"

Mayor Weatherford said he was familiar with the material, and it was available for the council to see.

The mayor put the motion to a vote, and Yost, McMunn, and Nysoe voted to adopt Resolution 1489 A, proceeding with the land purchase. Anderson, Dieu, and Aukerman voted against it, and the motion did not carry. Weatherford said rules prevent him from breaking the tie. This vote negates the considerable work from past city councils on the wastewater treatment project, significantly delaying the replacement of the city's currently insufficient wastewater treatment plant.

As a former Council Member, Mike Paris spoke to remind the current Council the city is under the gun and the extensions from the Department of Ecology may run, resulting in fines to the city.

The meeting adjourned.

CHILDCARE - FROM PAGE 1

ceived awards totaling \$548,500 for the project so far and continues to seek funds.

"We are really hoping to have a good turnout of families who would utilize childcare, and businesses who would like to have childcare infrastructure for their employees, in attendance at the community forum," he said last week.

Shane McGuire has often spoken about the inability to attract and retain employees for the Health System because of the lack of quality childcare in the community. He has also talked about the importance of social determinants of health.

"When kids do not have places to go, when kids are being bounced around from house to house when they don't have reliable care, there is a direct correlation between that and life-long health. We want a healthy, vibrant community. In order to have that, we have to have healthy children," he said at a Port meeting back in February.

According to a 2020 Washington Child Care Industry Assessment sponsored by the Washington Department of Commerce, 96-percent of families in Columbia County do not have the childcare they need. In 2020 and 2021, Dayton's only three licensed childcare centers closed their doors permanently, pushing Columbia County into a childcare crisis.

In the Spring of 2021, the Walla Walla Valley Early Learning Coalition (WVVELC), in partnership with Columbia County Hospital System (CCHS) and the City of Walla Walla, applied for and received a grant through the Dept. of Commerce Child Care Partnership to conduct a feasibility study and Arrowleaf Consulting was brought on board. Data was collected across Columbia and Walla Walla counties through survey responses from families, childcare providers, and employers in Burbank, Prescott, Touchet, College Place, Walla Walla, Starbuck and Dayton.

According to the survey results, the high cost of childcare was problematic. Respondents said the lack of quality childcare options were limiting the number of hours they can work. Many respondents said childcare responsibilities were limiting their career goals. And some have had to quit their jobs, entirely.

Each week, The Times includes additional information, photos, or breaking news relating to stories we published in print.

www.waitsburgtimes.com

BIRTHDAYS

May 19: Gerald Hawks, Tom Western, Gerald Collingwood, Terry John, Everett White, Walter Richard White, Joan Summers, Jimmy Crawford and Jim Hansen.

May 20: Nektarios Reese, Wanda E. Johnson, Brandee Wheeler, Don Glover, Greg Reser, Judy Largent, Lyndsey Huwe and Vickie Hamann.

May 21: Paul Powers, Johnathan Quigg and Jr. Eastwood.

May 22: Nancy Startin, Victor Langdon, Kathryn

Kirk and Reed Olsen.

May 23: Cash Grende, Allen Ford, Greg Bichsel, Kathy Marioli, Elizabeth Hermanns and Bill Box.

May 24: Bob Patton, Guy McCaw, Amanda Short, Amanda Higgins and Alexander LeClerc.

May 25: Bill Hinchliffe, Holly Foster, Jason Payne, Wes Leid, George J. Robinson, Greg Leid, Abby Grende and Iris Reed.



The Times

A PROUD TRADITION

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

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

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

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

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

Reader's Forum

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

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

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

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

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

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2-year subscription: \$75
3-year subscription: \$105

Out of County

1-year subscription: \$45
2-year subscription: \$85
3-year subscription: \$120

CALENDAR

Community Calendar



Waitsburg Monthly Meetings

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

Waitsburg School Board

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

Waitsburg Commercial Club

Last Thursday of each month
May 26, noon
Ten Ton Coffee, 216 Main Street, Waitsburg
Zoom info available by emailing waitsburgcc@icloud.com

Waitsburg Parks and Recreation Public Meeting

First and third Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.
Ten Ton Coffee, 216 Main St Waitsburg
For more information email: waitsburgpr@protonmail.com

Community Health & Protection Committee

8:30 AM - Tuesday, June 21, 2022
Waitsburg City Hall and on Zoom

Walla Walla County Commissioners

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



Friends of the Weller Public Library

4th Monday of each month at 7 p.m.
Weller Public Library,
212 Main Street, Waitsburg

Weller Library Book Club

Third Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
at Weller Public Library

Dayton & Columbia County Meetings

Board of Columbia County Commissioners

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

Dayton City Council

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

Dayton School Board

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

Columbia County Public Hospital District Board of Commissioners

Fourth Wednesday of every month at 1:30 p.m. Call (509) 382-2531 for information.

Dayton Memorial Library Board of Trustees Meeting

April 25 at 7 p.m. (Changed date from April 18)
Delaney room and Zoom Meeting ID: 852 3836 3787
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85238363787>

Dayton Memorial Library

Discovery Kids
Every Wednesday, 10 a.m.

Dayton Kiwanis Club Meeting

Second and Fourth Thursday at Noon
Hybrid in-person meetings at the Delaney Library with online Zoom available.
Zoom Meeting ID: 559 815 3650

Starbuck City Council

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



Events, Film, Performance, Live Music

WAITSBURG

Waitsburg High School Alumni Annual Meeting
May 28, 4:30 p.m.
Waitsburg High School Auditorium

Waitsburg High School Alumni Association Greetings
May 28, 6:00 p.m.
Waitsburg Town Hall

Mythical / Movable Blue Mountain Bluegrass Jam
Upcoming Jams (All Jams - 7:00PM)

Friday May 20 at 7:00 p.m.
Ten Ton Coffee
216 Main St, Waitsburg
For more information email Kate Hockersmith at TVAMP1@charter.net

First Friday at Walla Walla Library
2nd and 3rd Fridays at Ten Ton and 4th Friday will be at the Dayton Library!

Weller Library Story Times
Every Thursday at Weller Library
11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Weller Library Crafts
Every Thursday at Weller Library
3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Memorial Day Program
Monday, May 30, 2022
11 a.m. at the Waitsburg City Cemetery
Waitsburg, Wash.
Information at (509) 386-7348

Waitsburg Farmers Market
May 27, Nancy's Dream Garden Center
9 a.m.

DAYTON

MOBILE FOOD DISTRIBUTION
427 E Main Street, Dayton
June 1
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Columbia County Rural Library A Night at the Library
May 27
4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Dayton Days
May 28

Wastewater Treatment Plant Town Hall
Dayton Elementary Multipurpose room
June 2, 6 p.m.

Childcare Forum
May 23, 6 p.m.
Columbia County Fairgrounds

WALLA WALLA

Walla Walla Food Truck Night
Monday June 6th at 5 p.m.
1120 E Street, Walla Walla



Downtown Walla Walla Farmers Market
Saturdays, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
4th and Main, Walla Walla

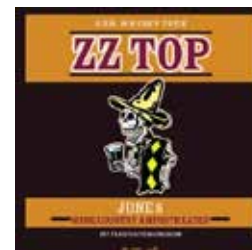
Gesa Power House Movie: "Charm Circle"
(documentary)
June 1, 7:00 p.m.

Little Watts: "Look out! Science is coming!"
June 12, 2:00 p.m.



Wine Country Amphitheater located at Veterans Memorial Golf Course

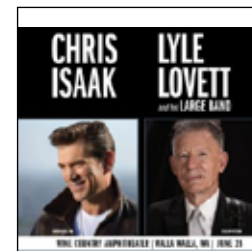
Tickets and information at w3concerts.com.
General Admission, bring a low back lawn chair or blanket and make yourself comfortable for a great show.



ZZ Top
June 8, 2022



Aaron Lewis
June 10, 2022



Chris Isaak and
Lyle Lovett
June 28, 2022



Bonnie Raitt
Marvis Staples
August 17, 2022



Maren Morris
August 23, 2022



Jackson Browne
Sept. 9, 2022



ZZ TOP IN WALLA WALLA ON JUNE 8
TICKETS AT
[HTTPS://WINECOUNTRYCONCERTS.COM](https://winecountryconcerts.com)

Waitsburg Celebration Days

May 20 - 22, 2022

Friday, May 20	Saturday, May 21
5 pm ATV Sunset Cruise	7 - 10 am American Legion Breakfast, Town Hall
6 pm Sunset Car Cruise	9 am - 3 pm Vendors, Bruce Museum
Sunday, May 22	9:30 am Kiddie Parade
9 am Soap Box Derby, Preston Park	10 am Main Street Parade
9 am Vendors, Bruce Museum	10 - 3pm Waitsburg One of a Kind Auto Show
10 am Cowboy Church, Preston Park	11 - 3 pm Civil War Era Firearms, Plaza Theater
11 am Luck of the Duck, Preston Park	11 - 3 pm Bruce House & Wilson Phillips
12:30 pm Softball game, Fairgrounds	11:30 - 4 pm Karen's ATV Poker Ride, Fairgrounds
12:30 pm Dunk Tank, Fairgrounds	5 pm - 8 pm Burgers, Band, and Brews
	8 pm - 11:30 The Shades

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Banner Bank	Les Schwab Tires
JTI Colfax LLC	Bicycle Barn
Portland General Electric	Odom Corporation
Nelson Irrigation	Pape' Machinery
	Columbia REA

Visit www.waitsburgcd.com for additional information, forms, and registration

LEGALS & NEWS

JEFF STRICKLER RUNNING FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE POSITION 1

THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA—On May 16, 2022, Jeff Strickler announced his campaign for State Representative Position 1 in the 16th Legislative District as a Democrat. A resident of Walla Walla since 2010, Strickler came to the area because of his connections to Eastern Washington and a desire to raise his family in a rural, small-town setting.

"I'm running for office because we need advocates in Olympia who share our values and will focus on issues versus divisive, partisan politics," Strickler said. "The people of our district deserve a leader who understands the challenges we are facing: the need for economic development that will enable people to afford housing, the burdensome costs of child and health care, and the threat extreme climate variations pose to our farmers."

As a youth spending summers with family in Eastern Oregon, Strickler would often hear comments about how "there could no longer be a life in farming" and he would often see ranch families like his own seemingly shut out of policy decision-making.

"Our farm communities and the agrarian areas of our district represent a vital link to our identity as Washingtonians, and to the values and commerce of our state."

Strickler graduated from Luther College in Iowa with a B.A. in Computer Science and Business Management. He got his professional start in the software industry, running his own consulting practice and traveling to help clients around the world.

After twenty years in software, Strickler transitioned to a career in residential and commercial real estate, which has given him a deeper insight and understanding of housing policy and the housing needs of our district. From his time as a successful software consultant operating his own business, to his work as a Realtor®, Strickler has built a commendable reputation as a self-starting entrepreneur with strong leadership skills who brings people together.

The son of a schoolteacher, Strickler feels passionately that public education is an essential resource for our children and a vital investment in our state's future. Strickler believes the key to maintain-



Courtesy photo

Jeff Strickler

ing our commitment to our children and building an economy that will give them their best chance for success is to address costs surrounding health care, child care, and housing, which serve as obstacles for working families seeking to provide the best environment for their children.

"When I talk about economic development, the environment, and housing, it's because these are critical issues that affect all of us and set the foundation for our way of life.

"I witnessed firsthand how not having a functional and affordable health-care system affected my 45-year-old cousin who suffered sudden cardiac arrest. His death was directly attributable to the cost of health care and fears surrounding seeking preventative care due to lack of health insurance.

"As a working parent, I see what child care costs and how important it is to protect and support public education and community programs. Likewise, I've seen neighbors move away because they could not sustain a life here due to lack of industry.

"I came to Walla Walla in large part to give my family a rural, agrarian, small-town, close-to-nature lifestyle, aware that it was a career tradeoff to work away from the technology hubs found in larger cities. So yes, I want this region to prosper and for us to have smart, thoughtful leaders in place who factor in the historical and present view in complement to a long-term outlook so we can all benefit and thrive as a community."

PAGAN'S OMG MEMBERS PLEAD GUILTY

THE TIMES

GEORGIA—In September of 2021, Umatilla County residents Dustin Wendelin and Charles Montgomery were arrested on warrants from Georgia for assault and gang charges.

Wendelin was detained at the Walla Walla State Penitentiary, his place of employment, by Walla Walla County law enforcement. Montgomery was arrested in Umatilla County.

Both men, members of the Pagan's Outlaw Motorcycle Gang, were extradited to Georgia, where they remained incarcerated until recently. On Monday, April 25, both men pleaded guilty to State of Georgia charges related to the arrests.

Wendelin and Montgomery were each convicted of one count of aggravated assault and violation of the Street Gang Terrorism and Prevention Act. Both charges are felonies in Georgia. The men were given credit for approximately 5 1/2 months of time served and are subject to up to 12 years of probation.

The Walla Walla Sheriff's Department offered appreciation to the regional, local, state, and federal law enforcement partners who made the investigations possible.

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

RENTAL WANTED

Help Wanted – Secretary/ Receptionist

Position open in the Dayton School District for a full-time district office secretary/receptionist/support person. To apply, submit a classified application, letter of interest and resume. Applications can be found on the employment page of the District website at <https://www.daytonsd.org/page/employment-or-the-District-office-at-609-S-2nd-Street>. For more information contact Jana Eaton or Rachel Lowe at 382-2543. Closing date May 23, 2022 3:00 p.m. EOE

SEEKING RENTAL

Single man seeking simple rural living space. Have handyman skills, references, ND, NS, no pets. Contact Mark – 509-382-4942.

LEGAL NOTICES

COLUMBIA COUNTY RURAL LIBRARY DISTRICT

Notice of Strategic Planning Workshop
The Board of Trustees of the Columbia County Rural Library District will be holding a Strategic Planning Workshop for the library on Monday, May 23, 2022, from 6:30 - 8:30 pm in the Delany building. The public is welcome to attend.
The Times
May 19, 2022
5-19-a

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA
No. 22-4-00078-36
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
(RCW 11.40.030)
ESTATE OF:
MARY-JO S. PERRY,
A/K/A LEAH MARY-JO PERRY,
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 with the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (a) 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 Publication:
May 5, 2022
Administrator:
Dwight L. Pardue
Attorney for Administrator
Cortney Corbet
Address for Mailing or Service
Gravis Law, PLLC
503 Knight St. Ste A
Richland, WA 99352
Court of Probate Proceedings
Benton County Superior Court
Case Number
22-4-00271-03
DATED this 26th day of April, 2022.
DWIGHT L. PARDUE, Administrator
The Times
May 5, 12, 19, 2022
5-5-b

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

IN AND FOR BENTON COUNTY
No. 22-4-00271-03
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the Matter of the Estate of:
LOUISE M. PARDUE,
Deceased.

The Administrator named below has been appointed as Administrator 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 Administrator, or his 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 Administrator 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 non-probate assets.

Date of Publication:
May 5, 2022
Administrator:
Dwight L. Pardue
Attorney for Administrator
Cortney Corbet
Address for Mailing or Service
Gravis Law, PLLC
503 Knight St. Ste A
Richland, WA 99352
Court of Probate Proceedings
Benton County Superior Court
Case Number
22-4-00271-03
DATED this 26th day of April, 2022.
DWIGHT L. PARDUE, Administrator
The Times
May 5, 12, 19, 2022
5-5-b

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA
No.: 22-4-00083-36
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
(RCW 11.40.030)
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:
ROBERT I. ENGBRETSON,
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: May 5, 2022
Personal Representative: Todd Engebretson
Jared N. Hawkins, WSBA #35426
Attorney for Personal Representative
Address for Mailing or Service:
2225 Isaacs, Suite A, Walla Walla, WA 99362
Court of probate proceedings and cause number:
Walla Walla County Superior Court Cause No. 22-4-00083-36
The Times
May 5, 12, 19, 2022
5-5-c

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Wylie Monuments
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BRODY RAY BOSCHMA
FEBRUARY 20 - 25, 2016
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Wylie Monuments is honored to announce our first ever award won at the prestigious 2019 American institute of Commemorative Art Design contest. Placing 3rd in the flat marker category is this beautiful marker full of symbolism representing faith and family, with a duplication of the inscription in braille at the bottom.

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Wylie Monuments - 501 West Main Street Walla Walla, WA (509) 525-6223 www.wyliemonuments.com

Historic Waitsburg Barn Gets Grant for Restoration

By Kristin Darrow | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—I was fortunate to move to the Waitsburg area in 2016 and my move was entirely because of a barn. That barn will be getting some much-needed restoration work, thanks in part to grant funding from the Washington State Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation’s (DAHP) historic barn grant program.

In 2016, a friend and I were vacationing here from Seattle and drove down Lower Waitsburg Road at dusk. As I crested a hill, I saw my dream property—a white 1920’s farmhouse standing in an emerald green field next to a big red barn. Love at first sight. That dream property happened to have a For Sale sign in front of it and, counter to any rational thought (I knew nothing about the area after all, I lived a five-hour drive away and most importantly, I had no idea what maintaining ten acres of Palouse ground and century-old buildings would entail), I had an offer on the house within two days. A few months later, I was the proud owner of one of the area’s most visible and iconic barns.

In 1919, Ernest and Charlotte Mikkelsen built the barn and farmhouse I own, located on the west side of Lower Waitsburg Road, about six miles south of



K. Darrow

Kristin Darrow at home in front of the Mikkelsen/Darrow barn.

While “left alone” may be an asset in terms of relaying a sense of history, it also means years of neglect and decay for the buildings. The historic barn complex consists of five closely clustered wooden buildings: the main barn (visible from Lower Waitsburg Road), the granary building (also visible), the adjacent truck ramp building (no longer standing), storage sheds, and a sheep pen.

A majority of the restoration work will focus on stabilizing the wooden granary building which is especially significant in telling the story of the Mikkelsen’s farming operation. The granary structure is freestanding but connected to the main barn through underground conveyor belts. This system relayed the seed from the granary’s bins to the main barn for truck loading through an overhead chute. The motor and conveyor belt remains intact, but the granary building itself is badly in need of stabilization.

The grant funds will help replace the rotting foundation sill, the roof structure, and the restoration of doors and windows on the granary building as well as a fresh coat of paint. The main barn structure requires several repairs, including restoration of the large sliding doors on both ends of the building, window repair, and exterior painting.

Barns must be listed on the Washington Heritage Barn Register to be eligible



Bill Rodgers, 2018

Mikkelsen/Darrow main barn and adjoining granary building stands in the winter mist.

Waitsburg. Starting in the 1920’s the Mikkelsen’s ran one of the founding wheat farming enterprises in the valley, specializing in treating and selling wheat seed to other farmers.

One of the things that impressed me about the property was how “left alone” it was—as though time had stood still and gathered a few inches of dust and spider webs around it to keep it company. I was awed by the immediate sense of history and place and that sense of awe speaks to me still, every single day. I consider it an honor and responsibility to steward and care for these buildings which, like other farmsteads in the valley, tell an important piece of Palouse farming history.



Bill Rodgers 2021

Granary building standing next to fallen truck ramp and main barn building.

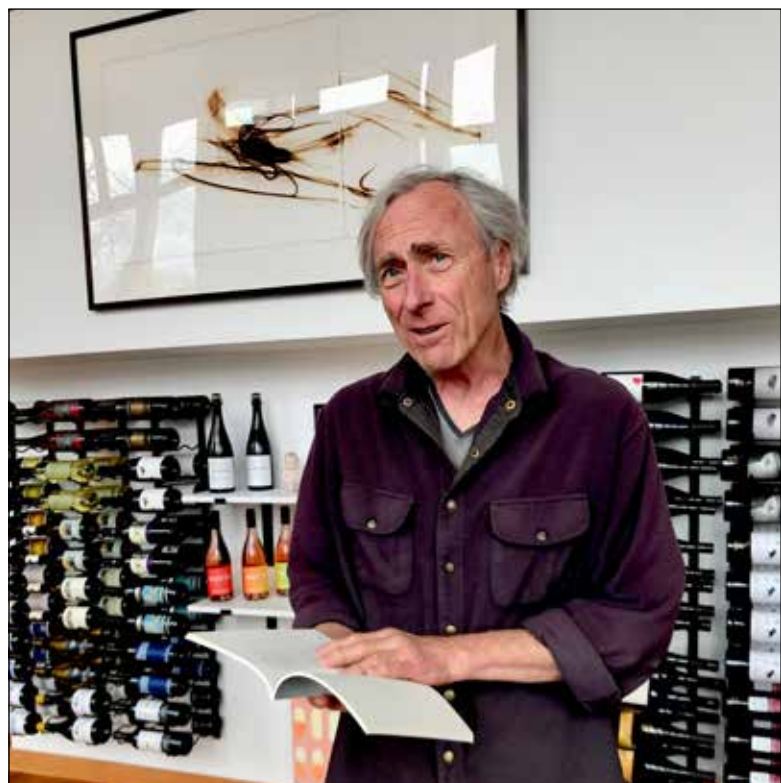
for rehabilitation grants from DAHP. After success in having the barn added to the registry in 2017, I was able to follow up with the grant application and just received notice of the award.

Recipients of DAHP rehabilitation grants are encouraged to continue using the barns for agricultural use and make them accessible to the community. Working with Kate Hockersmith of Touchet Valley music program (TVAMP), the barn has been frequently used for the Mythical/Moveable Blue Mountain Bluegrass Jams held on Friday evenings. Locations and times for the jam are listed in The Times calendar. Email Hockersmith at tvamp1@charter.net to sign up for the bluegrass jam newsletter. All are welcome and encouraged to attend the jams as players or listeners.

One of the challenges in a restoration project like this is finding qualified and skilled labor to do the work. Now that I have the green light from the grant program, I am looking for qualified craftspeople who know the types of carpentry and stabilization work required. The grant requires the funded restoration work to be completed in 2023, and I would be grateful for any references for barn restoration skills in the area. I can be reached at kristin.darrow@gmail.com if you or someone you know are interested in this project (or have any history about the Mikkelsen farmstead you wish to share with me).

The Mikkensens had no children, and though I did not know the couple, I feel I have come to know them through the buildings they left. I hope the barn’s restoration will ensure the buildings stand for another century to come and I hope the buildings serve the community as a proud reminder of the grit and resourcefulness of the families that settled this valley.

Royal Block Reading Series presents John Martin



Joseph Roberts

The Royal Block will host poet John Martin in Waitsburg.

THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—The Royal Block Reading Series invites the public for a reading by Walla Walla author John Martin on Thursday, May 19, at 6:30 p.m. Martin will read from his 2017 poetry collection “Hold This” which won the Lois Prize from the book’s publisher Concrete Wolf Press.

The Royal Block in Waitsburg offers curated local wines, beers, and ciders, in a space immersed in art, poetry, and great conversation.

Royal Block Art Bar is located at 222 Main Street, Waitsburg, WA. Open Thursdays and Fridays 4-8 p.m.; Saturdays 2-9 p.m.

Waitsburg’s ArtGarden



KS Gregutt

The little Quonset hut has a new paint job, a garden, reclaimed wooden fence, and soon will feature art from new and established artists on weekend pop up exhibits.

THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—Have you ever noticed the cutest Quonset hut in Waitsburg? It will be hard to miss these days having gone through a spring makeover. Owner Karen Gregutt has designed a cheerful indoor and outdoor space she will offer to artists for informally elegant exhibits.

This Friday will be the “soft” opening of the town’s newest art venue, the Artgarden.

Come see the possibilities on Friday from 4 pm til 8 pm.

Artists joining Gregutt for Friday’s inaugural show include, Lynn Woolson, Fred Betz, Greg Tate and Lane Gwinn

Across from the royal block.



Lane Gwinn

Italian landscape study by Fred Betz.

SPORTS

HANKINS PITCHES SHUT-OUT

Pitcher Jarod Hankins struck out five batters as the DW middle school baseball team beat Columbia Burbank 12-0 on Tuesday, May 10. The Wolfpack had 18 hits with Isaias Reyes going 4-4 at the plate. Denver Hutchens led his team with 8 stolen bases. The team was error free in the field.



1st baseman Jordan McCowen on defense

MS BASEBALL TEAM WALLOP FINLEY

Isaias Reyes struck out six Finley batters over three innings and the Wolfpack won 16-1 on Wednesday, May 4, in Waitsburg. DW collected 11 hits and over 30 stolen bases that started with Jordan McCowen hitting a triple in the first inning. Traicen Garcia went three for three at bat and had seven stolen bases. Reyes, Graycen Teal, William Cranmer, Hutchens and Colton Steinhoff also had hits for DW.

DW Wolfpack Sports

By Karen Huwe | THE TIMES

MS SOFTBALL CLAIM WINS

The DW middle school softball team beat a young Touchet team 20-5 on Monday, May 9th. Skyla Johnson led the team with a grand slam home run.

The Wolfpack collected another win on Wednesday, May 11; beating Liberty Christian 18-7. Peyton Benavides pitched and had three hits. Hannah Peralez, Alexa Jones, Johnson and Cindi Howard also had hits for DW.

The middle school softball team had their best showing of the season as they beat Finley 15-7 on Wednesday, May 4. Hannah Peralez was two for two at bat with three RBIs. Pitcher Peyton Benavides struck out 13 batters, had a hit in the five-inning game and Lucy Trump contributed with a hit. The Wolfpack was aggressive running the bases and did not commit a fielding error.



Photos by Karen Huwe

Shortstop Hannah Peralez ready on defense

ANDERSON AND BARRON PLAY LAST ROUND FOR DW

The golf team enjoyed a sunny day at Goldendale on Wednesday, May 4. The Wolfpack had a difficult time with the narrow fairways, rough greens and a lack of familiarity with the 18-hole, par 72 course.

Though the team was not able to practice Monday and Tuesday before the meet due to the local golf course being closed, the team showed the class and sportsmanship that the coach has come to expect from them.

Freshman Lucas VanHoose shot a personal best, 131, at Goldendale. Senior Caleb Barron led the team with a score of 111. Jay Dimak shot a 129, Garret Palmer 132 and Theo Anderson 135. Claudia Benavides scored a 139. DW competed against teams from Columbia Burbank, Goldendale, White Swan, Yakima Tribal and Mabton.

Seniors Theo Anderson and Caleb Barron saw their high school golf year come to a close at the EWAC 2B golf event at Suncadia on Monday, May 9th.

Golfers from DW, Columbia Burbank, Cle Elum, TCP, Mabton, Goldendale, White Swan, Warden and WWVA were looking to make it to the State Golf meet at Deer Park on May 24.

On the 18-hole, par 72 course, ten boys and eight girls qualified for the state meet. Unfortunately, DW players didn't make enough clutch shots to advance, stated Coach McGhan. Their strength was the short game and putting but the course can be pretty tough if you're not hitting the fairway consistently, he added. Coach McGhan is proud of the integrity and sportsmanship that his group has shown all season. Anderson and Barron's enthusiasm and leadership will be missed next year.

Scores at Suncadia:

Theo Anderson	114
Caleb Barron	115
Jay Dimak	117
Garrett Palmer	140
Claudia Benavides	150



DW golf team

Head Coach Mike McGhan, Jay Dimak, Claudia Benavides, Theo Anderson, Caleb Barron, Cayle Davis, Garrett Palmer, Lucas VanHoose and Coach Ajay McNarland

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My Songs

By Vicki Sternfeld-Rossi | THE TIMES

While playing tennis and chasing tennis balls at Waitsburg High School, a song from “My Fair Lady” played through my head. “Why can’t a woman be more like a man?” became “Why can’t a tennis court be more like a bowling alley?” Or even a pool table. Bowling alleys and pool tables have bumpers, gutters, and pockets that return the balls to you. Tennis courts were not designed for easy ball retrieval.



I was constantly chasing tennis balls as they landed on the other court, under the fence, in the parking lot, on the school lawn, and in the street. I realize that being a better player would help, but still, the court could use a better design.

As I thought of different ways to change and im-

prove the design of tennis courts, a different song played in my head. “If I ruled the world,” and if so, there would be other changes besides court redesign that I would implement.

First, the obvious; world peace, thin thighs, and zero calorie wine.

Next, how about a better way to identify slugs? In Washington (or maybe just Waitsburg), slugs don’t live in shells. In Los Angeles, it was easy to spot a slug in your garden. They look like escargot without the garlic and butter. They poke their heads out of the shells, and you immediately know it’s a slug. But here, I have difficulty distinguishing the slugs from earthworms. I swear they are mating and producing a strange new plant-eating hybrid.

Are those bees or hoverflies? Both buzz and dive-bomb flowers, but how do I know if I can greet them with open arms as they pollinate or get stung? Maybe there are identifying marks I can’t see, so I just keep my distance from whatever black and yellow insect is hovering in the flowers. I would, at the least, switch up the color combinations.

Is it a weed or a flower? Last year, I thought I had a foolproof system separating the weeds from the flowers. My brilliant idea was to plant lots of wild-flower seeds to bring pollinators pretty flowers and leave no room for weeds. When everything started

to bloom, I planned on using a plant-identifying app on my phone. After taking hundreds of pictures to determine if I had plants or weeds, the weeds won!

Another mystery to ponder is how a twelve-pound dog can take up half of a king-size bed? I know that I am not the only dog owner that questions this. Of course, one solution is to keep the dog out of the bed, but we know that’s not realistic for many of us. So, how do I make the bed bigger or the dog smaller?

Men and their reliance on power tools is another question I ponder. If I need to tighten a screw, I use a screwdriver, and voila!, the job is done. Men aren’t satisfied with the job unless they’ve powered up the drill with a screwdriver attachment. Why? Tight is tight in my book.

On the bright side, Mother Nature has been unusually cooperative the past two months. Daniel and I have hosted two Sunday brunches in April and May. Both days had great weather but were sandwiched between Saturdays and Mondays, which were brutal. Obviously, food is as important to Mother Nature as it is to us.

World peace and no senseless killings take priority, and I wish I could do more. But meanwhile, I’ll ponder bugs, weeds, power tools, and hope for zero-calorie wine.

PG’s Wine of the Week

Force Majeure 2019 Parabellum Coulée

By Paul Gregutt | THE TIMES

Force Majeure is one of the most important producers in Washington yet remains under the radar for most wine drinkers. Now relocated to just outside the western boundary of the Rocks District, it’s guided by winemaker Todd Alexander. His superb touch with exceptional Red Mountain and Walla Walla vineyard sources inspires a growing lineup of Bordeaux and Rhône-inspired blends and single varietal wines. These are not cheap, but this week’s feature is from the lower-priced Parabellum tier and is stunningly good. It’s a Rhône-style blend – principally Syrah with the balance a mix of Grenache, Mourvèdre, Cinsault and Counoise. This is instantly, strikingly delicious, speared with a vein of minty tobacco, loaded with sweetly toasty flavors of blueberry, blackberry, and marionberry fruit, and buoyed with natural acids. Among a tasting of a half dozen Force Majeure wines, which I returned to over a four-day period, the Coulée was the last man standing, still delicious when the last glass was poured on the last day. 14.8%; \$45 (Columbia Valley)

<https://forcemajeurevineyards.com/wp/wines/parabellum/>



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T-ball in Waitsburg



Karen Huwe

Coach Gabe Kiefel giving sage advice to the budding athletes.

FIRST ANNUAL MOTHER AND SON DODGE BALL WAS A BIG HIT



The Dayton Elementary PTSO hosted a Mom and Son Dodgeball Event for the Dayton and Waitsburg school districts.

Four brackets, K-2nd, 3rd-5th, 6th-8th, and 9th-12th and a bonus “Staff Off” kept the referees busy. Walla Walla DJ kept the energy up and the tunes playing.

(left) Kindergarten Moms and Sons showing off the winning gold.

(right) Fast and furious throwing and dodging highlighted the event.



FUN & GAMES

The Friendly Forest

By Jimmye L. Turner



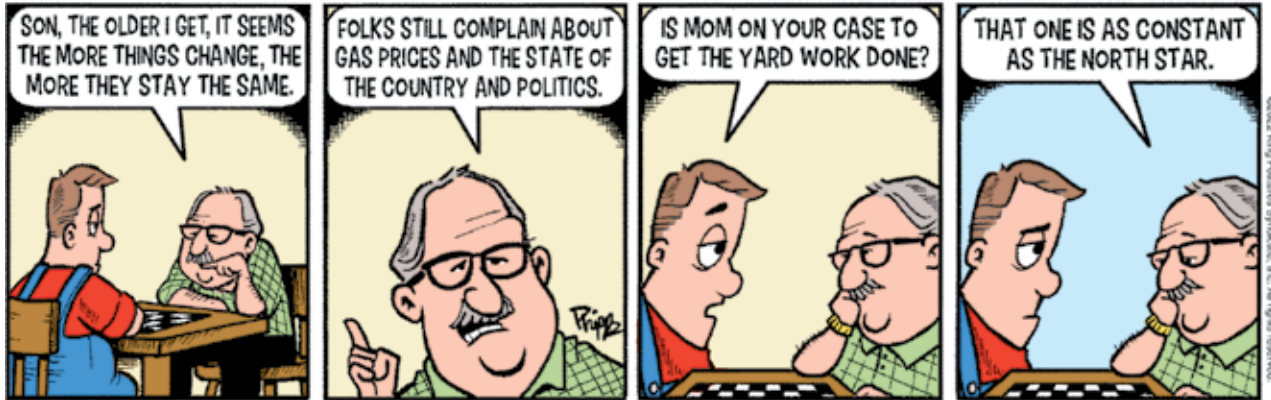
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



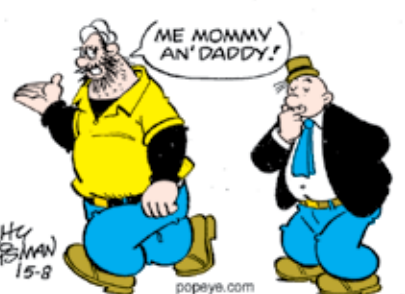
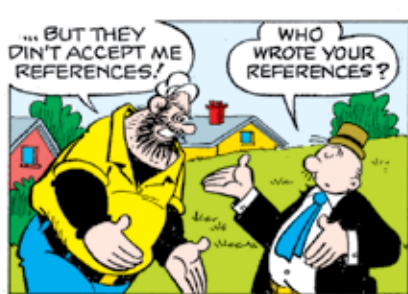
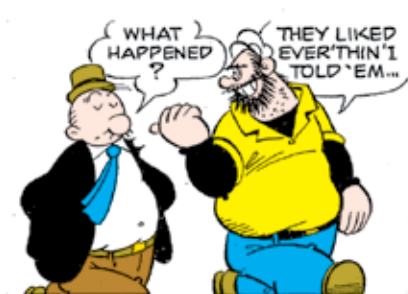
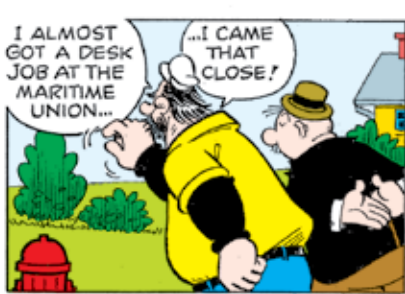
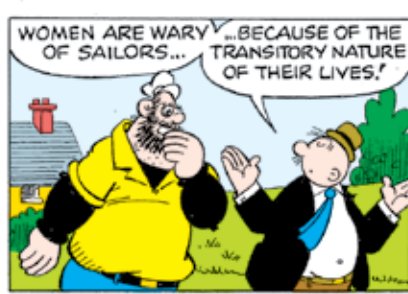
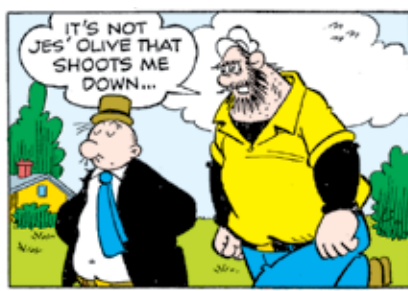
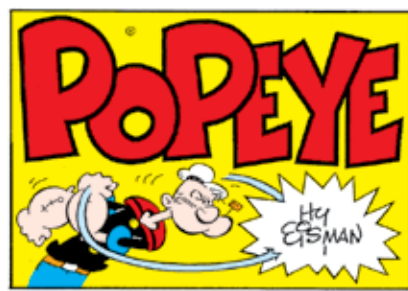
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



Touchet Valley Weather

May 18, 2022

Waitsburg's Seven Day Forecast

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Few Showers	Partly Cloudy	Sunny	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	Few Showers	Few Showers
High: 61 Low: 41	High: 60 Low: 42	High: 66 Low: 43	High: 71 Low: 50	High: 72 Low: 53	High: 73 Low: 55	High: 71 Low: 51

Weather Trivia

What is hail?



Answer: Frozen raindrops that accumulate many layers of ice before falling.

Weather History

May 18, 1989 - Low pressure anchored over eastern Virginia kept showers and thunderstorms over the Middle Atlantic Coast Region. Flash flooding was reported in Pennsylvania. Up to five inches of rain drenched Franklin County, Penn. in 24 hours.

Local Almanac Last Week

Day	High	Low	Normals	Precip
Tuesday	59	37	70/48	0.00"
Wednesday	62	40	70/48	0.00"
Thursday	62	41	71/49	0.48"
Friday	58	37R	71/49	0.01"
Saturday	68	46	71/49	0.52"
Sunday	77	50	72/49	0.08"
Monday	68	49	72/50	0.00"

Departure from normal +0.62"
Average temperature 53.9°
Average normal temperature 59.9°
Departure from normal -6.0°

Data as reported from Walla Walla

Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
Wednesday	5:17 a.m.	8:22 p.m.	Prev Day	7:06 a.m.
Thursday	5:16 a.m.	8:23 p.m.	12:06 a.m.	8:12 a.m.
Friday	5:15 a.m.	8:24 p.m.	1:01 a.m.	9:28 a.m.
Saturday	5:14 a.m.	8:26 p.m.	1:42 a.m.	10:47 a.m.
Sunday	5:13 a.m.	8:27 p.m.	2:13 a.m.	12:06 p.m.
Monday	5:12 a.m.	8:28 p.m.	2:37 a.m.	1:21 p.m.
Tuesday	5:11 a.m.	8:29 p.m.	2:57 a.m.	2:32 p.m.

PIONEER PORTRAITS

Ten Years Ago
May 17, 2012



[Photo Caption] Waitsburg resident Bert Baxter is ready to show off his 1961 Ranchero Falcon at the fifth annual auto show in Preston Park this Saturday. The auto show and parade will be held to honor the town's former event Days of Real Sport.

Twenty-Five Years Ago
May 22, 1997



[Photo Caption] Visitors to Waitsburg and local horse racing enthusiasts were treated to great weather - warm temperatures and sunshine - for the two days of Waitsburg's 84th Days of Real Sport. Hundreds turned out for the parade Saturday and there was plenty of action at the DRS Racetrack Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

Fifty Years Ago
May 18, 1972

Green Giant's little league team captured a 10-8 victory over Prescott on Monday, May 15. Green Giant rallied in the top of the sixth with two out and tied the game. John Lybecker hit a home run with one man on base in the top of the seventh inning to give the Jolly Green team a win. Larry Olson pitched three innings and Mark Leid the last four - getting 10 strikeouts and allowing no hits and no runs. Green Giant will meet Kiwanis in Dayton on May 19.

Seventy-Five Years Ago
May 23, 1947

Miss Betty Baim, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Baim, will give the valedictory at the annual commencement exercises of Waitsburg High School, Thursday evening, May 29. Elsie Allman will give the salutatory.

Kenneth Gohlman was named chairman of the committee to prepare for the annual picnic of the Commercial Club next Tuesday evening at the State Park. He will be assisted by A. T. Sutton, John Egli, Bob Butler, Orin Walker and Howard Packer.

Mr. Robert Russ of Carrington, N. D. has signed a contract with the Board of Directors to serve as music instructor in the Waitsburg schools.

One Hundred Years Ago
May 19, 1922

Inez Danielson of Waitsburg and Merle Brown of Prescott won the medals offered for the rendition of oratory at Walla Walla Saturday evening.

Born, Tuesday morning, May 16 to Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Abbey, a fine big boy. The man weighs 7½ pounds and has been named James William.

Little Ursula Flo Eaton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Eaton celebrated her fourth birthday anniversary Thursday afternoon on the beautiful lawn of the home of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Eaton. There were 31 guests present. Edna Eichelberger and Helen McDaniel assisted the little folks with numerous games.

One Hundred Twenty-Five Years Ago
May 21, 1897

Waitsburg looks a different place since the new sidewalks have been built all over town. A person may now walk to any part of the city after night without being in danger of breaking his or her neck.

Albert S. Dickinson received his commission as postmaster of this city on Tuesday morning. This is indeed prompt action on the part of the Postmaster General. Albert will take possession on the 1st of July.

All the business houses in town were closed on Sunday. Even the drug stores were closed which is something that has not happened before for at least many years. Some persons in order to have everything in perfect harmony locked up the town pump, so that not even water was to be had.

PUZZLES & LIFESTYLES

Super Crossword

COUNTRY MUSIC

- ACROSS**
- 1 Charibusters
 - 8 Farthest point in an orbit
 - 14 Uncommon
 - 20 Salary reductions
 - 21 Child raiser
 - 22 Add insult to injury, maybe
 - 23 Question in 1 Corinthians 15:55
 - 26 Europe-Asia border river
 - 27 Wood splitter
 - 28 Ski lift part
 - 29 Prefix with lock
 - 30 Supplicate on behalf of
 - 35 — polloi (commoners)
 - 37 Sermon topic
 - 38 Suffix with Sudan
 - 39 Massage
 - 40 Old booming jet, for short
 - 41 "— changed man!"
 - 43 Designer Geoffrey
 - 45 Salon colorists
 - 47 "Is this actually happening?"
 - 50 Oviedo locale
 - 53 Situated over
 - 56 Brine source
 - 57 New Hampshire academy
 - 58 "I'm going through the same thing!"
 - 61 Shipping charge, e.g.
 - 62 Steering part on a ship
 - 63 Long (for)
 - 64 Vikings' org.
 - 66 Refusing to be cheerful
 - 71 Regarding
 - 72 Agree
 - 76 Pop's mom
 - 77 Actress Amy
 - 79 SSNs, e.g.
 - 80 Pressing tool
 - 81 Fig treat from Nabisco
 - 83 Seeming eternity
 - 85 DNA-studying partner of James Watson
 - 87 "My turn is coming right up"
 - 91 He KO'd many rivals
 - 93 Ball— hammer
 - 94 Forrest Gump player
 - 95 "Quantum Leap" actor
 - 98 Bend down
 - 100 Abrupt
 - 101 Body pouch
 - 102 Secretive U.S. gp.
 - 105 She bleats
 - 106 Part of UCLA
 - 109 33rd prez
 - 110 Restaurant bill addition
 - 112 Crucial component
 - 116 Long (for)
 - 118 Boyfriends, in Paris
 - 120 Dir. opposite 7-Down
 - 121 Viking org.
 - 122 Tune whose opening lyric, and lyricist, begin eight answers in this puzzle
 - 128 Motion detector part
 - 129 Agee of the old Mets
 - 130 Small eating alcove
 - 131 Waiters take them
 - 132 Like training at the location itself
 - 133 Occupy fully
 - 4 La — (Milan opera house)
 - 5 Crude abode
 - 6 Biblical verb suffix
 - 7 NYC-to-Miami dir.
 - 8 High points
 - 9 Peeling tools
 - 10 Raw metal
 - 11 Allstate rival
 - 12 Put into a hall of fame
 - 13 Kett of old comic strips
 - 14 — Gyra (jazz fusion band)
 - 15 Prefix with gender
 - 16 Utah ski spot
 - 17 Slide in again
 - 18 Go on with
 - 19 Train operator
 - 24 Barn feed
 - 25 Cymbal pair in a drum kit
 - 31 Nathaniel Hawthorne's Hester
 - 32 Feel remorse over
 - 33 James — Garfield
 - 34 Consumer protection agcy.
 - 36 Wild Alpine goats
 - 42 Soccer great Hamm
 - 44 Summer, in Soissons
 - 45 Royal crown
 - 46 Worried
 - 48 E-cig's lack
 - 49 Busy insect
 - 50 Its capital is Damascus
 - 51 16 ounces
 - 52 Lindley of "The Ropers"
 - 54 NYC stage awards
 - 55 Small bunch of flowers
 - 59 Spock and Seuss: Abbr.
 - 60 Alternative to "his" or "her"
 - 61 Go by plane
 - 64 Nary a soul
 - 65 Backyard borders
 - 67 Open, as a present
 - 68 Language of "mea culpa"
 - 69 Be a rapper?
 - 70 BoSox rivals
 - 73 Freud's "one"
 - 74 Ensnare
 - 75 "Cannon" has three
 - 78 The Brady kids, e.g.
 - 82 Restated
 - 84 Gambling parlor, briefly
 - 85 Chick — -A
 - 86 Prefix with lock
 - 87 "No kidding?"
 - 88 Artist known for illusions
 - 89 Boston area with the Paul Revere statue
 - 90 UFO crew
 - 91 Alias abbr.
 - 92 Find by chance
 - 96 In line with
 - 97 One or more
 - 99 Be indebted
 - 103 "Belt out that tune!"
 - 104 She founded the U.S. Shakers
 - 106 Crude abode
 - 107 First phases
 - 108 Long looks
 - 111 Letter-shaped girders
 - 113 PSATs, e.g.
 - 114 "No kidding!"
 - 115 Deep-seated
 - 117 To be, to Claudius
 - 119 Regarding
 - 123 Blue Jays, on scoreboards
 - 124 Abbr. for someone with only one given name
 - 125 34th prez
 - 126 Firewood box
 - 127 Repub. west of Zambia

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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MY RECIPES

Luke Chavez

Spring Green Quiche

The days are finally warming up, waking up our vegetable patch with a fresh batch of delicate sprouts and young shoots. A lovely sight as we anticipate the delicious harvests to come. My kitchen herb garden, planted close to the house for quick plucking, has been looking particularly vibrant and lush these past few days. This silky quiche, full of fresh herbs and tender chard, comes alive with verdant spring flavor.



Ingredients:

- 1 flakey crust, unbaked (recipe below)
- 2 spring Walla Walla onions, chopped (about ½ cup)
- 1 bunch rainbow chard
- ½ cup minced mixed fresh herbs (see notes)
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- ½ teaspoon ground coriander
- Pinch of ground cayenne pepper or paprika
- Kosher salt and fresh ground black pepper
- 1 teaspoon apple cider vinegar
- 4 large eggs, plus 1 extra yolk
- 2 cups half & half
- Pinch of ground nutmeg
- 4 ounces blue cheese crumbles

Directions:

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Roll out one crust ⅛-inch thick and line a 9-inch pie pan. Crimp edges high and poke bottom several times with a fork. Line crust with parchment paper and pie weights. Par bake crust for 15 to 20 minutes, then remove paper with weights, and bake additional 5 minutes till lightly golden. Set crust aside and reduce oven to 350 degrees.

While crust par-bakes work on filling. Wash and drain the chard. Remove stems and set green leaves aside. Chop the stems about the same size as the onions. Heat oil in large skillet over medium heat. Add onions with chopped chard stems, and sauté until translucent, about 5 to 7 minutes. Stir in the coriander, cayenne, and season to taste with a pinch of salt and pepper. Stack chard leaves on cutting board and thinly slice, then add to the pan with the onions. Continue to sauté for a couple of minutes until the greens are wilted soft, but still bright green. Add vinegar, scrape bottom of pan and sauté for another minute until cooked off. Taste and adjust seasoning, then take pan off heat.

Next, in a large mixing bowl, whisk together the eggs with the half & half, 1 ½ teaspoons kosher salt (¾ teaspoon if using table salt), ½ teaspoon black pepper and the nutmeg. Whisk in the herbs, until fully combined. Arrange cheese evenly over the bottom of crust and then top with the wilted chard mixture. Carefully pour the egg mixture over the top, making sure it completely saturates the fillings. For color, sprinkle a pinch of cayenne over the top.

Gently, place quiche on middle rack of 350-degree oven, on a baking sheet to catch any drips, and bake for 50 to 60 minutes. Quiche will be done when top is golden, and center is just set. A toothpick inserted in the center should come out clean. If crust starts to brown too much you can cover the edges with foil. Remove quiche and allow to cool on a wire rack for at least 15 minutes. Serve hot or at room temperature.

Flakey Tart Crust

(Makes two crusts. Use one and freeze the other for later):

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 12 tablespoons (1½ sticks) chilled unsalted butter, cut into cubes.

Prepare a ½ cup of ice water. Mix flour and salt together in large bowl. Using a pastry cutter or your fingertips, cut butter into the flour, until incorporated into texture of gravel, with some large pieces of butter remaining. Pour half the chilled water into flour and mix gently with a fork, forming clumps. Add more of the water if needed until the dough just forms together. Divide dough in two, wrap each half in plastic and gently press into disc. Let rest in the fridge for at least one hour.

Notes:

Get creative with your combination of fresh mixed herbs. This week I used a mix of chives, thyme, tarragon, rosemary and parsley, all from my kitchen garden. Other lovely herbs to try in this recipe would be chervil, oregano, basil, or garlic scapes. The key is an abundance of fresh green flavors. If you can't find spring Walla Walla "salad" onions, you can substitute with scallions or leeks.

If you are not a fan of blue cheese, you could substitute with aged white cheddar, or even a tart goat cheese. For the egg mixture you could use heavy cream, half & half, whole milk, or any combination. Serve this for a weekend brunch, or a simple weeknight dinner, with a bright crisp salad on the side. Enjoy!

Super Crossword

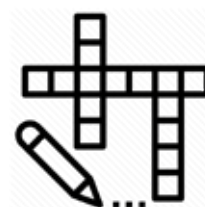
Answers

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M	A	N	A	T	E	E		H	A	Y	W	A	R	D	A	N	D	D	E	Y					
A	C	E	R			R	H	O			D	A	S		E	A	V	E							
W	H	A	T	S	H	O	U	L	D	T	H	E	Y		H	A	R	D	E	N					
R	E	T	Y	P	E		S	E	R	O	U	S		D	O	R	S	A	L	S					
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H	A	V	E	C	A	L	L	E	D	T	H	E	M	S	E	L	V	E	S						
E	L	I	A			T	E	X						A	I	L		A	M	I	S				
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B	R	E	E	D	E	R					R	E	S	E	R	V	E		R	E	I	G	N		
S	T	O	N	E	R	S					A	M	P	E	R	E	S		I	S	L	E	S		

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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



Around the Valley: With Karen Huwe

RETURNING RUBBER DUCKS AND SALMON

What started as a rainy Saturday morning turned into a sunny afternoon for the Walla Walla Ducky Derby and the Return to the River Salmon Festival.

The 25th Annual Ducky Derby, a fundraiser for child abuse prevention and youth programs in the Walla Walla Valley, was held on Saturday, May 14. This year, for the safety of the volunteers, the ducks did not race down Mill Creek due to recent rain and high water. Instead, a crowd gathered to see the almost 20,000 ducks get piled onto the lawn at Walla Walla Community College (WWCC). Two brave volunteers proceeded to dive in to pick out 16 lucky winners. Prizes range from the Grand prize of \$10,000 to various gift cards and experiences.

The Community Bank and The Walla Walla Exchange Club Foundation (WWECF) sponsored this year's derby. The Exchange Club described the event as a continued commitment to making the community a safe and secure place for all its children. With 100% of the net proceeds going back to the community, the club thanked all who participated in making this a hometown event.

A separate event on the WWCC campus was the Return to the River Salmon Festival. A family friendly event coordinated by the Water & Environmental Center and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. It included tribal youth performances, informational booths, and the release of juvenile salmon into Mill Creek. The salmon release is the culmination of this semester's Salmon in the Classroom Program run by the Tri-State Steelheaders.



Photos by Karen Huwe



WELLER PUBLIC LIBRARY UPDATE

The Friends of the Library recently received a \$5000 grant from the Warren Community Action Fund of Blue Mountain Community Foundation to continue the Weller Public Library Americans with disabilities restroom and first floor remodel.

The handicap lift is in the final stages of a minor change in construction and then will be inspected. Marie Gagnon has finished painting the steps and rails and added safety strips to each step tread. Sherri Erikson painted a Weller Public Library established 1942 sign by the staircase. Louie Gagnon and Allen Huwe are almost finished laying blocks to fill in the back wall and will then install the new back door.

Rosie has started reading time with children on Thursday mornings and crafts in the afternoons. Every month she orders new books, so stop in and see what is new at the library. The summer reading program will start on June 20 with the theme Oceans of Possibilities. Rosie will have a lot of fun activities planned.

The Friends of the Library will enter a float in the parade on Saturday, May 21st. A Luck of the Duck event will be held on Sunday, May 22, in Preston Park. The fundraiser begins at 11 am. Be sure to buy your ducks by Saturday night, May 21.

The Friends meet on the last Monday of the month and everyone is welcome to assist with making our library a place for young and old and great conversation can be had at Book Club on the second Tuesday of the month.

IT'S NOT ALL RUBBER DUCKIES



Bradley McMasters

This year's Ducky Derby Grand Prize winner, Alfredo Avalos is presented his jumbo check by event sponsors. (l-r) Tom Moran, Community Bank; Alfredo Avalos; Valerie Buckley, Exchange Club and Ducky Derby Chair; Zora Herndon, Walla Walla Valley Honda; Bruce Morehead, Community Bank and Exchange Club.

CELEBRATION- FROM PAGE 1

Mansion and Wilson-Phillips House will be open for tours.

The evening ends at the Waitsburg Fairgrounds with the Burgers, Bands, and Brews dinner, starting at 5 p.m. Stick around and get your boots dusty later that night, as Tri-Cities based band, The Shades, rocks the night in the Don Thomas building, starting at 8 p.m. Burgers, Bands, and Brews is a family-friendly event, however, the live music event is 21 and over only. Tickets are available for purchase at <https://tinyurl.com/2k3xrn3>.

If burgers and brews aren't your things, don't write Waitsburg off quite yet. The local shops have plenty to offer for food lovers. Stop by the newest restaurant, American 35, for artisan pizza, cocktails, local craft beers, and an overall good time. The former American Legion Hall will be open Friday and Saturday, 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The Royal Block will feature extended hours for the weekend celebration. Known for its historic location and carefully-selected local wines and unique snacking options, the Main Street wine bar will be open from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, and 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday.

Gaudy Gals on Main will be open for all of your Waitsburg one-of-a-kind shopping! Located inside Town Hall, the gift shop is home to artist Kimi Bruzas, who designed the 2022 Waitsburg Celebration Days posters. Her sister, Lori Sharp-Davis, has an eye for all things shiny, sparkly, and vintage and has curated a wonderful collection of jewelry, candles, kitchen items, and more! Gaudy Gals will be open Friday and Saturday, from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Laht Neppur Brewing Co. and Whisky C's will be operating their regular hours, as well. If Waitsburg has one thing... it's plenty of options.

A Soap Box Derby will roll by Preston Park on Sunday morning, starting at 9 a.m., followed immediately by a 10 a.m. Cowboy Church in the park. Luck of the Duck will swim down the river at 11 a.m., with winners announced that same day.

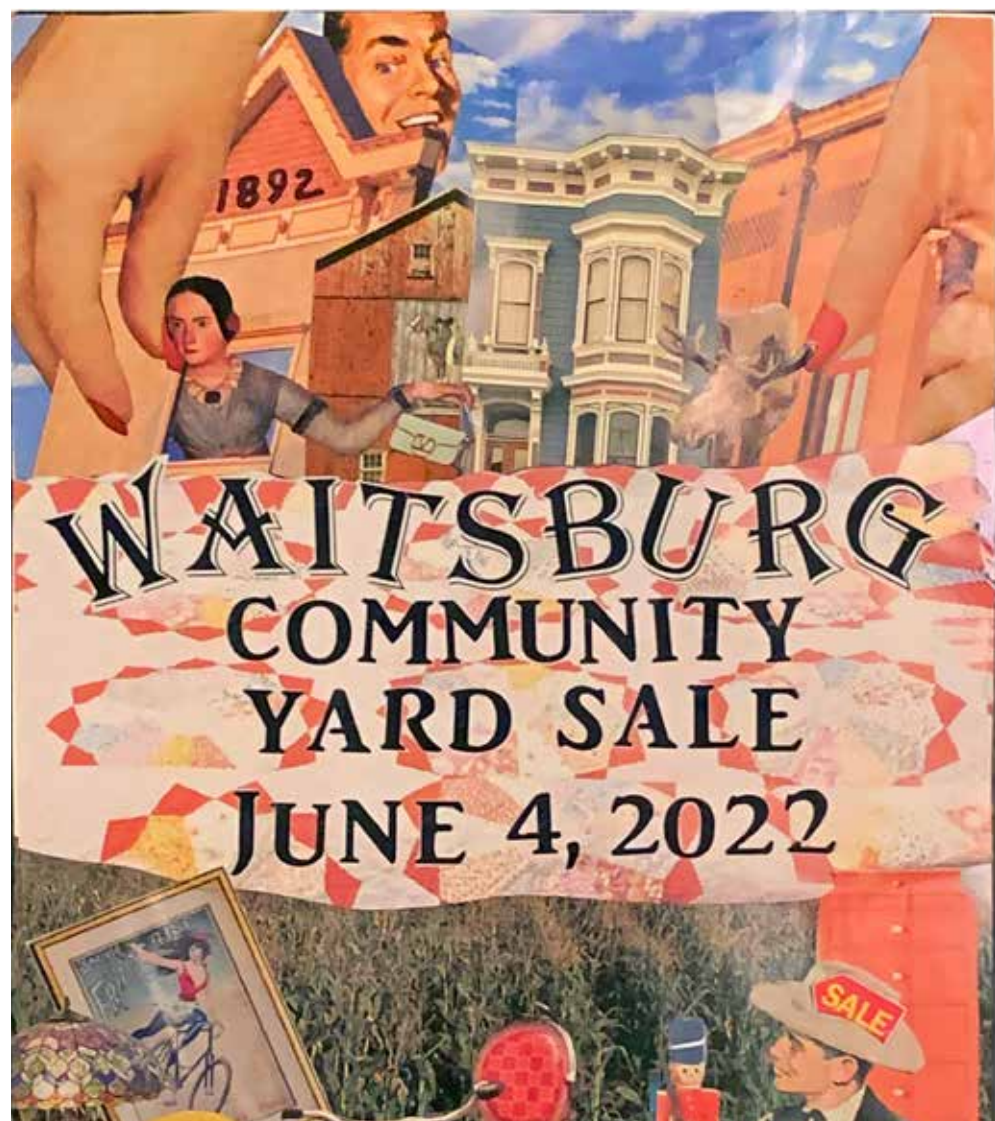
The fairgrounds will be lively, once again, as the Dayton-Waitsburg Softball Team takes on the Community. The first-ever Waitsburg Celebration Days Softball Game is sure to hit it out of the park, with the first pitch being thrown at 12 p.m. If you get a little heated, don't worry. Grab a ticket and try your best at the Dunk Tank, also located at the Waitsburg Fairgrounds. Mayor Marty Dunn, Senator Perry Dozier, Fire Chief Colter Mohnney, and Deputy Ian Edwards are just a few of the Dunk Tank highlights.

Waitsburg Celebration Days is made possible by a small group of local volunteers, and their much-appreciated sponsors. Thank you to all of the businesses who sponsored the 2022 Waitsburg Celebration Days!



Times Archive

The Sheriff's Posse riding the 2017 parade in front of the future Royal Block and Ten Ton Coffee on Main Street.



THE WAITSBURG COMMUNITY YARD SALE IS COMING. TIME TO GET YOUR LOCATION ON OUR MAP AND POSTER.

THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—Time to send The Times your yard sale information to be included on the official Community Yard sale Map.

The map will be printed in The Times June 2 edition, on The Times Website, and social media.

Let us help buyers find your sale.

- Let us know the location of your sale.
- Please include any information about what you will have on offer. you can even send a few photos of your most delectable sale items.
- Include your name, contact number, or email for The Times use only.

Email advertising@waitsburgtimes.com or call the office at (509) 337-3042, if we are out, leave a message.

Make sure to include contact information.

It is FREE and Fun! Send your map entry in today!