



Thursday February 4, 2021 Vol. 143 No. 49 www.waitsburgtimes.com

SERVING WAITSBURG, DAYTON AND THE TOUCHET VALLEY

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ONE DOLLAR



Times photos

February 7 marks the one year anniversary of the 2020 floods, though repairs and levee improvements are still ongoing. Next week, *The Times* will be exploring just where flood control and improvement stands, and what is still to come.

Millrace Grade Improvement Project addresses safety, paves way for future projects

Traffic safety is among top concerns driving the project

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—The Millrace Grade Improvement Project is one of the projects at the top of the City of Weitsburg's 2021 to de list

at the top of the City of Waitsburg's 2021 to-do list.

The city initially slated the grade improvement project to break ground in 2020, but, it was pushed back after the area experienced extreme flooding in February, followed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Waitsburg's City Administrator Randy Hinchliffe said that a new start date has not yet been determined, though he hopes for mid to late summer.

The project will focus on making Millrace Road, which connects into Main Street at the north end of Waitsburg, safer for all traffic, adding sidewalks for pedestrians, and providing an alternate traffic route for future road projects.

One of the significant factors behind the need for improvements is harvest and

"Anyone who has ever driven that stretch will notice that there is a steep slope to one side, with no guard rail," Hinchliffe said. "We will start with safety improvements. The project is going to add a guard rail, we're going to widen the road, and flatten the entrance and exit approaches, so it's not such a bad jump."

Ask any wheat truck driver or McGregor Co. service tech about driving large trucks over the hill and railroad crossing, and you are likely to get something along the lines of 'we hold our breath.' The narrow road makes it hard for larger vehicles to see and navigate around oncoming traffic. Drivers of big rigs have all experienced the uncomfortable angles needed to stay upright due to the road's steep grade.

Hinchliffe said there would be improvements to the railroad crossing at the base of the steepest hill on Millrace Road, including new and better signage. A sidewalk will also be installed along the south side of the road and looping back to Main Street. This project will also create an area for the future Touchet Valley Trail trailhead.

Hinchliffe said that the Millrace project is the final leg of the Main Street corridor project. He said that repairs along Main Street were completed in 2008-09 and the North Main Street bridge replacement in 2017 have led up to the Millrace Grade Improvement Project.

In recent years, the city has assumed responsibility for Rankin Park which runs along the Touchet River from the Main Street bridge to the historic Waits Mill site.

The mill burned down in 2009 and Hinchliffe said a hole left from the loss was filled with rubble from the W 7th Street Project in 2013. Acquiring the park and filling in the hole left by the former mill ties directly into the Millrace Grade Improvement project, paving the way for sidewalks and the future Touchet Valley Trail trailhead.

MILLRACE - PAGE 6

Hospital District runs short on COVID-19 vaccine for this week

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON—The COVID-19 vaccination clinic at the Columbia County Fairgrounds is working well. However, only 110 doses will be administered this week, according to Stephanie Carpenter. Carpenter is the Columbia County Health System Chief Operating Officer and is in charge of the Columbia County Hospital District vaccination plan.

Carpenter said Dayton General Hospital Pharmacy Manager Cheryl Pell requested 400 doses of the vaccine for use this week but only received 100 doses. There are ten doses left over from last week that will also be administered at this week's clinics.

"We are having to shorten the clinic because we do not have enough vaccine from the state," Carpenter said.

Last week, 488 people received the vaccine during three clinics at the fair-

This week scheduled vaccinations for 376 people in Phase 1b had to be post-poned.

On Tuesday, February 2, 2021, there were 40 first doses and 30 second doses administered.

Carpenter said 70 people in Phase 1a are due second doses; however, only 40 will get the second dose at this week's Thursday clinic. There will be no first doses given on Thursday.

So far, 738 people in the Hospital District have received their first dose. Eighty people have received both doses of the vaccine.

Vaccination clinics are currently held at the fairgrounds, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

People in Phase 1b and who live within the Columbia County Hospital District are urged to call the Columbia County Public Health Department at (509) 382-2181 to be scheduled for the vaccine.

WALLA WALLA REGIONAL AIRPORT RESPONDS TO BOMB THREAT

THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA—On January 29, at 1:23 p.m., the Walla Walla Regional Airport reported receiving a bomb threat demanding money or an explosive device would be detonated.

Airport officials evacuated the building and surrounding areas. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA), Washington State Patrol (WSP) Bomb Squad, and surrounding law enforcement agencies responded to the scene.

By 2:31 p.m., officials confirmed the threat was not of a credible source. The building and surrounding area were searched and deemed safe.

Walla Walla Sheriff's Department stated in a press release that the threat was identical to others that have been received around the country, which was confirmed by TSA officials in Washington DC.

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TOUCHET VALLEY LIFE

County Treasurer provides 4th quarter finance report

Commissioner Ryan Rundell cautiously optimistic about county finances in 2021

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON—County finances have "definitely" been affected by the flood and COVID-19, said County Commissioner Ryan Rundell, following an update on fourth-quarter finances from County Treasurer Carla Rowe last week.

"As Carla said, because we are a bare-bones taxed county, we have been less affected by COVID-19 than some counties who rely on extra taxes, like an entertainment tax, with large venues, and the like. However, the flood coupled with COVID-19 has done visible damage to the county and its finances."

Rundell said he is cautiously optimistic but wants to be prepared for a worse-case scenario.

In her report, Rowe reported on 2020 property tax collections. There is an outstanding balance owed to the county of \$722,000, 71-percent of which one taxpayer owes. There is a payment agreement in place and is being honored by the taxpayer, she said. The majority of the property tax collection for 2020 is relatively normal, she told the commissioners.

Rowe is concerned about state legislation that has been introduced, which would give the state treasurer's office the authority to extend by twelve months leniency given to taxpayers beyond the terms of the current state of emergency for COVID-19 relief.

The outstanding balance for the Current Expense Fund is \$109,000, and the outstanding balance for the County Road Fund is \$119,000, she said.

Sales Tax Revenue for the fourth quarter in 2020 is \$117,629, compared to \$858,689 for the fourth quarter in 2019. The 2019 number is larger because the county received a large distribution from the state for the 2019 wind farm refurbish project at Marengo.

The Rural County Sales Tax distribution for 2020 was \$50,098.37, compared to \$133,15.54, in 2019.

Rowe said the state has been withholding the Rural County Sales Tax throughout the year. She has reached out to the state's Dept. of Revenue (DOR) to ensure the county will get what is due. The DOR may only be considering what the county paid in sales tax and not what the county has refunded back to the state (over one million).

"This is the lowest distribution going back as far as 2014," Rowe said.

Interest rates are down, and interest earned on Current Expense Interest Income is low.

Revenue Without Taxes is \$259,311 in the fourth quarter of 2020 compared to \$292,951 in the fourth quarter of 2019. The revenue in 2020 includes COVID-related grants and fees from various county departments.

At the end of December, the county held a little over 2.5 million in cash, reserve, and investments compared to about 2.2 million in 2019.

The County has a couple of money market accounts at HomeStreet Bank.

Rowe has invested \$125,153 in an 18-month bond, maturing on Jan. 15, and has earned \$2,500 in interest. Rowe said she is reinvesting \$125,000 into a 5-year bond.

"Even with the interest markets dropping, it turned out to be okay."

Rowe said she has been working to develop a debt policy, which she hopes to present to the commissioners for adoption this spring. Public debt management policies are the guidelines and procedures that guide the debt issuance practices of governments. One reason a debt policy is implemented is to take out debt bonds. According to Rowe, Columbia County has relied mainly on loans.

Touchet Valley Weather Feb. 3, 2021 Waitsburg's Seven Day Forecast Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday Mostly Cloudy Mostly Cloudy Chance Rain Partly Cloudy Partly Cloudy Mostly Cloudy Cloudy High: 45 Low: 32 High: 46 Low: 36 High: 49 Low: 35 High: 47 Low: 34 High: 46 Low: 31 Local Almanac Last Week **Weather Trivia** How far can lightning Day High Normals Precip Precipitation 0.07' Tuesday 43/31 spread out after striking Normal precipitation 0.49" 37 43/31 Wednesday 50 Trace the Earth's surface? Departure from normal -0.42" Thursday 48 31 43/31 Trace Average temperature 44.2° Friday 39 43/31 0.07" Answer: Lightning can spread out as far as 60 feet. Average normal temperature 37.1° Saturday 43/31 0.00" Departure from normal+7.1° 61 43/31 Trace Sunday **Weather History** 43/32 Data as reported from Walla Walla Monday Trace Feb. 3, 1988 - Arctic air Sun/Moon Chart This Week United States. The temperature at Moonrise Day Sunrise Sunset Moonset Midland, Texas plunged from a Wednesday Prev Day 7:12 a.m. 5:01 p.m. 10:24 a.m. First record high of 80 degrees to 37 5:03 p.m. 12:23 a.m. 10:50 a.m. Thursday 7:11 a.m. 2/19 degrees in just three hours. 7:09 a.m. Friday 5:04 p.m. 1:41 a.m. 11:21 a.m. Morning lows in the higher Saturday 7:08 a.m. 5:06 p.m. 2:57 a.m. 11:59 a.m. elevations of Wyoming were as 5:07 p.m. 12:46 p.m. 4:10 a.m. 7:07 a.m. cold as 38 degrees below zero. Sunday Full New 5:09 p.m. 1:43 p.m. Monday 7:05 a.m. 5:15 a.m.

Tuesday

7:04 a.m.

5:10 p.m.

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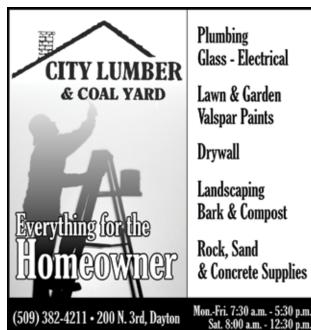
The Times

216 Main St., P.O. Box 97, Waitsburg 242 E. Main Street, Dayton (509) 337-6631



6:10 a.m.

2:48 p.m.



DIRECTOR HIRED FOR THE DAYTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

THE TIMES

DAYTON—The Columbia County Rural Library District Board of Trustees has chosen Todd Vandenbark of Waverly, Iowa, to be the next Director of the Dayton Memorial Library. He will begin as Library Director on Feb. 16.

Vandenbark has a Master's in Library Science and more than ten years of experience in Library service. He is an accomplished trainer and mentor and has extensive knowledge and experience with digital programming. "Todd's outgoing personality and maturity, along

with his experience and skills, make him a great match for our library and community. The Board is excited for him to begin and hopes the community will soon have the opportunity to get to know him." The Trustees have also announced Kristie

Korslund's resignation, who has served as the Interim Director since Aug. 1, 2020. During her tenure, Kristie oversaw the completion of the library's remodel and directed the library's COVID-19 response.

"To say she will be missed is an immense understatement."

POWER HOUSE THEATRE ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS

THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA—Gesa Power House Theatre announced three new members' appointments to its nonprofit Board of Directors: Darcie Furlan, Mike Howell, and Tricia Rice.

Darcie Furlan is retired from a career in book publishing and has lived in Walla Walla since 2014. She previously served on the board of the Walla Walla Chamber Music Festival for five years before stepping down from her role as President this past August.

Mike Howell is a retired veteran who continues to be very active in the community and has served on many nonprofit boards and civic organizations. He is a founding member, past board president, and current board member of The STAR Project, helping re-integrate formerly-incarcerated people back into the community.

Tricia Rice is the Marketing Coordinator & Content Manager at Baker Boyer Bank and has lived in Walla Walla for the past eight years. She is a violinist with the Walla Walla Symphony and also serves on their board of directors.

The 2021 board roster also includes John Jamison, President; Erica Walter, Vice President; Karl Eckhardt, Treasurer; Amy Watkins, Secretary; Jim Barrow, Michelle Conner, and Ted Cox.

"We are excited to lean on the experience and knowledge of the Board at Gesa Power House Theatre," says Executive Director Heather Schermann. "Together, we are embarking on some incredible projects that will continue to build up the arts community in the Walla Walla Valley."

As of July of 2020, Gesa Power House Theatre is owned and operated by Power House Theatre Walla Walla, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to generate a robust and inclusive community through performing arts.

Gesa Power House Theatre is on the Washington State Building Preservation Commission list of State historic buildings, on the National Register of Historic Places, and a member of the League of Historic American Theatres. The venue is a local hub for live performances, film screenings, events by nonprofit organizations, and private events. On average, 20,000 people attend events in the historic building each

For more information, visit www.phtww.org.

BIRTHDAYS

February 4: Morgan Baker, Chelsey Smith, Meredith Huwe, Stacey Bennett, Mathew Akers, Renee Bailey, Robert Bailey, Matthew Lyons, and Elaine Till.



February 5: Tim Abel, Andrea Tuttle, Mary Phillips, Loretta Hunt, Janet Hart, Jack and Jim Hubbard, Helen Richardson, Chad and Nicholas Pearson.

February 6: Aidan Larsen, Jena Worth, Lorene Wood, Sueann Neace, Crystal Werner, Teresa Luders, George C. Robinson, Shawn Davis, Lloyd Walker, Jade Alleman and Mike Bergevin, James Harri.

February 7: Wendy Cobb, Thomas Reese, Melvin and Michael Newbill and Connie Wyrick.

February 8: Talen Larsen, Doug Beckel, Betty Klundt, Penny Jones, Karen Hansen, Jani Jansen, Judy White and Judy Helm Gross.

February 9: Gabe Hofer, Thomas House, Jasper Streeter Hubbard.

February 10: Susan Kenney, Betty Harpe, Ryan Wertz and Sara Wilson, Ryan Wertz.

TOUCHET VALLEY LIFE

Waitsburg School Board monthly report

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—The Waitsburg School Board met on January 21 for a regular meeting. The board is still meeting via Zoom.

Secondary principal Stephanie Wooderchak shared that the school is planning on moving forward with state testing over the next two months. Sixth graders will test mid-April, followed in grade order. The testing will take about a week for each

The second semester will begin February 1, and she reminded the board that it would mark a complete change of classes for students.

She noted that she had begun discussions with the senior class via Zoom to plan graduation and Senior Week. The senior class advisor Karen Huwe said Roseann Groom has agreed to help coordinate graduation this year. In years past, Groom organized the ceremony; however, she 'retired' from that duty after the 2020 graduation.

Wooderchak provided a highly anticipated DW Mascot update following a meeting with the two graphic designers to discuss the mascot vision. There are currently three options being considered: DW Thrashers, DW Valley Kings, and the DW Wolfpack. Wooderchak said the ASB would meet again in late-February to discuss the mascot further.

Board member Ross Hamann, one of the designers, shared a fun story about mishearing one of the Threshers' names, taking it as a nod to the agriculture roots in both communities. He said that roughly a year ago, Threshers was one suggestion for the mascots. The DW Threshers was a suggestion made by Jack McCaw in the initial stages of the mascot discussion.

Wooderchak also gave an athletics update, following an Eastern Washington Athletics Conference (EWAC) meeting. Based on the suggestions provided, fall sports will begin February 15, followed by winter sports, and then spring. The EWAC has submitted a letter to the Washington Interscholastic Athletics Association, requesting its own schedule. There were concerns raised about how students would get the necessary practice times. Wooderchak said that until the district reaches Phase Two, sports will be on a practice-only schedule. Competitions are not allowed until at least Phase Two of Governor Inslee's reopening plan.

Maintenance and Facilities Supervisor Colter Mohney said that there are plans to remove locust trees at the athletic field. He stated that they are dangerous and are losing large branches when it gets windy. The wood from the trees would go to the Lions Club, and he hoped the Lions Club members would help stack the wood. He also shared that there is a Waitsburg resident who has asked for the wood shavings.

Elementary Principal Mark Pickel shared that he is amazed the school year is almost halfway through. He said that there had been a huge learning curve with the new grading system, Qmlativ, which replaced Skyward. Staff is working through the growing pains of the new program, trying to get grades completed before the end of the semester.

He shared that the Jump for Heart program will be virtual this year. Group A will have their event on February 9, and Group B will be on February 12. He said he would share information as he receives it.

The school is currently working on updating student registration protocols and implementing an

online registration option. He said that the forms look 'really, really nice,' and he thanked Administrative Assistant Hannah Cole and everyone else who has helped with the new registration system.

Board Chair Pam Chapman visited the elementary school the week before the meeting. She enjoyed seeing all the kids, how they are in the classroom, and how they work. She said she was very impressed with how the students are handling wearing face masks in class. She noted that she was also impressed with the middle school classrooms. She said she is looking forward to being present for activities, like the upcoming Jump for Heart program.

During the Superintendent's Report, Superintendent Mark Pickel shared COVID-19 vaccination updates. He shared that he had received a revision of the current vaccination phases, and he reviewed some of the criteria, like age requirements, housing, and more. He said he would share more in-depth with the school board that if they would like.

Superintendent Pickel asked that the board hold a work session on February 4th to discuss the consolidated work program review. He said that the school would be conducting a review of all state and federal funds and programs. He was unsure if the review would be in-person or if it would be virtual, and he wanted to share further details at the work session.

The district has been working to improve its communication methods, focusing on cleaning up the unofficial social media accounts and providing training on how to better communicate with parents, students, and the community.

The board entered into an executive session following the first reading of three policies.











From left: Lisa Morrow, Christy House, Pam Chapman, Sarah Boudrieau, Ross Hamann

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/waitsburgschool-district/page/school-board--272

Waitsburg Celebration Days:

February 22 at 7 p.m. tinyurl.com/5e8fdhpq

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:// <u>www.columbiaco.com/114/County-</u> <u>Commissioners</u>

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

WAITSBURG SENIOR

CENTER

Meat loaf

Bread

Fruit

Cookie

504 Main Street

11 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, February 9

Vegetables (chef's choice)

Mashed potatoes

Third Wednesday of every month at 6 p.m. Zoom call information can be found at https://www.daytonsd.org/page/school**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

Columbia County Rural Library District Special Meeting—Budget workshop

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85238363787

Mass Sunday 5 p.m. 382-2311 Fr. Steve Werner Waitsburg Presbyterian Church 504 Main Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. 337-6589 Pastor Stan Hughes Waitsburg Chapel 320 W. 2nd Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. Evening Worship 6 p.m.

Bible Study

Wednesdays 7:30 p.m.

337-6235

Rev. Jimmie Daves

Waitsburg

Christian

Church

604 Main St

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School 9:00 a.m

Each Sunday

337-8898 Rev. Matthew Wyatt

DAYTON SENIOR ROUND TABLE LUNCH MENU

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

Thursday, February 4 Sloppy joes Baked beans

Coleslaw Fruit Milk

Tuesday, February 9

Beef stroganoff Pickled beets Salad Garlic bread Gelatin salad Milk



WAITSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

Starting October 5, the Waitsburg School District will only be delivering meals on Monday and Wednesday. If your student is already signed up for the meal program, the schedule will automatically adjust. If you have not signed your child up and would like to participate, you will need to submit a signed consent form to your child's school. The consent form can be found on the school's website, www.waitsburgsd.org.

Thursday, February 4 B: Long John

L: Hamburger Fries Tomatoes, Onions Pineapple

Friday, February 5 B: Biscuit & gravy

L: Quesadilla Roasted veggies Snap peas Mandarin oranges Monday, February 8 B: Eggs & bacon

L: Turkey subs Chips Cucumbers **Peaches**

Tuesday, February 9 B: Waffles L: Pork chop

Mashed potatoes Green beans & roll **Oranges**

Brought to you courtesy of Lloyd's Insurance, Inc Walla Walla (509) 525-4110

NEWS & COMMENTARY

LETTERS

CALL FOR TRANSPARENCY

Dear Editor,

The decision to fire Walla Walla Columbia County Dist. 2 Fire Chief, Michael Moynihan, should be rescinded immediately. It was made secretly in executive session at the Fire Commissioners most recent board meeting.

This amounts to character assassination despite the fact that section 5 in Moynihan's contract states that termination can take place at will, without cause for any reason, and without available grievance procedures. Even he has no explanation as to why he was dismissed. Moynihan knows his position as a Chief and how to manage the safety of his volunteers who fight the fires, and to give the best direction to control a fire, save lives, and prevent a disaster. It's a superior stance to "We've always done it this way."

A lack of transparency is apparent. These Commissioners need to work for reconciliation, build trust, and support respect for a joint fire fighting district that incorporates Columbia County and northern Walla Walla County. The concern should be for our safety and protection and not for the pride of a group of men believing they know best how to run things.

Sincerely,

Phillip & Jeanette Monfort

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Waitsburg Community,

Pastor Matt Wyatt and his wife Krystal have a new adventure ahead. How profound a contribution they have made in the life of the Christian Church and in the life of Waitsburg! They will be missed greatly. But not too fast! With their departure set for August we will still benefit greatly from their friendship and their

Stan Hughes

Pastor, Waitsburg Presbyterian Church



WWCSO

January 24

Deputies investigated a report of a hit and run and assault. Walla Walla County

January 26

WWCSO assisted the State Patrol with a collision on Highway 12. Touchet

January 28

Information report of female in what appeared to be a mental health crisis. Burbank

A juvenile was reported as a runaway and later found by the parents. Walla Walla County.

A bomb threat was received by fax at the Walla Walla Regional Airport Terminal. Walla Walla County A man was arrested for domestic assault in Waitsburg. Waitsburg

January 30

A vehicle was involved in a hit-and-run collision with property damage. Walla Walla County A female was arrested for assault, DV. Burbank

January 31

A runaway juvenile was located. Walla Walla

2020 FLOOD

Left: Last year on February 7 our communities suffered considerable flood damage. Local state, county and city governments and residents came together to help neighbors and repair damage. Though some of the damaged infrastructure has been repaired, many residents are still concerned about areas of the levees that failed during the flood, sustained further damage during the event and have not been repaired since. Anyone who has concerns should contact their local Flood Control Zone Districts

WA State Parks Commission approves Navy **Proposal**

Commission sets stronger criteria for permit approval

THE TIMES

WASHINGTON-The Washington State Parks Commission met virtually on January 28 for their regular bi-monthly meeting. In attendance were Steve Milner from Chelan, Mike Latimer from Yakima, Mark Brown from Lacey, Sophia Danenberg from Seattle, Ken Bounds from Seattle, Diana Perez from Vancouver, Cindy Whaley from Spokane, and Director Don Hock.

The commission moved to approve the U.S. Navy's proposal to conduct special operations training events at several western Washington state parks.

During the meeting, the State Parks staff presented its recommendations and the final Mitigated Determination of Nonsignificance (MDNS) for the commission to consider in deciding the Navy's proposal's outcome. The modifications included in the final MDNS and modified permit criteria reflect information staff learned from public comments solicited in the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) environmental review and testimony heard during a virtual public meeting on Jan. 26. Highlights include:

- More robust protection measures for plant species and marine and terres-
- Limiting training to nighttime hours only when parks are closed to day-use visitors.
- Further direction on avoiding Tribal cultural resources and not interfering with Tribal fishing or shellfish harvesting activities.
- Monitoring In addition to notifying State Parks before conducting training, the Navy must also notify State Park after operations have taken place to conduct site reviews with staff and provide periodic reports.

The Commission added the nighttime hour restriction as an amendment to the staff recommendation. The amendment also provides that nine months after the first permit is issued, the State Parks director will present a detailed report on permitted naval activity to the Commission. The information will include any issues that may have occurred involving park visitors and Navy personnel. The Commission approved this requested action by a 4-3 vote.

The approved amended criteria will narrow down the number of state parks in

which the Navy will be permitted to conduct training. State Parks staff will begin to issue permits in the next few weeks on a park-by-park basis, after the applying the mitigating conditions and site criteria. The mitigated conditions and criteria will ultimately determine which specific parks are permitted.

Timeline of Navy proposal/Commission action:

- February 2020 U.S. Navy submits 29 permit applications to conduct special training operations in 28 state parks in western Washington.
- February 2020 January 2021 State Parks staff conducts an environmental review of the proposal under the State Environmental Policy Act
- Dec. 22, 2020 Staff release a Mitigated Determination of Nonsignificance (MDNS) finding. The MDNS findings placed conditions on the Navy to ensure that no impacts to the environment would occur. The public was invited to comment on these findings.
- Jan. 26, 2021 The commission conducts a special virtual meeting to hear public comments about the proposal. The public comment was predominantly against the use of their state parks as military training grounds.
- Jan. 28, 2021 Final MDNS issued and Commission decision.

For more details about the Navy proposal and staff recommendations, contact Steve Brand, Partnerships and Planning, (360) 902-8651 (office), or Jessica Logan, Environmental Program Manager, (360) 902-8679.

In other business, the Commission recognized the outstanding job Director Don Hoch did this past year and how well he handled all the challenges, especially the pandemic, the agency faced throughout the year. Commissioners also wished him a happy retirement. Director Hoch retires this March.

The Washington State Parks Commission elected a new slate of officers for

Chair - Mike Latimer

Vice-Chair – Mark O. Brown

Secretary – Diana Perez

And lastly, the Commission approved agency priorities for 2021, which will be the agency's 2019-21 biennium revenues and spending reports, the 2021-23 budget, and the status of the remote 2021 legislative session.

Draft minutes from the Jan. 28 commission meeting are available online. These minutes will be reviewed and approved by the Commission at its next regular meeting on April 15.

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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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 mate-

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

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

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NEWS

Can Dayton become a boom or "Zoom" town?

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON—When offered a chance to work remotely, more and more people are moving where they choose. If the City of Dayton and the Port of Columbia play their cards right, Dayton, with its beautiful blue skies, friendly people, and green vistas, could become the next little boom, or "Zoom" town.

When the question of whether people should consider moving to Dayton was posed to Port of Columbia Executive Director Jennie Dickinson and City of Dayton Planning Director Meagan Hayes last week, the answer was a resounding "yes." Dickinson said having more people in the community would mean more dollars spent in local stores and restaurants, more students in the schools, more customers for the hospital district, and a healthier tax base for the city and county to pay for essential services.

When asked how growth can be achieved, Dickinson pointed to the need for housing to attract and retain workers, along with the need for state-of-the-art internet service. The Port is working to bring broadband to the community, and Dickinson is looking into funding opportunities.

"We can be a Zoom community for those that don't require high-speed internet as long as they have good enough service to operate a Zoom meeting. We would need better broadband to truly become a Zoom community," Dickinson said.

Hayes agrees with Dickinson about the need for growth.

"We need growth, as the city has fairly clearly indicated. We can't sustain at this pace anymore," she said.

Does Hayes think Dayton is on the verge of becoming a boomtown?

Does Hayes think Dayton is on the verge of becoming a boomtown?

"We're headed in the right direction," she said. "Anecdotally, if you look at the housing market, I would say, definitely."

Hayes is tracking realtor sites. She said one property sold for higher than the asking price two days after it was listed. Also, vacant lots are selling quickly. She said she is getting emails from people outside the area asking for information about the process for building.

People might be moving to Dayton because housing is more affordable, here.

As the prevailing wage goes up at the state level, there are historically more building starts. When homeowners look to move to new areas, developers and realtors can gain control of the market. Aggressive marketing can make a place attractive to new residents, increasing competition between home buyers and causing property values to rise steeply. Hayes said in an attractive area like Walla Walla, people end up paying double what they should.

"Do developers really want to make affordable housing, or do they want to make more money?" she asked.

One step the city is taking is through the formation of an Affordable Housing Commission.

"Affordable Housing doesn't mean low-income housing. We have low-income housing, but we are missing the middle."

housing, but we are missing the middle."

Hayes refers to housing for people who are the "glue" in any community – peo-

ple like firefighters and teachers.

She also hears from senior citizens who would like maintenance-free cottage homes, people who want quality single-family homes, and those looking for mul-

tifamily homes.

"We're just missing a lot. We have a lot of really beautiful historic homes, but that is not what everyone wants," she said.

Hayes and Affordable Housing commissioners are working to create a new digital marketing campaign platform. When completed, the website will provide developers, contractors, property owners, and realtors, with building information



Beka Comptoi

Bringing broadband connection and more affordable housing to Dayton would be key to making the Columbia County city a zoomtown.

for Dayton.

"This is for the Average Joe, who buys a lot in Dayton and what the process is for building on it," she said.

In addition, the Affordable Housing Commission is looking into everything the state allows that will help with the housing situation.

For instance, the Washington State Constitution allows cities to surplus or give away public-owned property. Recent state legislation has streamlined that process. Hayes said the Affordable Housing Commission and the Dayton Planning Commission have established a Real Estate Review Committee to review and recommend properties that could be sold as surplus or given to the city for housing. Exploring a multifamily tax exemption will be the topic of the next meeting of the Affordable Housing Commission on Feb. 9.

Hayes said the city can help builders keep costs down by reducing impact fees. In addition, development agreements can be written to include some variation in development standards.

Community Land Trusts(CLT) are another option, Hayes said. The land under new homes is held in trust. People buy only the houses, and are not burdened by the cost of the land. Homeowners can build equity, and most CLTs have provisions that keep the housing affordable for future homebuyers.

"It's not for profit," Hayes said about housing trusts. "It's for the betterment of the community."

She pointed to the seven acres of Port-owned property, west of the Blue Mountain Station.

Jennie Dickinson said while there have been no specific proposals for developing housing on the seven acres, the Port would be open to that. It is zoned Ag-residential, which means houses can be built there as long as water and sewer utilities are available

With planning, innovation, and development of desired infrastructure, the Port of Columbia is confident that Dayton will continue growth and healthy housing development.

Second \$5 utility tax increase effective January 1, 2021

The \$5 increase caught some Waitsburg residents by surprise, money to help fund flood improvement efforts

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—In July of 2020, the Waitsburg City Council voted to implement a \$10 utility tax to help fund flood recovery efforts with the increase to be implemented in two phases. The first increase of \$5 went into effect immediately after the vote. The second \$5 increase went into effect on January 1, 2021, and some Waitsburg residents have voiced questions over slightly higher utility bills this month.

At the time of the July meeting, the city estimated it would be responsible for \$450,000.00 in flood-related repair costs, representing roughly 20% of the total cost of \$1.3 million.

Before the July city council meeting, the Flood

Control Committee met and discussed three options to pay for the city's responsibility: Use of banked capacity, a \$2 million general obligation bond, or the implementation of a utility tax. The committee recommended the utility tax above the other options.

The council voted to implement the utility tax after receiving no public comment at the July 15 meeting, according to an article written by *The Times*. According to City Administrator Randy Hinchliffe, the utility tax was estimated to bring in \$15,000 in 2020 and is expected to bring in \$72,000 in 2021 with the new increase. The money will help fund continued flood improvement efforts to dikes and levees around Waitsburg.

Hinchliffe said a small portion of the riverbank near the city's waste treatment plant, missed during the initial levee repair, will need to be covered.

Flood improvement projects for 2021 include dredging the river bed below the Preston Avenue (Highway 12) bridge and re-enforcing several areas of the Coppei riverbank near the fairgrounds to prevent future washouts.

The city has budgeted \$100,000 for flood-related

expenses for 2021. Hinchliffe said he was unsure if that would cover the entire expense, stating that the nature of underwater projects like dredging the river bed can incur unforeseen costs.

Dredging the river bed would remove sediment and debris from the waterway, potentially increasing the waterway's capacity to carry water downstream.



CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

Blue Mountain Counseling has an opening for a part-time position as a Receptionist. This will be no less than 25 hours per week; maybe more depending on need. Salary: DOE/DOQ. Application and job description may be picked up at Blue Mountain Counseling, 221 E. Washington Ave., Dayton, WA 99328. Applications may be faxed to: (509) 382.1166 For questions and/or information call (509) 382.1164. E.O.E.

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT:

Waitsburg School District has immediate openings for **substitute classroom para-educators**. Other substitute position openings are substitute building secretary, substitute teachers, substitute custodians, substitute school bus drivers and substitute food service assistants.

Application materials are available online @ www.waitsburgsd. org or by calling the District Office at (509) 337-6301. Please direct questions and inquiries to Mark Pickel, Superintendent. E-mail mpickel@waitsburgsd.org.

Position is open until filled.

Waitsburg School District is an E.O.E.

Full time job opportunity job sharing responsibilities at Columbia County Commissioners office and Public Health. Must have intermediate level secretarial and receptionist skills including writing procedures and meeting minutes, social media, and web design functions. Must be able to work with public on a consistent, competent, and courteous manner. If interested email Martha_lanman@co.columbia.wa.us or Leanne_peters@co.columbia.wa.us.

Financial Manager Job Announcement

Columbia Conservation District is hiring a Full-Time Financial Manager. Position responsibility includes governmental and grant management, higher level HR functions and required reporting.

Compensation depends on qualifications and experience. Benefits include paid holidays; annual and sick leave; employer retirement contributions into state PERS; and a medical allowance.

Interested persons should submit an application packet containing the following:

Cover Letter

Current Resume (including three professional references with contact information)

Application packets will be accepted **only** via email to dn-ccd@ daytonwa.net or by mail to:

Columbia Conservation District 202 South 2nd Street

Dayton, WA 99328

All programs and services of the Columbia Conservation District are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis, without regard to age, race, color, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, or any other legally protected status under any federal, state, and local laws.

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NEWS & LEGALS

MILLRACE - FROM PAGE 1

The City of Waitsburg, is financially responsible for the design and engineering portion of the Millrace Grade Project, which is roughly 13.5% of the total cost. The remaining costs will be covered through grants from the U.S Department of Transportation and Washington State Department of Transportation. Hinchliffe estimated that the city would be responsible for roughly \$200,000.00 by the end of the project. The civil engineering firm Anderson Perry and Associates of Walla Walla provides engineering and design services for the project.

"Engineering has been more than we anticipated when we first started," Hinchliffe said. "When we first thought about the project, we thought that, within the existing right of way, we could accomplish everything."

At the Waitsburg City Council meeting in January, Hinchliffe presented the council with right of way procedure documents since it was learned that the city must acquire right of way on a small piece of property connected with the project. The Port of Columbia owns the property in question, and Hinchliffe anticipates an interagency transfer for the rights.

Once the project is complete, it would offer a safe alternate route for eastbound traffic, making replacement or repair of the Preston Avenue bridge more realistic. "In order to (repair the bridge), we need a viable bypass route," Hinchliffe said. "Once this section of road is finished, it will complete the corridor. Traffic could

then be rerouted up Garden Street, to Millrace, and back to Main."

Preston Avenue's bridge is nearly one-hundred years old and shows signs of stress, including cracks in the concrete. There was notable damage caused by large debris carried downstream during the flood event last February. Hinchliffe said the bridge is considered structurally sound by DOT standards; however, he has concerns over the bridge's narrow pedestrian walkways and whether its design can accommodate today's traffic loads.

Hinchliffe noted that the new bridge on Main Street played a role in lessening damage from the 2020 flood as it allows more water and debris to pass through compared to the old bridge. He said he was confident that flooding in Waitsburg,



Beka Compton

The informational kiosk at the former Wait's Mill site, with Millrace Road in the background. As part of the Millrace Grade Improvement Project, guardrails will be installed and the railroad crossing will be addressed.

including downtown, would have been a different story had the bridge not been replaced.

As the city completes final preparation for the Millrace Grade project, it looks forward to the completed project providing the improved infrastructure needed to address long-overdue safety concerns, greater outdoor recreation access, and replacing the Preston Avenue bridge.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE SUPERIOR **COURT OF THE STATE OF** WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY **OF WALLA WALLA**

NO. 20-2-00564-36 SUMMONS BY **PUBLICATION** RCW 4.28.110 TOMKINS-FLOWERS LLC, Plaintiff. RONALD MEI, Defendant. The State of Washington to

Ronald Mei: You are hereby summoned to appear within sixty (60) days after the date of the first publication of this summons, to wit, within sixty (60) days after January 21, 2021, and defend the above-entitled action in the above-entitled Court, and answer the complaint of the Plaintiff, and serve a copy of your answer upon the undersigned attorney for the Plaintiff, at his office below stated; and in case of your failure to do so, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demands of the complaint in this action, which has been filed with the Clerk of said Court.

The object of this action is to obtain contribution damages or restitution damages to compensate the Plaintiff for funds that the Plaintiff advanced to repair a broken sewer line shared by the Plaintiff and the Defendant. DATED this 6th day of

January, 2021. BASALT LEGAL PLLC By: Jeremy Hyndman,

WSBA #44320 61/2 N. Second, Suite 200 Walla Walla WA 99362 509-529-0630 The Times January 21, 28, February

4, 11, 18, 25, 2021 1-21-c

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA

No. 21-4-00010-36 PROBATE NOTICE TO **CREDITORS**

In Re the Estate of ELIZABETH E. FLANAGAN.

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 stated below a copy of the claim and filing of 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.

Personal Representative: CARY M. FLANAGAN Date of First Publication: January 21, 2021 /s/CARY M. FLANAGAN

Personal Representative Estate of ELIZABETH E.

FLANAGAN Attorney for the Personal Representative and address for mailing and service:

Steven C. Frol Minnick-Hayner, P.S. PO Box 1757 249 West Alder Walla Walla, WA 99362 The Times January 21, 28, February

4. 2021 1-21-d

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT **OF WASHINGTON** IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA No. 20-4-00248-36 PROBATE NOTICE TO **CREDITORS**

In Re the Estate of MARGARET A. WALTERS, 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 stated below a copy of the claim and filing of 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.

Personal Representative: JONATHAN S. WALTERS Date of First Publication: January 28, 2021 /s/ JONATHAN S. WALTERS

Personal Representative of the

Estate of MARGARET A. Attorney for the Personal

Representative and address for mailing and service: Steven C. Frol

Minnick-Hayner, P.S. P.O. Box 1757 249 West Alder Walla Walla, WA 99362 The Times January 28, February 4,

1-28-c

IN THE SUPERIOR **COURT OF THE STATE OF** WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA Case No. 21-4-00012-36

NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030) In Re the Estate of JULIA HERRERA ALANIZ,

Deceased. The Personal Representative named below has been appointed and has qualified as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must. 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 RCW 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate

and non-probate assets. Date of filing copy of Notice to Creditors: January 21, 2021 Date of First Publication: Thursday, January 28, 2021

Name: **ROZAS** SANDOVAL ALANIZ. Personal Representative R. Gary Ponti Ponti & Wernette, P.S. Attorneys at Law 103 E. Poplar Walla Walla, WA 99362 The Times

January 28, February 4, 11, 2021 1-28-d

IN THE SUPERIOR **COURT OF THE STATE OF** WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA NO: 21-4-00020-36 PROBATE NOTICE TO **CREDITORS**

RCW 11.40.030 In re the Estate of: PATRICIA ANN PORTER

LEE. Deceased.

The co-personal representatives named below have been appointed as copersonal representatives 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 co-personal representatives or the copersonal representatives' 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 RCW 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: January 28, Pegg Ann Lee Johnson,

Co-Personal Representative Susan Elizabeth Lee-

Reedy, Co-Personal

Representative Attorney for Co-Personal Representatives: Jeremy Hyndman, WSBA

Basalt Legal PLLC 61/2 N. Second Avenue. Suite 200

Walla Walla, WA 99362 509-529-0630 The Times January 28, February 4,

11, 2021 1-28-e

#44320

City of Dayton, WA **Public Notice-Dayton Planning Commission** Meeting Schedule (2021) The City of Dayton

hereby gives notice that the City of Dayton Planning Commission will meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 6:30 PM at Dayton City Hall, 111 S. 1st St. Dayton, Washington 99328 or through digital platform. Without a formal agenda and/ or a quorum, the planning commission may cancel the meeting until the following month. Special meetings may be called by the Chair as necessary and in accordance with RCW 42.30.080. For more information, please contact Meagan Hayes, Director, Planning & Community Development, 509-382-2361 or info@daytonwa.com or online at wwww.daytonwa.com

The Times February 4, 2021

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE - 2020 **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS**

Description of proposal-The proposal includes

amending the Dayton Comprehensive Plan to address the authorized Docket items per DMC Chapter 10-09. Docket 2020-01 - Zoning Map, includes administrative revisions to the boundaries. No re-rezones are proposed. Docket 2020-02 - Includes the adoption, by reference, of the **Urban Forestry Management** Plan for the City of Dayton. Location of proposal-

Dayton, Washington Lead Agency—City of

Dayton, Washington The lead agency for this proposal has determined that this project does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.450. This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request

This Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2). The City will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date of issue. Comments must be submitted by 4:00

p.m. by the closing of the comment deadline if they are intended to alter the DNS. The Responsible Official will reconsider the DNS based on timely comments and may retain, modify, or, if significant adverse impacts are likely, withdraw the DNS. If the DNS is retained, it will be final after the expiration of the comment deadline.

Responsible official— Meagan Hayes, CFM Position—Director of Planning and Community Development

Phone—509-382-2361 Email - info@daytonwa.

Comment period end date-February 12, 2021 at 4:00 pm

The Times February 4, 2021 2-4-b

REQUEST FOR LETTER OF INTEREST TO SERVE IN THE **CAPACITY OF** CITY COUNCILMEMBER FOR CITY OF DAYTON

The City of Dayton is seeking to fill the vacant position of City Councilmember for the City of Dayton. The City is a non-charter code city with a strong Mayor-Council form of government as prescribed by Chapter 35A RCW. The City Councilmember position is open to a registered voter at the time of declaration of candidacy and has been a resident of within the boundaries of the city of Dayton for a period of at least one (1) year. Interested parties shall submit a letter of interest no later than February 24, 2021. Interviews for the position shall be conducted at a regular meeting of the City

Council and are anticipated for Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. Based on current COVID-19 meeting restrictions as of the date of this notice's issuance, interviews are scheduled to be held via ZOOM. For additional information or questions contact the City of Dayton, 111 S. 1st Street, Dayton, WA 99328, (509) 382-2361 or via email at info@daytonwa.com.

The Times February 4, 11, 18, 2021

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Waitsburg Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing Wednesday, February 10, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. or soon thereafter to consider approval of an Application for a Change of Zone/Zoning Text Amendment.

Applicant: David Stark Location of Property: 127 E. 3rd Street

Assessor's Parcel No's: 370911611607

Purpose: Rezone from Commercial (C2) Residential (R1) to) is being requested in order to allow for residential habitation.

Current Zone: Commercial

All interested citizens are invited to attend the hearing virtually by calling 701-802-5221, entering meeting access number 858-672 to present evidence in favor or opposition of the request for Change of Zoning/Zoning Text Amendment. A copy of the application can be obtained by contacting the City of Waitsburg, 147 Main Street, P.O. Box 35, Waitsburg, WA 99361.

Planning Commission action may or may not include recommendation of approval of this request to the City Council.

Dated this 1st day of February, 2021 Randy Hinchliffe City Clerk The Times February 4, 2021 2-4-d



Local RN shares COVID-19 vaccine experience

Heidi Ely is excited to do her part to fight back against COVID-19

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG-Registered Nurse Heidi Ely, of Waitsburg, has recently completed both rounds of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. She said that it had given her a renewed sense of hope, and she hopes that her story as a nurse, and a mother, will ease minds.

Over the past year, Ely, who works in Providence St. Mary's Same Day Surgery department, has seen the effects of the COVID-19 virus firsthand. She watched as the medical facility needed to change protocols, often by the hour, and how the staff adapted to the changes. She stood side by side with coworkers who battled exhaustion and fatigue, covering shifts for those who fell ill or who were unable to work with infected patients.

She has seen people suffering from Post-COVID Syndrome, which causes various symptoms, including fatigue, muscle loss, difficulty sleeping, hair loss, and difficulties with taste and smell. According to the Infectious Diseases Society of America, a study of residents in Huang, China found that 76% of all study participants displayed at least one of the above symp-

Still, Ely said, initially, she had reservations about taking the vaccine, citing the relatively quick approval of the current vaccines and the fact that she is a new

"I am all for vaccines; I think everyone should be vaccinated," Ely said. "But something so new, that was absolutely terrifying to me. I didn't want to be a guinea pig.'

She spoke with an array of doctors, anesthesiologists, and other healthcare professionals before deciding on whether she would take the vaccine. She spent hours researching information from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), as she has an 11-month-old baby that is still nursing.

Although there is no data yet on the safety of the current COVID-19 vaccines in lactating women, breastfed infants, or milk production/excretion, the CDC states that Messenger RNA (mRNA) vaccines, like the COVID-19 vaccine, are not thought to be a danger to lactating individuals or nursing babies.

"I even called our pediatrician and my OBGYN, and they both said, 'even though you are breastfeeding, go for it'!" Ely shared. "I signed up for it right away, after that."

Her biggest concern regarding the possible effects on her baby is simply the hope that some of the antibodies have passed on to her daughter.

According to the CDC, there have been more than two million pediatric cases and more than 200 pediatric deaths. Still, experts believe that the case counts are lower than the real number because pediatric patients often present only mild symptoms.

Ely's baby was born last March, and she said that her family 'hardly went anywhere' to keep the baby as safe as possible.

"That was really hard on my mental health," Ely shared. "I really hope that I can share some of the protection with her, so we can get out and enjoy the small-town life that I love so much. I didn't move back to stay at home; I want to get back to parades and eating lunch with friends, and sharing that with my baby.'

The first dose was almost unnoticeable, Ely said. Her arm was sore for a little bit, but she said it was no more painful than any other vaccine she had ever received.



Courtesy Heidi Ely

RN Heidi Ely has received both doses of the Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine, and said it has given her a renewed sense of optimism.

"It was a little bit annoying, but, I mean, which shot out there doesn't give you a sore arm," she said. "You are getting a needle pushed into your muscle."

A little over two weeks later, she was eligible for round two. The second dose was a little more eventful, resulting in mild symptoms that lasted 18 hours. She likely wouldn't have experienced these symptoms had she followed all the pre-vaccination advice, said

"It was recommended to pre-medicate with Tylenol or ibuprofen around the clock. They recommended taking Tamiflu to give an immune system boost. But I didn't do any of that, and I ended up hanging out in bed for a bit," she shared. "Now, though, I am feeling great, hoping the vaccine does its job, and we can keep getting the vaccine allotments and getting the shots out to the community."

She said that she highly recommends following your doctor's advice before and after vaccination.

"I know there is a lot of pushback because it is a new vaccine; people are scared of it. But someone always had to get the vaccine first," Ely said. "How are you going to eradicate something if we aren't willing to take the first steps?"

Ely was raised in Waitsburg and moved back from Walla Walla in 2020. She said she received a lot of flak from friends when she posted her COVID-19 vaccination card on her social media. One of the frustrating things she has experienced, both before and after making the post, is the 'it's just a mild cold' mindset.

"This is a very serious thing. If you get sick, you may only have mild cold symptoms, but we don't know what the lifelong effects are; COVID-19 has only been around for a year."

Ely said that getting the vaccine was something she wanted to do to protect everyone around her, regardless of their political views, vaccine views, or opinions on the disease.

Being vaccinated has given Ely a needed boost of optimism.

"I feel like the vaccine is going to be very effective in helping push back against the disease," she said. "Every vaccine has side effects- everything you do has side effects. Does the potential for side effects really outweigh the want for taking our masks off and throwing them away, having playdates for our kids, or simply having a glass of wine with friends? Does the fear really outweigh the want to go back to normal? COVID-19 may be mild for some, but it is deadly for many. We are all in this together."

Information for nursing mothers from Harvard Health Blog, January 28, 2021

There is no virus in the mRNA vaccines. You cannot get COVID-19 or give your baby COVID-19 by being vaccinated. The components of the vaccine are not known to harm breastfed infants.

When you receive the vaccine, the small mRNA vaccine particles are used up by your muscle cells at the injection site and unlikely to get into breast milk. Any small mRNA particles that reach the breast milk would likely be digested.

When a person gets vaccinated while breastfeeding, their immune system develops antibodies that protect against COVID-19. These antibodies can be passed through breast milk to the baby. Newborns of vaccinated mothers who breastfeed can benefit from these antibodies against COVID-19.

Chat with Maude Baim: Part 2

Readers connect us with the family of Maude Baim Brown

By Mike Ferrians | THE TIMES

This past week we have received more information about the subject of last week's column: Maude (Baim) Brown. Her little autograph book, discovered in Dayton in 2019, holds a series of handwritten messages dated 1912-1923. We received a call from Marilyn Groom, of Waitsburg. Marilyn's parents, Harold and Marianne White were close friends with Rodney and Donna Belle Brown. Rodney is the late son of Maude and Homer Brown.

Maude's autograph book contains an early message from her future husband Homer:

Dear Friend,

Sailing down the stream of life in your little birch bark canoe.

May you have a pleasant journey, with just room enough for two. Your friend, Homer

Waitsburg Wash, Aug. 11, 1912

I located the resting place of Maude and Homer at Mountain View Cemetery in Walla Walla. There I learned that Homer was born in 1893 and passed away in 1967. Maude was born in 1898 and died in 1980.

This was confirmed when I was put in touch with Susan Small, Maude, and Homer's granddaughter. She and her husband, Joe, live on Valley Grove Road, the old family homestead at Dry Creek.

Homer and Maude Brown had three children Rodney, Eden, and Merry. Rodney was Susan and her twin sister Sharon's father, and he passed away in 2010. Their mother, Donna Belle, passed away in August 2020 at the age of 99. Merry Brown Smith, 88, lives in the Tri-Cities. Susan was kind enough to put me

in touch with her Aunt Merry, who helped fill in the picture of her mother, Maude (Baim) Brown. "I vaguely remember the autograph book," said Merry. "Of course, I was just a

little kid. I was born the year Rodney turned 17. We're all so pleased that it's been

found. We have no idea where it would have been or who had it. It will be so interesting to read." According to Merry, her mother was born in Umapine, an unincorporated community in Umatilla County, Oregon, south of Walla Walla. Maude and her brother, Ralph, lived with two uncles, who were farmers there. Later they moved to the Waitsburg-Huntsville area. Maude attended school in Huntsville before transfer-

ring to Waitsburg High School. By this time, Maude and Homer were good friends, having met not long before writing his note to her in February 1912. Maude was 15 years old at that time. "Mother became smitten with him," says Merry, "and was sure he was the one

she wanted to marry. But our parents were very conservative Methodists. They told her she had to wait until she was 21.' Meanwhile, Homer, who came from a poor farming family himself, quit school

after the 8th grade to help support the family farm. While still a very young man, he was given the opportunity to "prove" some land in Idaho. Merry said her father

talked about this as the loneliest time of his life, working to clear and cultivate the land without being able to see Maude.

"I have a bunch of letters my dad wrote her when he was homesteading in Idaho before they married," said Merry, who got her name because she was born late in the year, "when Mamma had Christmas on her mind."

Maude graduated from Waitsburg High School in 1916. Homer had sold his land in Idaho and moved back to Waitsburg.

"He went into business with another man at the A&B Grocery in Waitsburg," Merry says. "But he only did that for about a year, then went back to farming."

Homer and Maude were married on October 16, 1919, when Maude was 21 and Homer was 26. They bought the land at Dry Creek and built a farming life there. In 1946 came the move to Columbia County. The home they lived in is still located off Highway 12, just west of Lewis and Clark Trail State Park. For many years it was the home of the pair's daughter Eden and her husband, Phil White.

'We were all raised there," said Merry. "We all graduated from Waitsburg High School. I graduated in 1956."

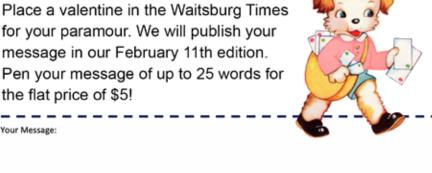
Merry says her mother, Maude, taught piano when still in high school, and later in life enjoyed working at the Waitsburg library. I was tickled by the last story Merry told me over the phone:

"When my mother was 18, her uncles bought a car. I'm pretty sure it was a Ford Model T. Of course, all they knew was horses and buggies. They didn't know how to drive. Someone had to teach them. Well, they were busy with harvest, and Maude was 18. So, they sent her to the dealer to learn how to drive it. When she got back, she taught her uncles how to drive."

Though not a traditional conversation, this connection to Maude was an unexpected and welcomed surprise.

Black and white and RED all over

for your paramour. We will publish your message in our February 11th edition. Pen your message of up to 25 words for



Mail or email your submission in by Monday, February 8th, Make checks payable to the Waitsburg Times

and send them to PO Box 97, Waitsburg, WA 99361. Or stop by our office at 216 Main St. to pay with

cash or card in person. Email advertising@waitsburgtimes.com, Office Hours: Mon-Thurs - 10-2

SPORTS & LIFESTYLES

Super Bowl LV

By Eric Umphrey | THE TIMES

his year's Super Bowl will be broadcast live on Sunday, February 7th at 6:30 E.T (3:30 p.m. local time), on CBS. The Kansas City Chiefs will travel to Tampa Bay to play the Buccaneers. This is the first time in Super Bowl history a team gets to play in their home stadium.

Kansas City is the favored team but is still dealing with a few injuries going into the championship game. The Chief's wide receiver, Sammy Watkins, is listed as questionable with a calf injury. Both wide receiver Demarcus Robinson and center Daniel Kilgore are placed on the reserve/COVID-19 list. Linebacker Willie Gay will also miss the game, having just had knee surgery. Also, offensive tackle Eric Fisher is out with a torn Achilles.

Tampa Bay lists linebacker Lavonte David as questionable with what the team is calling a slight hamstring injury. Wide receiver Antonio Brown who has been dealing with a knee injury, is also listed as questionable but is "getting close." Wide receiver Mike Evans, and safeties Antoine Winfield Jr., and Jordan Whitehead are all listed as questionable. Both safeties have missed multiple practices.



These teams played against each other in week twelve of the regular season, with Kansas City beating Tampa Bay 27-24 in Tampa Bay. Patrick Mahomes of the Chiefs had a great game going 37-49 with 462 yards passing and three touchdowns. Kansas went into halftime with a 20-7 lead.

Tom Brady started slow and threw two interceptions deep in Kansas City territory in the second quarter on back-to-back possessions. Coming back strong in the second half, Brady ended the game 27-41 with 345 yards passing with three touchdowns and the two interceptions mentioned earlier.

I'm expecting this game to come down to the quarterbacks. If this game were played anywhere else, I'd be picking Kansas City to win. However, Tom Brady at home in his tenth Super Bowl game with the better defensive team makes me think that the Buccaneers will prevail in an upset. Should the Chiefs win, it will be another first as no AFC team has ever beaten an NFC team twice in the same season



Don Sutton, Hall of Famer

By Eric Umphrey | THE TIMES

Don Sutton didn't make it into the Baseball Hall of Fame on his first try in 1994, but he finally made it in on his fifth try in 1998. Sutton was the only person inducted that year, with six others on that year's ballot. Tony Perez, Ron Santo, Jim Rice, Gary Carter, Bruce Sutter, and Bert Blyleven would go on to be inducted themselves in later years.

Except for his 1980 season when he led both leagues with an earned run average of 2.20, Sutton didn't have stand out seasons. Instead, throughout a twenty-three-year career, he kept accumulating wins. His three hundred twenty-four career wins are good for fourteenth all-time. Sutton never led the league in strikeouts, but his career total of 3,574 puts him seventh on the all-time list. The 756 games Sutton started ranks third all-time, and Sutton was also tenth all-time in shutouts ahead of fellow Hall of Famers Bob Gibson and Steve Carlton. Don Sutton still holds several Los Angeles Dodgers team records, including wins, innings pitched, shutouts and games started.

After his playing career ended in 1988, Sutton began a broadcasting career. Initially, he was covering both the Dodgers and Atlanta Braves on cable networks in 1989. Starting the following year, he became a full-time commentator for the Braves for over a decade. In later years, Sutton covered the Washington Nationals, this time for radio, before finally going back as a commentator for the Braves.

Don Sutton died on Tuesday, January 19, at his home in Rancho Mirage, Calif. He was 75.

"When you gave him the ball, you knew one thing," his former manager Tommy Lasorda once said. "Your pitcher was going to give you everything he had."



Baseball Hall of Fame

Sutton was known for his durability, never missing his turn in the rotation over 756 starts – third-most all-time behind only Cy Young and Nolan Ryan.

THE TIMES ALMOST GOES TO THE SUPER BOWL!

"My sister, Peggy E. Dorsey, is in the White Tampa Bay Buccaneers Jersey and I, Mary Lee Dorsey Bly, am in the red jersey," said Mary in a letter to the paper. The sisters were kind enough to send this photograph, taken with a copy of *The Times*, in front of the Raymond James Stadium where the 2021 Super Bowl will be played this Sunday.

"We both grew up on our Family Ranch in Prescott and attended and graduated from Prescott High School," she wrote. "Peggy now resides in Tampa, FL and I reside in Plant City, FL. Our Mom, Peggy L. Dorsey, and our late Dad, George M. Dorsey, made sure we had a subscription to the times and always had a little something from home.

"Although we will not be attending the Super Bowl it is great to be part of all the excitement of having the HomeTown team hosting and participating in the Super Bowl."



LIFESTYLES

My Field of Dreams

By Vicki Sternfeld-Rossi | THE TIMES

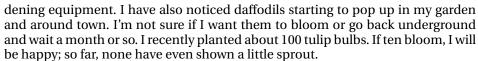
Recently I have been watching a number of sports-related movies. I'm not sure if it's because I miss going to games (baseball and basketball especially), or I'm trying to get excited about the Superbowl. But even the anticipation and hype for the clever commercials and extravagant half time show hasn't sparked my enthusiasm this year for the big game.

However, one movie, in particular, has been on my mind recently. Oddly, I admit, with some trepida-

tion, that as much as I like baseball, this isn't a movie I really like, *Field of Dreams*. But even I use the famous line from that movie: "If you build it, they will come," in some form, on various occasions.

I have decided that will be my new theme as I start to dream about spring and what our garden will look like this year. We received our first seed catalog, and so I ordered seeds. This year we don't have to build anything, but "If I order seeds, will they grow?"

Daniel and I have started to discuss, argue and plan for this coming year's planting. Looking around town, I am beginning to think we may already be behind garden prep work. My weather app indicates that later this week, the temperature will drop into the 20s overnight, so I'm having difficulty thinking spring. Yet, I see people already fertilizing and driving around town with trucks full of gar-



We have a new underground sprinkler system, so another theme: "If we water enough, will the plants grow?" Last spring, we had some very slow growing vegetables (not the zucchini), then the sprinkler system was installed, and the plants seemed much happier and more prolific.

Friends of ours used to say that Daniel and I don't have a relationship, we have a competition. And so, we will again compete. The current plan is to divide the garden into His & Hers. Daniel will cultivate the back planters with what I am sure will be an organized and systematic plan (or so he thinks). He will plant everything in neat rows and be properly labeled. Then, as they did last year, the birds, bees, and wind will plant seeds randomly around the yard. Daniel may be more organized, but I'm not sure Waitsburg gardening will cooperate.

On the other hand, I will take over the front planters and a little dirt patch on the side of the house. My plants will most likely be crowded and less organized because I welcome the random plants. I've grown to love garden surprises, especially if they're edible! We pickled many lemon cucumbers last year because a healthy plant just appeared in the yard and was quite productive. I know we didn't plant Acorn Squash, but we certainly had a garden full. And we are still picking parsley, arugula, sage, and rosemary from our garden. Most of which I planted, I'm sure.

As I write this, I am starting to get excited about spring and gardening. Of course, it's gratifying to see the beautiful flowers and eat what we've grown. But mostly, it's about winning. I know gardening isn't a sport, but another of my themes this year is "Life's a competition." I plan to win the garden game! So, let the fun begin!



Check out Waitsburg's newest shop at 101 Main Street

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—Jen Galicia, an owner of Mae B's Custom Designs, is ready to add a little bit of sparkle and a whole lot of creativity to Waitsburg's Main Street

Nestled in at 101 Main Street, Mae B's Custom Designs uses dye-sublimation printing and vinyl transfers to create custom, well, just about anything! T-shirts or sweatshirts for sporting events? Mae B's can handle it. A custom travel mug or tumbler? Just have to say if you want sparkles or not. Face masks, hats, and baby bottles are just the beginning of customizable options!

The business is capable of handling large-scale orders, too, like custom birthday supplies and wedding favors.

The business model offers more than custom design and printing; there are plans to stock and sell craft supplies soon. Galicia said she wants to add crafting events for kids and eventually to offer special

occasion craft days for all ages.

Becoming a business owner was Galicia's way to find time for herself since becoming a mother at the age of 17.

"I finally have time for me," she said. "I have found what I am good at and what I want to do, and I'm starting this all out of my pocket."

Galicia said she has been printing and designing for roughly a year. She recognized her creative side had the potential for a business after accounting school was cut short by COVID-19.

The print and design portion of Mae B's uses only half of the shop space. Galicia and her business partner, Maci Jo Lindley, have created two consignment spaces in their shop. Currently, one consignment space is filled with hand-crocheted animals and dolls, market-style bags, and more. There is one space available to rent, and Galicia said she is open to just about any business that would like to share the shop space.

Mae B's Custom Designs has a Facebook group with the same title as the business and a brand-new website, www.mae-bs-customs.business.site.

Visit Mae B's on Main Street Tuesdays, 10 a.m- 4:30 p.m, and Wednesday-Saturday, 10 a.m- 4 p.m.







Beka Compton

Mae B's Custom Designs is now open at 101 Main Street in Waitsburg.

Mugs, tumblers and t-shirts are just a few of the items that Mae B's can customize for a one-of-a-kind look.

The Space Race

An Audible original, 2019

By Lane Gwinn | THE TIMES

aving a dog who requires long and frequent walks, I have begun listening to audiobooks. Often, if the book is a good one, I continue listening after our walks. I tend to rotate the selections between historical non-fiction and Scandinavian murder mysteries.

The last book falls into the former category. The Space Race is a documentary-drama series released to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the 1969 moon landing. The ten episodes cover the space program focusing on the relationship between the Soviet Union and the United States, from competition to the eventual collaboration. It covers rocket development after WWII through current private-sector space programs.

There are many interviews with the people who were instrumental in developing both countries' space programs, including Buzz Aldrin, Gene Cernan, Sergei Krikalev, Tim Peake, and numerous key players at mission control. There are only a few women interviewed. However, they give a striking portrayal of the limitations they endured in the workplace and the pride they feel having been a part of history.

I seem to have either forgotten or never really knew that there were other astronauts besides the original Mercury 7. Mercury 13 was comprised of 13 women who went through all the same training and testing the men had. A private group, not NASA, funded them, and in 1962, NASA decided it would not include them in the astronaut program. All the women were pilots; however, NASA claimed they did not qualify for the program as they were not military jet test pilots. This meant the first woman in space was Russian cosmonaut Valentina Tereshkova.

Many other stories brought back memories I have of watching launchings, spacewalks, and the first moonwalk. That summer night in 1969, I watched the moon landing with my grandmother, born in the late 1800s. She had seen so many things discovered and invented in her life, and I was fortunate to share this moment with her.

The audiobook is not just a reading of a previously written book. It is a creation produced by Audible.com. The story is told through narration by Kate Mulgrew, the actress who played Captain Janeway from Star Trek Voyager, actual audio, original interviews, and dramatic reconstructions. The acted portions were my least favorite, hard to hear anyone impersonate Richard Nixon without thinking of Rich Little. I know that is a reference lost on anyone younger than I am. Overall, I would highly recommend this audiobook. It brings back a time when the country pulled together to make something so improbable become something commonplace.







Above: Jerrie Cobb posing next to a Mercury spaceship capsule (c. early 1960s) Cobb passed all the training exercises, ranking in the top 2% of all astronaut candidates of both genders.

Right: Buzz Aldrin on the moon, during the Apollo 11 moonlanding. Aldrin offers many of the more interesting interviews in the audiobook.

Below: Apollo 11 mission officials relax in the Launch Control Center following the successful Apollo 11 liftoff on July 16, 1969.



FUN & GAMES

LAFF-A-DAY



"I did something wrong, didn't I?"

North America Syndicate, Inc. World rights rotarved.

"The Figbys just called. ... He says they'll be late, she says they won't be."

Amber Waves









Out on a Limb







R.F.D.





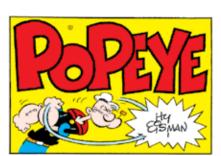
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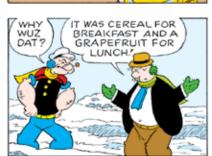


by Mike Marland

















PIONEER PORTRAITS

Ten Years Ago

February 3, 2011

The Walla Walla Sheriff's Office requests local residents' assistance in locating Adam Hermanns, whom they call "a potential witness" to last Tuesday night's fire at his parents' residence on West 2nd Street.

A group of about a dozen businesses based in Waitsburg and Dayton are creating a new organization to help promote tourism in the Touchet Valley.

Diane Dill and her son Alex didn't lose everything Saturday. Their horses were outside when the fire in the barn on Bolles Road started just before noon, and two of their four goats were saved by Brian Seagraves, who runs the cabinet shop next door.

Sometime in the last ten days, an unknown suspect broke the lock on a storage unit on Preston Avenue in Waitsburg and stole several items, including a red floor jack, a rigid snake sewer drain, Snap-On tools and toolbox, miscellaneous tool bag, air hose and tools, and a McCulloch leaf blower, for a total of \$1,400. No other units were tampered with.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

February 8, 1996

About 15 families fled their homes in Waitsburg Wednesday as the Touchet River, just east of town, overflowed its banks spilling water along the south side of Preston Avenue. Coppei Creek, like the Touchet, also was swelling due to rain and the rapid thaw of ice and snow. State highway officials closed Highway 12 at Lewis & Clark Park because water was over the highway.

Steve Chestnut, Dayton school superintendent, didn't like the word "secret" used in a *Times* story last week about football coach David Spray's resignation. The story said the school board "met in secret for 20 minutes" to consider the resignation. Chestnut said the word gave the impression the meeting was secret, while in truth, it was a closed meeting conducted under state law. The board announced in public its decision to accept the resignation.

St. Mary's Medical Center officials say construction will begin this month on a 12-station kidney dialysis center. The center should be open by mid-May.

Fifty Years Ago

February 18, 1971

Reports from the Boy Scout-Campfire drive indicate that over \$500 has been collected as a result of the Commercial Club fund drive.

The election of mayor, five councilmen, and treasurer for the City of Waitsburg has been set for April 5. The governing body of the city is a one-year term. Presently the group is composed of Roy Leid, mayor; Joseph Bodman, Joe Abbey, Gil Sharpe, King Witt, and Don Hinchliffe, councilmen; Mrs. Julia Davis, treasurer.

A carnival queen will be chosen Friday, Feb 26 at the Prescott PTA carnival from the following princesses representing the freshman; Helen Garrigan; sophomore, Phyllis Leonard; junior, Cally Curtis; and senior, Kathy Hiatt.

Seventy-Five Years Ago

February 22, 1946

Jack Sweazy finished seeding his spring wheat on Tuesday, Feb. 19, and he threatened never to patronize this office again if the story wasn't printed.

Samuel W. Southard Post No. 35 will open their new Legion Club this Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. John Romine of Walla Walla as managers.

J. W. Carson took two agriculture students to Lewiston Tuesday, where they attended a Hereford show with some of the best showmen in the Northwest attending.

One Hundred Years Ago

March 4, 1921

The first squad of four gunners to face the trapper in Sunday's Spokesman Review match shot the local club to victory, 99 out of 100 targets. J. W. Clodius, Frank Zuger, and R. R. Rinehart had perfect scores and C. J. Schiltz dropped the lone target.

A dancing party was given by Mr. and Mrs. M. Zuger at their home Tuesday evening in honor of Mrs. Lettie Roberts and Mr. Harvey Humphreys, whose marriage occurred the day following. Refreshments were served during the evening.

The Preston-Shaffer Milling Co. of this city and Athena, Ore. is just putting on the market a new biscuit flour, which they believe is the best flour for biscuits and cake purposes they have ever seen. It is called White Lily.

One Hundred Twenty-Five Years Ago

February 28, 1896

An ineffectual attempt was made to wreck the local OR & N. train running between Starbuck and Pomeroy Tuesday, and only the vigilance of the engineer saved perhaps the loss of several lives and destruction of much property.

The wife, H.A. Gardner, Walla Walla, died on Monday, leaving a devoted husband and three lovely children to mourn a loss that can pover be filled.

ly children to mourn a loss that can never be filled. Mrs. Gardner was a daughter of Hon. H. H. Hun-

Waitsburg baseball club has leased the grounds just east of the City Cemetery from Mrs. J. J. Abbey, where they have cleared and leveled and will erect a grand stand for the accommodations of spectators. They will cross bats next Saturday in Huntsville.

PUZZLES & LIFESTYLES

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- 21 Person of the hour
- 22 Bill Clinton's #2
- 23 Formalwear imparting a pleasantly optimistic
- 25 Flier Earhart 26 Tricky rascal 27 Some pipe
- shapes
- 30 Weasel's kin 31 Room. in Spanish
- 32 G-men, e.g. 33 Appropriate underwear in a law court?
- 35 Gemini, e.g. 37 Unwanted plant growth
- 38 "Oh, sure!" 39 Neckwear making people unable to move? 44 ICU tubes
- 45 Burnt residue 48 Yellow hue

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- bodies? 94 Castle trench 96 ERA or RBI **97** Sit as a model
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- 102 Verbal gems **104** 9-to-5er's relieved cry 108 Telegraphic
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- cartoon scenes? 117 Weasels 118 Looked
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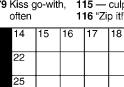
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MY RECIPES Luke Chavez

Linzer Cookie Hearts

Spread the love

have always believed that a heartfelt homemade gift outshines one mass-produced. The childhood joy of cutting and adorning perfect hearts out of brightly colored construction paper was only soured when the fear of actually giving them to my classmates set in. Thankfully, there was always plenty of candy to ease the anxiety. As an adult,



my preferred valentine has gone from glued paper to sweet treats from my kitchen. These classic cookies made with raspberries and almonds are a miniature version of the Austrian Linzer Torte. Sweet berry jam sandwiched between buttery crisp cookies with a hint of lemon makes these a refreshing option for a holiday dominated by chocolate. The almond flour gives these cookies a distinctive delicate texture and a subtle nutty note. The window cut into the top layer reveals the beautiful color below. You will need a large and small-sized cookie cutter to achieve this; see notes. Bake a batch and give them as edible valentines to your loves.

Ingredients:

12 tablespoons unsalted butter, softened

½ cup sugar Grated zest of 1 lemon 1 large egg yolk

34 cup almond flour 1/4 teaspoon fine sea salt Raspberry preserves for filling Powdered sugar for dusting

1 1/3 cups all-purpose flour

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Directions: With a mixer, beat the butter, sugar and zest until fluffy, about 3 minutes. Add the egg yolk and vanilla and mix till combined.

In another bowl, whisk together the flour, almond flour, and salt. Add the dry mix to the egg and butter mixture. Mix to combine. Divide and press into two smooth dough discs. Wrap in plastic and chill for at least one hour.

Remove the dough and let sit for 5 to 10 minutes until it is soft enough to roll. Roll out one disc at a time on a floured surface to about 1/8" thickness. Using the larger heart cookie cutter, cut out cookies. Using a metal spatula or dough scraper, carefully transfer the hearts to parchment-lined baking sheets. Gather scraps, roll, and repeat; if the dough gets too sticky or hard to work with, just put it in the fridge to chill again. Should have 10 to 15 hearts depending on the size of

Repeat the process with the second disc of dough aiming for the same number of cookies. Then cut out windows with the smaller sized heart cookie cutter. You should have an equal number of base and top cookies.

Place sheets of cookies in the refrigerator and chill for 30 minutes. At the same time, preheat the oven to 350 degrees.

Bake for 12 to 14 minutes, or until the edges are beginning to turn light brown. Start checking after 10 minutes. Let cookies cool for 5 minutes on the pan, then transfer to a rack and cool completely.

On a work surface, group all the top cookies (with cutouts) and dust with powdered sugar. Then flip bottom cookies over, so the flattest side is up and spread about ½ to 1 teaspoon of jam on each cookie. Spread the jam from the center out almost to the edge, but not all the way. Complete each sandwich by topping with a sugar-dusted top cookie.

My notes:

I used a large 3 1/2" heart cookie cutter and a small 2" heart for the cutouts. Instead of hearts, you could also try circles or squares, as long as you have a corresponding smaller size to make the cutout

If your jam is too runny, try reducing it in a small saucepan until thickened but still spreadable. You could also try using other favorite jams, strawberry, currant, plum, or even citrus marmalade.

You can make your own almond flour by finely grinding blanched almonds in a food processor.

Keep an eye on these thin cookies while they bake. Group the top cookies on the baking sheet as the cutout will give them a shorter baking time than the bottom cookies.

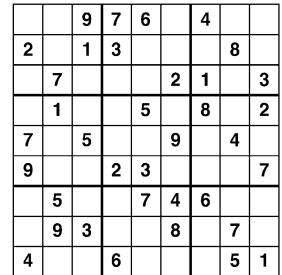
Enjoy! xoxo

Weekly **SUDOKU**

121

38 East Main Street Walla Walla (509) 529-9963

by Linda Thistle

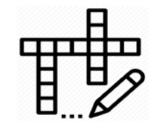


Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:

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◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!



W

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS:

Super Crossword -

Weekly SUDOKU —

Answer

Answers O|N|A|L|E|A|S|H 0 L

| C O M P U T E R W A S S T A R T I N O V A L O O P P P A W T O U P E E E M I L I O S S O N I C R E S P E C T O M A L F U N C T I O N A N D I D A I R O D B A S O R B S N N A H N H E R E I D D R I V I E L O I S E M A O R I V O Y O E I M A D E A S T R A N G E S M E L L B R E S T R A N G E S M E L L B R E S T N A H U M M I N G N O I S E W H A S D O N A H U E N N O O S E U R S U L S M I G H T Y O U S A Y H A P P E N E D S T R E P N I D L A T E N O V E T | W | Η | Ε | N | Α. | N | 0 | L | D | W | | N | D | 0 | W | S | | Ε | L | L | Α |
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THE LAST PAGE

DiscoveryPlus streaming service offers exclusives, never-before-seen episodes

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

DiscoveryPlus is the latest network-specific streaming service that the world of television has to offer, and it is as great as it sounds.

Whether you love drama, crime, or cooking shows, DiscoveryPlus has you covered. Popular channels like HGTV, TLC, Food Network, and Animal Planet and their more than 55,000 episodes are available on-demand, with prices starting as low as \$4.99 per month after a free seven-day trial. If you're a Verizon customer, check out your MyVerizon account and get the first six months for free (after that, you are charged \$6.99/month for the commercial-free version).

If you already subscribe to services like Hulu or have cable TV and do not want to subscribe to a new service, don't worry; it is unlikely that Discovery and their associated channels will pull all of their content from the other services. However, the app does offer some exclusive shows, like Worst Cooks in America: Dirty Dishes, which is basically comedians reacting to some of the most cringe-worthy kitchen situations. Easy to watch, and usually makes me feel better about my own kitchen oops'.

The app is available on many streaming platforms: Amazon Fire TV and Amazon Fire streaming services, Roku, Apple products (including Apple TV), Xbox One, Google and Android-powered devices, and will be available on Amazon Prime soon, though a date hasn't been announced.

Unfortunately, if you have a Vizio TV or a Playstation system, you'll have to download the app on your phone, cast your favorite shows on your TV or watch them on a small screen, which can be a bit annoying. We have a Vizio TV in our entertainment room, and I have found casting more annoying than most of the



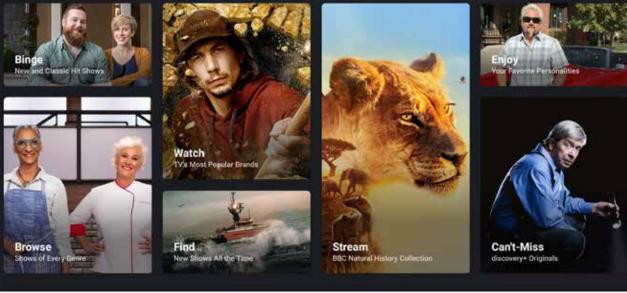






Photo by Jason DeCrow, Telvision Food Network

Bottom left: Anne Burrell and Carla Hall are the hosts who put the contestants through a tough but funny boot camp on *Worst Cooks in America: Dirty Dishes*.

Bottom right: Comedian Nicole Sullivan wrestling with her dish.

shows are worth.

So far, I have gone almost an entire weekend with 90 Day Fiance, exclusive behind-the-scenes specials, and Before 90 Days stories without a single episode repeating. I've also discovered the hilarious Slaton sisters, Tammy and Amy, who share their extreme weight loss journeys on 1,000 Pound Sisters- which I have become oddly invested in.

Overall, the service is excellent. Discovery and all of their associated channels have done a fantastic job thinking up stories and creative ways to film them during the pandemic—lots of Zooms involved! While there are a few minor hiccups that are being fixed, it has earned my recommendation!

