



Ray Compton

The City of Dayton, including the Dayton School District athletic field, slowly disappeared under a heavy blanket of haze last Friday. Smoke from dozens of wildfires across the Northwest continues to impact the Walla Walla and Touchet Valleys' air quality, an air quality advisory was extended through Friday, September 18.

Starbuck School District is open and prepared

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

STARBUCK—The town of Starbuck, nestled between Hwy. 12 and Lyons Ferry Marina, northeast of Dayton, has a small school district serving forty students.

All of the District's students, except for three who are distance learning, are being taught in real-time, since school began on Aug. 25.

Luann Truesdale, the office administrator, spoke of all the work that has gone into preparing the school to meet COVID-19 requirements for returning students.

She said "bubblers" were disconnected from drinking fountains and faucets, and faucets, soap, and towel dispensers were retrofitted to touchless systems.

Thermometers, disposable gloves, face masks, and face shields for a few of the students who are medically exempt from wearing face masks, were purchased, and hand sanitizer is in use everywhere.

All classrooms and school buses are disinfected every day.

"People don't realize how much this costs," Truesdale pointed out.

She said to meet social distancing requirements in the Kindergarten classroom the District had to buy new desks, at a cost between \$3,000 and \$4,000 for each.

She said Columbia County Health Department provided lanyards for students to clip to their face masks, but they were too long for the younger kids, and the District ended up buying pacifier hooks.

The District is also short of Google Chromebooks, Truesdale said. They cost \$300 each with an additional \$75 licensing fee each. The District still needs fifteen, which are on backorder.

The lack of reliable internet connectivity is an issue for some of the students who are distance learning.

Superintendent Kevin Graffis said one family lives seven miles out of town where connectivity is an issue. The District is working on getting the family set up with a hotspot to use at home.

The District has spent approximately \$18,000 on COVID-19 preparations and is waiting to receive all of the \$12,000 in allocated state funding.

Graffis said the District's current budget projects over the next four years, and while the forecast is good for this year and into the next, there could be budget problems midway through 2021.

The Starbuck School District doesn't run a levy, Graffis said that might need to be considered at some point.



Michele Smith

Starbuck School District teacher Amanda Wade discussing the day's weather with her Kindergarten class. New desks were purchased by the District to comply with state requirements for social distancing.

Northwest fires create hazardous air conditions

A massive smoke cloud covered Washington with heavy smoke over the weekend

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

A super massive cloud of smoke blanketed parts of the Pacific Northwest over the weekend, leaving many areas in the 'hazardous' air quality range. Fires are still raging across Washington, Oregon, and California, creating a plume that meteorologists expect to hang around for a while.

The fire season has been fueled by an unusually dry, hot summer, with the last measurable rain dating back to July, which measured less than a tenth of an inch in Dayton.

More than a dozen fires still burn across Eastern Washington as of Tuesday.

The Babb-Malden and Manning Fires, which devastated the Malden and Pine City communities, has scorched over 18,000 acres as of Tuesday. The Manning Fire, the smaller of the two, is 90 percent contained. Babb-Malden, the larger of the two fires, is less than 50 percent contained. Both fires remain under investigation.

The Whitney Fire, burning in Lincoln County, has burned more than 125,000 acres and is 65 percent contained. A cold front expected for this week could bring rain that would help fight the blaze and give residents and firefighters a break from the heavy smoke. As of Tuesday, September 15, there has still been no rain and little relief from the smoke.

The Cold Springs and Pearl Hill fires, which started September 6 near Okanogan and Bridgeport respectively, have burned nearly half a million acres between them. The Cold Springs Fire is approximately halfway contained, and the Pearl Hill fire is mostly contained.

A fire caused by lightning broke out in the Umatilla National Forest in August, approximately 20 miles south of Pomeroy. The fire was within the 2006 Columbia Complex scar and is expected to be fully contained by September 25. No structures are involved, and the fire activity is minimal. Fire line construction and suppression repair work continues, and temporary road, trail, and area closures surrounding the fire remain in effect. Forest service road (FSR) 47 and FSR 4620 are open to the Little Tucannon Bridge. FSR 47 remains closed from the bridge up to the intersection with FSR 4712 and FSR 4713, which both remain closed.

To stay up to date with fires in the Northwest, visit www.inciweb.nwccg.gov.

Air quality levels in Walla Walla and Columbia Counties continue to bounce back and forth between 'very unhealthy' and 'hazardous.' Health officials are urging folks to remain indoors unless necessary- something we are a little too used to this year. As of Monday, Walla Walla's air quality sat at 324 (hazardous), and Dayton was at 201 (very unhealthy), according to the Department of Ecology.

Wildfire smoke is particularly problematic for those with lung diseases such as COPD or asthma, and people with active respiratory infections like acute bronchitis. Those suffering from heart or circulatory problems like dysrhythmias, congestive heart failure, and coronary heart disease, as well as those with a prior history of stroke or heart attack, are likely to have health problems from breathing smoke. Children under the age of 18 are at risk of health problems with heavy smoke cover

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TOUCHET VALLEY LIFE

NEWS BRIEFS

THE CLUB RESUMES IN-PERSON PROGRAMS SEPTEMBER 28

THE TIMES

DAYTON—After monitoring the opening of Dayton schools using face-to-face learning, The Club's Board of Directors voted to resume in-person programs on September 28, 2020. The Club currently offers virtual programs and weekly activity boxes delivered to members.

"All indications are that things are going smoothly at Dayton schools", said Jim Pearson, Director of The Club. "In coordination with the school, we believe we can open safely and provide some meaningful activities and engagement to the community's youth".

Initially, the program will be limited to students in grades K-5. This is to ensure that The Club has staff to accommodate daily attendees as well as limiting potential exposure among students. The Club intends to resume offering additional after-hours activities for middle and high school students when the limits on gatherings are reduced to a safer level.

"Logistically, this will be very challenging for us", continued Pearson. "We have recently lost a few staff for various reasons, but I am confident we will find qualified people to fill those vacant positions in time to meet the deadline we have set for ourselves. In addition to staffing, there are also a number of health and safety guidelines to which we have to adapt. This will result in our programs looking a bit different than the kids are used to. For instance, kids will be separated into small, similarly-aged groups, and they will remain within their groups for the duration".

Programs will be offered from 3 - 6pm on school days, and 12:30 - 6pm on early release days. As in years past, Dayton School District will be providing a bus from school to The Club.

Due to the logistical obstacles presented by offering a program under the current circumstances, space is limited. Parents and guardians are encouraged to enroll students as soon as possible to avoid being placed on a waiting list. Students can be enrolled by visiting www.theclubdayton.org/applications.

SECRETARY OF STATE: REGISTERED VOTERS IN WASHINGTON DO NOT NEED TO REQUEST A MAIL-IN BALLOT

THE TIMES

OLYMPIA—Washington state voters may soon receive a postcard from the U.S. Postal Service encouraging voters to "plan ahead" for the Nov. 3 General Election. Among the recommendations is to request a mail-in or absentee ballot at least 15 days before Election Day.

The following is a statement by the Office of the Secretary of State in response to the "If you plan to vote by mail, plan ahead." postcard.

"Voters in Washington do not need to request a ballot, as ballots are automatically mailed to all registered voters at least 18 days prior to Election Day. There is no need to sign up or request to receive a mail-in ballot to vote in the upcoming election," said Secretary of State Kim Wyman. "Voters who are unsure if they are registered or if their address on file is current can log in to VoteWA.gov to confirm their registration information.

"The Office of the Secretary of State and county election officials were not made aware this mailer would be sent to Washington residents, nor were we apprised of its content. By the time we learned of the mailer and reached out to the postal service to inquire further, the mailers were already in the mail stream."

Secretary Wyman recommends Washingtonians visit sos.wa.gov/elections for more information about election dates and deadlines, and how to locate a county elections office if they have any questions or concerns.

The 2020 General Election is Nov. 3

GOV. INSLEE TOURS WILDFIRE DAMAGE ACROSS WASHINGTON

THE TIMES

More than 629,000 acres have been consumed by wildfire in Washington state since Monday. Washington, along with Oregon and California, is experiencing some of the largest fires in their states' respective histories in just the last week.

Gov. Jay Inslee issued a proclamation Thursday in response to damage from several wildfires across the state. The proclamation will help families and individuals impacted by wildfires with cash assistance for immediate needs.

The assistance provided through DSHS' Family Emergency Assistance Program has also been expanded to serve individuals and waive the one-time distribution limitation. Details on how to obtain assistance will be posted on the Washington Connection website soon. Wildfire victims can also contact their local emergency management officials about applying for the program.

"For families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and now the devastating wildfires ravaging our state, funding from the Family Emergency Assistance Program can be, quite literally, a lifesaver," Inslee said. "The state will continue to look for ways to support communities as we work together to recover from multiple economic and health emergencies."



Courtesy photo

Gov. Jay Inslee toured fire damage this week in Pierce and Whitman counties as wildfires around the state set historic records for acres burned in just five days.

Touchet Valley Weather

Sept. 16, 2020

Waitsburg's Seven Day Forecast

Wednesday Mostly Sunny Areas of Smoke High: 77 Low: 58	Thursday Mostly Sunny Areas of Smoke High: 79 Low: 56	Friday Few Showers High: 77 Low: 53	Saturday Partly Cloudy Areas of Smoke High: 74 Low: 50	Sunday Sunny High: 77 Low: 51	Monday Sunny High: 80 Low: 53	Tuesday Sunny High: 73 Low: 48

Weather Trivia

A F-1 tornado has wind speeds of? **?**
Answer: 73 to 112 mph.

Local Almanac Last Week

Day	High	Low	Normals	Precip	Precipitation
Tuesday	76	45	81/55	0.00"	0.00"
Wednesday	83	44	81/55	0.00"	0.15"
Thursday	86	52	80/54	0.00"	-0.15"
Friday	86	56	80/54	0.00"	67.1°
Saturday	80	59	80/54	0.00"	67.1°
Sunday	77	59	79/54	0.00"	0.0°
Monday	79	57	79/53	0.00"	

Data as reported from Walla Walla

Weather History

Sept. 16, 1989 - Showers and thunderstorms, representing what remained of Hurricane Octave, brought locally heavy rains to California, impeding the drying process for raisins and other crops. Sacramento, Calif. was soaked with 1.53 inches of rain in six hours.

Sun/Moon Chart This Week

	Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset	
New 9/17	Wednesday	6:33 a.m.	7:01 p.m.	5:16 a.m.	7:12 p.m.	Full 10/1
	Thursday	6:34 a.m.	6:59 p.m.	6:37 a.m.	7:38 p.m.	
	Friday	6:35 a.m.	6:57 p.m.	7:58 a.m.	8:04 p.m.	
	Saturday	6:37 a.m.	6:55 p.m.	9:20 a.m.	8:30 p.m.	
	Sunday	6:38 a.m.	6:53 p.m.	10:41 a.m.	9:00 p.m.	
First 9/23	Monday	6:39 a.m.	6:51 p.m.	12:00 p.m.	9:34 p.m.	Last 10/9
	Tuesday	6:40 a.m.	6:49 p.m.	1:16 p.m.	10:14 p.m.	

The Times

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The Times

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FRIENDS OF THE DAYTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOOK SALE SCHEDULED OCT. 2-4

DAYTON—The Friends of the Dayton Memorial Library will be hosting a book sale on October 2-4 at 250 Main Street. All proceeds go to the Friends of the Library to support future library programs. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, a limit of ten customers will be allowed in the building at one time, and masks and distancing will be required.

Get ready to read and pick out a book or two on Friday, October 2 and Saturday, October 3, from 9 a.m.- 6 p.m. Sunday, October 4, the sale will be open from 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

INSLEE UPDATES INDOOR FITNESS AND TRAINING FACILITY GUIDANCE

Gov. Jay Inslee today announced updated guidance for indoor fitness and training facilities as part of Washington's Safe Start phased reopening plan.

Effective today, indoor fitness and training facilities are allowed to operate in Modified Phase 1 counties under Phase 2 guidance. This means that facilities like gyms, yoga studios, and indoor sports facilities can open for personal fitness and training, group fitness classes, and practice for certain low- and medium-contact sports. Occupancy is limited to ensure proper physical distancing, and masks are required.

"As the seasons change and outdoor options for fitness and training becomes less accessible, it is important for Washingtonians across our state to have access to facilities where they can safely exercise indoors," Inslee said. "I want to thank the many facilities around the state, and the fitness instructors that have been operating and teaching safely under this guidance."

"This is great news for the health of our community and our organization," said Bob Romero, executive director of Yakima Family YMCA. "We are excited and grateful to have the opportunity to implement the Phase 2 protocols to protect our members while they pursue improved health and well-being."

"The Washington Fitness Alliance is very grateful for the engagement from the governor's policy advisors and their willingness to include us in the process. Their effort to gain an understanding of health and fitness operations has enabled changes to guidance that allows members to safely work out indoors in controlled environments," said Blair McHaney, chairman and president of the Washington Fitness Alliance. "With the poor air quality from the forest fires and the changing weather, fitness centers become a critical resource for maintaining health."

Find a full list of current reopening guidance <https://tinyurl.com/y9627llu>

TOUCHET VALLEY LIFE

Local firefighters happily accept cookie donation

Cases of Samoas are enough to make any volunteer smile

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—How do you make tired volunteer firefighters smile in the middle of one of the worst fire seasons on record? If you ask the local Girl Scouts, it is as easy as donating a few cases of cookies.

Columbia-Walla Walla County Fire District 2 happily accepted a generous donation of twelve cases of Girl Scout cookies last week, as a 'gift of caring through the council.'

While donating leftover cookies is a normal thing, according to troop leaders Brandi Hollingsworth and Amber Lambert, the COVID-19 pandemic took an exceptional toll on cookie sales, leaving the Scouts with an abnormal amount of leftover treats. This year, there were 324 cases of cookies left at the end of the sale season.

The donation to the fire station in Waitsburg was the first of 24 stops from Walla Walla to Dayton. Typically, the unsold cookies are saved for locations that allow booth sales, but during the pandemic, on-site booth sales have been restricted across the nation. The Girls Scouts decided to give back to fire departments, emergency responders, and the few locations that allowed the girls to set up their booths before COVID-19 restrictions. Nursing homes and aging facilities were

among the list of recipients, as well.

Girl Scout Troop 5384, Service Unit 492, which covers Walla Walla and Columbia Counties, was represented by troopers Jessika Lambert, Lilli Carpenter, and Alyssa Hollingsworth, who passed out cases of Samoas, Thin Mints, and Do-si-do's, to name a few. The firefighters and EMTs, outside the Waitsburg fire station, joked about who got what and saved the serious negotiations until the girls left.

"Thank you for all you do," said Girl Scout Alyssa Hollingsworth in a short speech. "We really appreciate it." The scouts and troop leaders shared some of their favorite ways to eat the cookies, like a Thin Mint milkshake, before heading out for the evening.



Courtesy photo

Girl Scouts Lilli Carpenter, Alyssa Hollingsworth, and Jessika Lambert dropped off twelve cases of coveted Girl Scout Cookies at the fire station last week. It was a sweet way to say 'thank you' to the first responders of the Columbia-Walla Walla County Fire District 2.

COVID-19 activity declining in Washington state with the help of face coverings and distancing

THE TIMES

OLYMPIA—Today, the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) released the latest statewide situation report, which reflects an overall decline in COVID-19 activity as of late August. The report also highlights encouraging signs that keeping our distance, limiting gathering size, and wearing face coverings are working to slow the spread of the disease.

Report findings include:

The reproductive number (how many new people each COVID-19 patient will infect) was close to one in western Washington and above one in eastern Washington as of August 28. The best estimate of the reproductive number at that time was 0.86 in western Washington and 1.22 in eastern Washington. The goal is a number well below one, which would mean COVID-19 transmission is declining.

We're seeing decreases in case counts in both eastern and western Washington since the start of August. These decreases are occurring across all age groups. We are starting to see similar trends in hospitalizations and deaths, which take longer to reflect

changing levels of disease activity than case counts.

Whitman County is a notable exception, with a sharp spike in cases starting August 19. While many of these cases are linked to an outbreak among young adults, we may see a repeat of previous patterns where increased disease activity among younger populations starts to spread into older and more vulnerable groups.

Patterns of decline look different from county to county. The report compares trends in Yakima county, which has seen steady declines since a peak in early June; Benton and Franklin counties, where initial declines after similar outbreaks have plateaued and transmission may be increasing; and King County, where cases have been decreasing steadily since early July.

People are interacting more safely than earlier in the pandemic, and it's making a difference. The report includes a model that isolates the effect of mobility changes from non-mobility related changes on COVID-19 transmission. The comparison suggests that while we are more mobile than we were in April, we are interacting more safely—taking precautions

like wearing face coverings, restricting gathering size, and keeping high-risk environments closed. We must continue these precautions to keep transmission decreasing.

"While we see some encouraging trends in case counts, the risk remains extremely high throughout the state," said Secretary of Health John Wiesman.

"The situation in Whitman County illustrates just how quickly an outbreak can wipe out our progress toward keeping case counts low. It is still critical that we limit the size and frequency of our in-person gatherings, wear face coverings, and stay home when we are sick."

DOH partners with the Institute for Disease Modeling, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, University of Washington, and the Microsoft AI for Health program to develop this weekly report. More COVID-19 data can be found on the DOH website and in the state's risk assessment dashboard.

The DOH website is your source for a healthy dose of information. Follow DOH on Facebook and on Twitter. Sign up for the DOH blog, Public Health Connection.

First confirmed cases of West Nile Virus reported in Washington

THE TIMES

OLYMPIA/YAKIMA—The first two cases of West Nile virus (WNV) in Washington this year have been reported by the Yakima County Health District and Benton-Franklin Health District. The Yakima County resident, a man in his 50's, was hospitalized due to the infection. The Benton County resident, a man in his 60's, was not hospitalized.

WNV can be a serious, even fatal illness. It can affect people, horses, birds, and other animals. WNV is almost always spread to people by the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes become infected after feeding on birds that carry the virus. There is no evidence that WNV spreads through direct contact with infected people or animals. The majority of people infected with WNV do not get sick. About one in five will develop a fever or other symptoms that go away without medical treatment. Even fewer, approximately one in 150 people infected will have more severe symptoms.

Severe symptoms may include headache, high fever, neck stiffness, stupor, disorientation, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness, paralysis, and coma. If you have any of these symptoms, contact your healthcare provider right away.

Health officials advise people to take action to avoid mosquito bites:

- Use an effective, EPA-registered insect repellent listed at <https://tinyurl.com/y3kmj9dz>.
- Cover up: Wear long sleeves, long pants, and socks when out-

doors.

- Avoid the prime time for mosquito activity. Many mosquitoes bite in the evening between dusk and dawn. Take extra care to use repellent and protective clothing during evening and morning hours.
- Mosquito-proof your home by installing or repairing screens on windows and doors to keep mosquitoes outside.
- Reduce mosquito-breeding areas around your home by emptying standing water from flowerpots, gutters, buckets, pool covers, pet water dishes, discarded tires, and bird-baths regularly.



"Spending time outdoors can help with social distancing to prevent COVID-19, but it can also put you at risk for mosquito-borne disease," said epidemiologist Hanna Oltean. "People throughout Washington should take precautions to prevent mosquito bites."

WNV has been detected this summer in mosquitoes found in Yakima, Benton, and Franklin counties. Historically, counties across Washington have been affected, although the risk is generally highest in Eastern Washington. WNV season starts as early as July and can last until early October.

The DOH website, <https://www.doh.wa.gov>, is your source for a healthy dose of information. Find us on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/WADepthHealth/>, and Twitter, <https://twitter.com/wadepthhealth>. Sign up for the DOH blog, Public Health Connection, at <https://medium.com/wadepthhealth>.

DAYTON SENIOR ROUND TABLE LUNCH MENU

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

Thursday, September 17

Roast beef w/gravy
Mashed potatoes
Broccoli salad
Roll
Gelatin, milk

Tuesday, September 22

Fried chicken
Mac salad
Carrots
Salad, roll
Peach cobbler, milk

WAITSBURG SENIOR CENTER

504 Main Street
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Tuesday, September 22

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

WAITSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT MEAL DELIVERIES

Starting September 8, Waitsburg School District will resume home meal deliveries for students. Staff will deliver meals Monday-Thursday. To sign up for meal deliveries, families must submit a Consent for Meal Deliveries form, and return it to Susan Wildey, Director of Nutritional Services. Susan can be reached at swildey@waitsburgsd.org.

The consent form can be found on the school's website, www.waitsburgsd.org.

Church Directory

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

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



LETTERS

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

I'm writing to endorse Mike Mitchell for Superior Court Judge Position 1. Though I retired from the practice of law about four years ago, prior thereto I had a number of cases over the years where Mike was on the other side. Hence, I can tell you from my own experience that Mike is a first-class lawyer and will make a first-class judge.

Mike's knowledge of the law is unsurpassed. He has handled all variety of cases including criminal (both as a prosecutor and as a defense attorney); civil (including domestic, personal injury, estates, probate, real estate, and business litigation); juvenile and dependencies. Mike has also served as a mediator and an arbitrator in complex divorce cases.

Additionally, Mike already has had a great deal of experience deciding cases from behind the bench. He currently serves as a Superior Court Commissioner, a position he has held for eight years, and as a Superior Court Judge Pro Tem. The fact that he has held these positions demonstrates the high esteem in which he is held by our sitting Superior Court Judges.

Mike also has the right temperament to be a Superior Court Judge. According to the American Bar association, judicial temperament means that a judge exhibits "compassion, decisiveness, open-mindedness, sensitivity, courtesy, patience, freedom from bias and commitment to equal justice." Mike possesses all of these attributes.

Finally, the other thing that I like about Mike is that you can always take him at his word. He is as honest as the day is long. I urge all to vote for Mike on November 3. He will make an outstanding Superior Court Judge.

Charles Phillips

WWCSO

September 10

Weapons violations, suspect placed traps in residence temporarily vacated, E. Hwy 12., Waitsburg.

September 11

Theft, report of stolen credit card and attempted usage, Power Line Rd, Walla Walla Co.

Theft, leaf blower stolen, Coppei/Preston Ave., Waitsburg

September 12

Burglary, tools stolen from a business shop on Campbell Rd., Walla Walla

Reader photo



Jule Keller

Before the smoke settled last Friday, Waitsburg-resident Jule Keller headed out to mow her lawn, but stopped when she heard 'Amazing Grace' being performed by Wyatt Bohlman on his trumpet. The song was a nod to those lost in the attacks on 9/11/2001.

Keller writes:

'At around 11 a.m. this morning I was going to mow my lawn but stopped because I heard my neighbor's son playing Amazing Grace on his trumpet to honor those lost on this day in 2001.

I did not start my lawn mower and just stood to listen to his tribute.

This young man, Wyatt Bohlman, is a 2020 graduate from Waitsburg High School and likely doesn't have any memory of the events that unfolded on this day 19 years ago, but he respectfully honored those lost at approximately the same time as the last tower fell.

I would like to thank this young man for sharing his respect and tribute with our neighborhood.'

BIRTHDAYS

Sept. 17: Gustavo Reese, Tom Duckworth, Elizabeth Alleman, Mindy Eaton, Nathan Hansen, Nathan Hamann.

Sept. 18: Ashley Wilson, Jeff Pietila, Rob McKinney, Naomi Davis, Eric Laughery, Clinton Davidson, Annika Garbe.

Sept. 19: Teighan Anderson, Tom Wagner, Kelly Price, Robbie Ezell, Marina Huff, Paul Hall.

Sept. 20: Owen Senter, Rhonda Newbury, Monte Duncan, Robyn Dunleavy, Alex Solis.

Sept. 21: Bob Rabern, Kenneth Crawford, Fred R. Gritman, Diana Larsen.

Sept. 22: Marty Dunn, Phyllis Rubel, Cheryl Hansen, Marie Gagnon, Misty Nix, Lynn Rohlfling, Kyle Sickles, Dale Holloway, Matt Stoutenburg, Dorothy Rude.

Sept. 23: Kathryn Greenwell, Jim Langdon, David Johnson, Gregory Liebermann, Brad Green, Jayden Dunleavy.



FREE LEGAL ADVICE WEEK BEGINS SEPT. 21

THE TIMES

Washington Lawyers for the Arts (WLA) announces Legal Advice Week (LAW) for September. This week-long, pro bono telephone clinic offers artists and art organizations throughout Washington state a chance to connect with lawyers and get 30 minutes of free advice related to their legal issues.

WLA's LAW in September starts on the 21st and goes through the week. The telephone legal clinic is replacing WLA's monthly in-person clinics for the foreseeable future.

Legal issues must relate to an artistic discipline. Still, they can cover a wide range of areas such as copyright, trademark, publicity rights, licensing, fair use, business formation, and contract review.

Legal issues involving employment, patents, criminal, tax, and family law are not appropriate for WLA LAW.

Washington Lawyers for the Arts, founded in 1976 as a nonprofit service organization, is dedicated to supporting the arts in Washington state by creating alliances and making legal resources accessible to artists and arts organizations of all disciplines.

WLA will continue to offer attorney referrals for artists and arts organizations seeking legal advice beyond a 30-minute appointment. Fee arrangements are left to each client and attorney.

To sign up for a free consultation or to volunteer, interested parties can fill out an application available on their site, www.thewla.org, and provide preferable days and time blocks during the week of Sept 21-25 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Times

A PROUD TRADITION

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

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

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

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

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

Reader's Forum

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

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

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

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Nancy's Dream has moved

Just two blocks from Main Street, the garden center is ready to grow even more

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—Nancy's Dream Garden Center has moved closer to main Main Street. Owner/operators Janet Lawrence and Doug Biolo said the move has been great for business, with a new surprising customer base picking up.

At the new address, 124 Warren Street, the brother-sister duo now have room to grow Nancy's Dream bigger than they ever imagined. The former site had just enough room for a single greenhouse and an outdoor display, but limited parking, especially for semi-trucks, was a problem. The new location has already doubled the greenhouse space, added more retail space, and includes a wide selection of mulch and bark for basic landscaping.

The new location still has a few final touches that Biolo and Lawrence plan to add over the next couple of years. Another greenhouse will be going in, with hopes of finding a local grower to utilize the space.

"Having our own grower on-site really boosts inventory," Lawrence said. "We know exactly what we have at all times." Biolo went on to explain that they have a grower from Dayton in mind, but nothing has been finalized yet.

The landscaping is still underway utilizing plants that grow well in the area, so customers can see how plants could look in their yards.

Over the next couple of years, Biolo and Lawrence plan on adding a bicyclist rest stop and a few tiny cabins for short-term rentals, but those plans are still in the making. The duo is keeping their newest customer group, truckers, in mind as well, hoping to add showers and a rest area that can accommodate the big rigs.

"We've had a lot of trucks and big rigs stop since we've moved," Lawrence said. "This location makes it easier for trucks and trailers to park. We just didn't have that space before."

The edge of the property runs along W 2nd Street, which is also State Route 124 and a popular truck route. Lawrence and Biolo are pleasantly surprised with the increase of visitors 'passing through' and stopping at the garden center for the first time.

Though many things have changed, many will remain the same. The garden center will again help pick and sell pumpkins for the annual Schultke Family Fundraiser, just in time for Halloween. For more than 12 years, the Schultke family, of Walla Walla, has been selling pumpkins to raise money for the Ronald McDonald House in memory of their son, Cooper, who passed in 2002 after a valiant fight against a brain tumor. Those pumpkins should be available by the beginning of October. The garden center will also have Christmas trees closer to winter.

Biolo and Lawrence both said they could not thank the community enough for all of their support, as they continue to grow a dream that is near and dear to them. Visit the garden center for a wide selection of annuals, perennials, succulents and houseplants, trees, and basic landscaping needs.



Beka Compton

Mark Leroue, Doug Biolo and Janet Lawrence (and Zeus the pup) are ready to help with your gardening needs at the new Nancy's Dream Garden Center, 124 Warren Street.

News from the Dayton Chamber of Commerce

Brix and Brew will be virtual

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON—Dayton is becoming a magnet for people who are attracted to the rural lifestyle.

Dayton Chamber of Commerce Manager Molly Weatherill-Tate said a couple from Colorado recently moved to Dayton, and a man from western Oregon is thinking about moving to Dayton when he retires. Another family moved to Dayton sooner than they had planned to, because of the COVID-19 situation, and she has sent relocation packages as far away as Missouri, California, and Texas.

"People generally seem to be attracted to the rural way of life and getting away from the hustle-bustle of cities," she said. "Our recreational opportunities also seem to be a big draw."

Weatherill-Tate has had more than the usual number of requests about rental property.

The Chamber is in full planning mode for its biggest yearly fundraiser, Brix and Brew.

Weatherill-Tate said Brix and Brew: Home Edition will be held on Nov. 6. The event will be virtual, similar to the Dayton Historic Depot, fundraiser, Evening NOT at the Depot.

An online auction will start a week or so before the event, with a number of packages auctioned off during the program. Participants will be able to register to bid on items online, and tickets to the program will also be sold online.

Weatherill-Tate said more information would be released in a few weeks.

Donations may be made to her at the Chamber by visiting the office at 166 East Main Street, or by phone at (509) 382-4825.



Michele Smith

Pacific Power lineman, Doug Hines, hung "Think Local" campaign banners along Dayton's Main Street at the end of last week. Each of the 44 banners features a verb, plus the word "local," representing the many opportunities Dayton and the local area offer. The banners were paid for by the Dayton Development Task Force featuring the photography of Ray Brown, Brian Graham, Scott Kirk, Annelise Page, Nick Page, and Vicki Zoller. The "Think Local" campaign coincides with a series of videos produced by the Elkhorn Media Group promoting Dayton's history, business, and recreational opportunities. The videos are on the Dayton Chamber's Facebook page and will be on the Chamber's new website in the next few weeks.

Dayton City Council report for September

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON—City Administrator Trina Cole provided the Dayton City Council with an update about the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) project at last week's council meeting.

"We are moving forward with constructed wetlands," Cole said.

She said while it seems like progress is slow, the City and its partners; Anderson/Perry & Associates, the Confederate Indian Tribes of the Umatilla, Washington Water Trust, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Dept. of Ecology continue to work on the project.

The City has run into some conservation easement challenges on property west of town that is being considered for the WWTP project but continues to look for other property for the project.

Cole said the WWTP project could move more quickly as soon as there is complete buy-in from the Washington State Department of Ecology.

She said Rep. Skyler Rude was at their meeting last week and has expressed his support for the project.

Cole also reported:

- Construction on the Electric Vehicle Charging Station to be located at Caboose Park will begin in six or eight weeks.

- The City has entered the 60-day scoping period with FEMA for flood-related damages to City property.

- The City is working on a work order with the County to remove woody debris from the Touchet River.

- The City is also working to have rock sediment removed from the Touchet River. Cole said the permitting process with FEMA is lengthy.

- The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers levee rehabilitation project will be awarded this week. Construction will begin in November with completion before Dec. 31.

- The City will move forward with an application for flood hazard mitigation studies of the Touchet River and Patit Creek.

- The South Third Street Sidewalk project will begin the week of Sept. 14.

Mayor Zac Weatherford reported the City would be working on Phase 3 of the irrigation project at Pietrzycki City park, in October.

He met with an official from the Dept. of Fish and Wildlife regarding a cougar siting inside city limits. Officials tried to locate the cougar with dogs, but they were unsuccessful.

A note from a city resident said the city cemetery looks better than ever before, thanks to City staff.

Attorneys for the City and for the County are reaching out to mediators for help with negotiations of the Interlocal Agreement for Law Enforcement, Dispatch, District Court services, which has stalled.

The Dayton Chamber is working on a Shop Local campaign, and banners purchased by the Dayton Development Task Force will be located on Main Street.

Brix and Brew will be a virtual fundraiser for the Dayton Chamber of Commerce, this year, taking place on Nov. 6.

The following was approved at last week's meeting of the Dayton City Council:

Resolution No. 1434; Columbia County/City of Dayton temporary construction easements relating to the Army Corps of Engineers' Touchet River Levee Rehabilitation project, water intake segment.

Resolution No. 1435; Granting Columbia County permanent right of way easements for the sole purpose of flood control related projects; accepting right of way permanent right of way easement from Columbia County for the sole purpose of flood control related projects, associated with the Touchet River

Levee system.

Resolution No. 1436; Authorizing the Mayor to execute a right of way agreement with Columbia County for County flood control projects, for a portion of the levee close to the wastewater treatment plant.

Resolution No. 1438; Authorizing Anderson/Perry & Associates, Inc. Task Order for engineering and project management services relating to the North Front Street Bridge repairs, for damages to the guard-rail from a motor vehicle accident.

Resolution No. 1439; Authorizing Anderson/Perry & Associates, Inc. Task Order for engineering and project management services relating to the Flood of 2020, for the Wastewater Treatment Plant repairs project. FEMA requires a 25-percent match from the City.

The Dayton City Council also considered and approved Ordinance No. 1966, authorizing the City Administrator to enter into bond purchase contracts for the issuance of the City's water and wastewater revenue refunding bonds.

Cole said the ordinance allows the City to move forward to refund the 2004, 2004 A, 201 and 2017, outstanding water and sewer bonds. The bonds which will be reissued have an aggregate principal amount of not more than 3.5 million. The current amount for outstanding sewer and water service revenue bonds is about 3.489 million. There will be a savings of \$699,000, savings over a 26-year period, because of a lower interest rate, she said.

The \$25,000 attorney fee is included in the price of the loan. This has been discussed and approved by the Finance Committee.

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LEGAL NOTICES

ORDINANCE SUMMARY BY TITLE ONLY FOR PUBLICATION PURPOSES

ORDINANCE NO. 1966

An ordinance of the City of Dayton, Washington, relating to the water and sewer system of the City; providing for the issuance of water and sewer revenue refunding bonds of the City for the purpose of providing funds to pay all or part of the costs of refunding certain outstanding water and sewer revenue obligations of the City; fixing parameters with respect to the date, form, maturity, interest rate, terms and covenants of the bonds; providing for the registration and authentication of the bonds; creating and adopting certain funds and accounts; providing for the issuance of additional water and sewer revenue bonds; appointing the City's designated representative pursuant to RCW 39.46.040 to approve the final terms of the issuance, sale and delivery of the bonds; and providing for related matters.

Article I.	GENERAL PROVISIONS
Section 1.01	Findings
Section 1.02	Definitions
Article II.	PROVISIONS PARTICULAR TO THE BONDS
Section 2.01	Authorization of the Bonds
Section 2.02	Authority to Approve Bond Purchase Contracts; Description of Bonds.
Section 2.03	Form and Execution of the Bonds
Section 2.04	Registrar, Registration and Transfer of Bonds
Section 2.05	Payment of the Bonds
Section 2.06	Prepayment and Redemption
Provisions.	
Section 2.07	Refunding or Defeasance of the Bonds
Section 2.08	Pledge of Revenue and Lien Position
Section 2.09	Preservation of Tax Exemption for Interest on the Bonds
Section 2.10	Designation of Bonds as "Qualified Tax-Exempt Obligations"
Section 2.11	Compliance Policies
Article III.	PROVISIONS GOVERNING ALL PARITY BONDS
Section 3.01	Application of Revenue of the System
Section 3.02	The Revenue Fund
Section 3.03	The Debt Service Fund
Section 3.04	The Reserve Fund
Section 3.05	Covenants
Section 3.06	Events of Default
Article IV.	REFUNDING OF THE REFUNDED BONDS
Section 4.01	Use of Bond Proceeds
Section 4.02	Call for Redemption of the Refunded Bonds
Section 4.03	Findings with Respect to Refunding
Article V.	MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS
Section 5.01	Amendments to Ordinance
Section 5.02	General Authorization; Ratification; and Limitation on Recourse
Section 5.03	Severability
Section 5.04	Effective Date

The full text of the Ordinance No. 1966 adopted the 9th day of September, 2020, is available for examination at the Dayton City Hall, 111 S. 1st Street, Dayton, WA during normal business hours, 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday – Friday.

By: /s/ Zac Weatherford, Mayor
Attest: /s/ Trina Cole, City Administrator
The Times
September 17, 2020
9-17-a

COLUMBIA COUNTY PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT NO. 1 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Notice is hereby given that a special meeting of the Board of Directors of Columbia County Public Hospital District No. 1 will be held on September 17th, 2020 at 12:00pm at Columbia County Health System's Administration Conference Room. The purpose of the meeting: Board Member training on Accountable Care Organization. Final disposition shall not be taken on any other matter at such meeting. Dated this 1st day of September 2020

BOARD SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD COMMISSIONERS: Accountable Care Organization Training
09/17/2020 at 12:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Administration Building on the District's Dayton General Hospital Campus.

Notice is hereby given that a special meeting of the Board of Directors of Columbia County Public Hospital District No. 1 will be held on September 17, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. in the conference

room of the Administration Building on the District's Dayton General Hospital campus. The purpose of the meeting: Board member training on Accountable Care Organization. Disposition shall not be taken on any other matter at such meeting.

Dated this 1st day September 2020

AGENDA

- Item Responsible
1. Call to Order Wes Leid, Chair
 2. Roll Call Wes Leid, Chair
 3. Accountable Care Organization (ACO) Training Stephanie Carpenter, CNO
 4. Adjournment Wes Leid, Chair

/s/ R. Wes Leid
R. Wes Leid, Chairman, Board of Commissioners
Columbia County Public Hospital District No. 1
The Times
September 10, 17, 2020
9-10-b

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF COLUMBIA

NO. 20-4-00020-7
Notice to Creditors
RCW 11.40.030
In the Matter of the Estate

of:
MARILYN L. LEWIS,
Deceased.

The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(3); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

Date of Filing Notice to Creditors
with Clerk of the Court:
August 28, 2020
Date of First Publication:
September 3, 2020
Administrator: Randall S. Lewis

Attorney for the Personal Representative:
JULIE E. KARL, WSBA #45950
Address for Mailing or Service:
KARL LAW OFFICE
PO Box 66
Waitsburg, WA 99361
The Times
September 3, 10, 17, 2020
9-3-b

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR CLARK COUNTY

NO. 20 4 00835 06
Estate of
DONNA M. CHINN,
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
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 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 the 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.

WILLIAM TREVOR RIMA
400 Blalock Drive
Walla Walla, WA 99362
Attorney for Personal Representative:
David R. Duncan
P O Box 5734
Vancouver, Washington
98668
The Times
September 10, 17, 24
9-10-a

COLUMBIA COUNTY PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT NO. 1 BOARD MEETING VENUE CHANGE

Notice is hereby given that for the month of September 2020, only, the regular meeting of the District's Board of Commissioners originally scheduled at the Waitsburg Town Hall, located at 121

Main Street, Waitsburg, WA on September 23, 2020 at 1:30pm, will now occur at Columbia County Public Hospital District No. 1 Administrative Conference Room on September 23, 2020 at 1:30pm.

Thereafter, beginning with the month of October 2020, the regular meeting of the District's Board of Commissioners shall be held on the same day and time at the same place, as described in the Board's Bylaws: On the fourth Wednesday of each month beginning at 1:30 pm in the District administrative conference room in Dayton, Washington

Dated this 1st day of September 2020
Chairman, Board of Commissioners
Columbia County Public Hospital District No. 1
The Times
September 10, 17, 2020
9-10-c

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

No. 20-4-00157-36
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In Re the Estate of
NADINE M. GERKEY,
Deceased.

The co personal representatives named below have been appointed as co personal 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 by RCW 11.40.070 by serving or mailing to the co personal 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 (30) days after the co personal representatives served or mailed the notice to creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or
- (2) Four (4) months after the date of first publication of this notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051, and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

Date of first publication:
September 10, 2020
Co-personal Representatives:
Steven F. Gerkey and
Edward E. Gerkey
c/o Michael E. de Grasse
Counsel for Co-personal

Representatives
59 South Palouse Street
P. O. Box 494
Walla Walla, WA 99362
Walla Walla County
Superior Court
Cause No.: 20-4-00157-36
/s/ Steven F. Gerkey
Steven F. Gerkey
Co-personal
Representative
/s/ Edward E. Gerkey
Edward E. Gerkey
Co-personal
Representative
The Times
September 10, 17, 24,
2020
9-10-d

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

Whitney Lynn Gonzales
Petitioner,
No. (15-3-00040-8)
Samuel Cusic Canham,
Respondent.

The State of Washington to the Whitney Lynn Gonzales
You are hereby summoned to appear within 90 days after the date of the first publication of this Petition to Change a Parenting Plan, after the 10th day of September, 2020, and defend the above entitled action in the above entitled court, and answer the complaint of the respondent, Samuel Cusic Canham, and serve a copy of your answer upon the respondent at the address below stated; and in case of your failure to do so, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the petition, which has been filed with the clerk of said court. If you do not serve your written response within 90 days after the date this summons was served on you, exclusive of the day of service, the court may enter an order of default against you, and the court may, without further notice to you, enter a final order and approve or provide for the relief requested in the petition. The court will not enter the final order until at least 90 days after filing and service. Serve a copy of your response on Samuel Cusic Canham at 2249 E. Isaacs Ave #25, Walla Walla, 99362.
The Times
September 10, 17, 24, Oct 1, 8, 15, 2020
9-10-e



The deadline for legal publications is noon on Tuesday prior to publication. Send notices to: legals@waitsburgtimes.com



Beka Compton

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DAYTON
September 24th:
Senior Center 12:00 – 1:00 for seniors only
Senior Center parking lot, drive through only: 1:00 – 3:00

September 29th:
Alley between the Court House and County Commissioners Office. Drive through only 4 – 6:00

WAITSBURG
September 30th:
Waitsburg, behind the clinic. Drive through only: 4 – 6:00

Because we want to continue to maintain social distancing, we plan on setting this up as drive through only where we will give the shot while you are in your vehicle.

Columbia County HEALTH SYSTEM

“Smoke gets in your eyes”

By Mike Ferrians | THE TIMES

Jeromy Phinney, Chief of Columbia County Fire District 3, is a good man to have a conversation with right now. He's cool as a cucumber, with a large framed photo of John Wayne on the wall beside his desk. He has the confidence you want in a fire chief while wildfires rage around the Pacific Northwest.

“Everything's dry, and dry conditions happen every year. It's nothing new,” he said. “But yeah, this summer has been tough.”



Mike Ferrians

Jeromy Phinney, Chief of Columbia County Fire District 3.

Twenty-one years ago, Jeromy Phinney was a kid fresh out of college. He'd come back home to Dayton to live and work. He'd never given a day's thought to fighting fires. Then one day, a friend's father called him and said they were going to a firefighter's meeting.

“He was trying to recruit younger guys to help out. So, yeah, at first, I showed up just because he was twisting my arm. But then I realized, boy, they do need help.”

So Jeromy jumped in to help for 17 years as a volunteer and eventually serving as Assistant Chief. In March 2015, he went to work full time for the district. Two years later, he was appointed to the top administrative position, to replace retired Chief Rick Turner.

“There's always a shortage of volunteers,” said Phinney. “We can always use more. We run 90% of

what we do with volunteers.”

Fire District 3 covers some 280 square miles in Columbia County, but the district's location on East Patit Road just outside Dayton is the only ambulance service for the county's entire 800 square miles. That requires paid staff. Currently, there are seven full-time staff at District 3; all of them certified EMT's. Phinney reports that now, there are 35 volunteers serving with the district.



Mike Ferrians

One of several “field” trucks waiting in the barn.

Despite Phinney's calm demeanor, he is fully aware of the unique conditions that have resulted in the amount of fire activity this season.

“It's not uncommon to have big fires,” he said. “But It's horrible for the communities that got hit. With the dry conditions, lightning strikes in certain places at certain times, and the winds howling out of the north at 40-50 mph, they had everything going against them.”

This year, according to Phinney, District 3 has made an extra effort to be available for what he calls “state mobilization.” These are calls that come into the district from the Blue Mountain Interagency Dispatch Center, located in LaGrande, Oregon, with requests to assist crews in other Washington State counties.

“We keep a truck available at all times just for this purpose,” he said. “Just as other districts have done for us here over the years,” Phinney says District 3 hired a part-time employee for the summer specifically to help with state mobilization calls.

“Prime Crews” and “Backup Crews” are scheduled weeks ahead of time. District 3 mobilization crews have responded to the Colfax Complex Fire and the Babb-Malden/Manning Fires, south of Spokane, which ravaged the small community of Malden. As of this writing, a crew was scheduled to return home any day, first serving at the Evans Canyon Fire (northwest of Yakima) and, most recently, the Pearl Hill Fire in the area of Bridgeport, Washington. Phinney reminds us that when a crew goes out, they're camping for the duration. “They're out in the field the entire time, sleeping in tents. If they're lucky, they took an air mattress.” Crews are supplied with MRE's (Meals Ready to Eat) every time they go out. Phinney says 14 days is the typical length of a mobilization call, with that being extended only occasionally to 21 days. “After two weeks, they're tired, they need rest,” he said.



Chief Phinney's current concern is the poor air quality, and not just for health reasons. “With so much smoke in the air, if there's a fire just over the hill, you can't see it, so there's no one to call it in,” he said.

Which should tell us that, in one way or another, we're all firefighters.

Viral video recipe review: Roasted sunflower head

Can you eat sunflowers like corn on the cob?

By Brianna Wray | THE TIMES

WORLD WIDE WEB—By now, you might've seen a certain viral video floating around the web. Or perhaps not, it's a big internet world out there. The Baker Creek Heirloom Seed Company posted a video to their Instagram feed of grilled sunflowers. By the end of this quick tutorial style video, the sunflower is taken in hand and eaten like corn on the cob.

Sunflower seeds are a popular snack, sure, but this isn't that. The edible part is the head. It broke my brain a little. The video says to pick a sunflower when the seeds have formed, but the shells are still tender.

Next, the video depicts the harvesting of a young sunflower and the removal of all the flower petals and bits. Once stripped, the sunflower is coated with the oil from a jar of sundried tomatoes and placed face down over a grill at medium heat.

Following the initial searing, the sunflower is covered to cook for an additional five minutes. To finish, the sunflower is rubbed with sundried tomatoes and garnished with chopped basil.

The video had more than 400 comments and 10,000 shares by the time I saw it, and I watched it five more times in a row before shrugging it off as folly.

A day later, I was showing the video to a friend when I realized what was most perplexing. The taster who demonstrates the sunflower's potability at the end of the video has an expression on her face, not unlike the Mona Lisa. The eyes and mouth are expressing different things. She immediately goes back in for a second bite and does a little wiggle, but something about her expression made me curious.

Before I knew what was happening, I had harvested a sunflower in its prime from my garden. Since I didn't have access to a grill at the time, I preheated my oven to 420° and got started ridding the head of its bright yellow petals.

I used a mild-tasting oil (a blend of avocado, coconut, and safflower), and I didn't have a jar of sun-dried tomatoes on hand. Instead, I topped with dried basil. I let it cook about 10 minutes right on the grill rack and then placed a bowl over it for another five.

When it came out of the oven, it smelled good. It tasted good, too, but I wouldn't want to eat it like corn on the cob. Instead, I was more inclined to pull the kernels out a row at a time with a fork. The texture was like crimini mushrooms, and I could see it being a great addition to a stir fry or curry. They definitely soak up the flavor in the same way a mushroom would. Sunflower heads are not something I'd eat as a standalone dish but could be an amazing addition to a meal.

That said, I was definitely smiling at the end of my experiment. My friend thought I was brave for trying it. I just had to know. Would you dare?

See the Baker Creek video at <http://tinyurl.com/y2lf8gll>.

When recreating viral videos or challenges, first consider safety. It is, in fact, safe to eat every part of a sunflower. So, in this case, we're cleared for experimentation but do exercise caution.



Brianna Wray, Still from viral video courtesy of Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds

Above left: For this recipe, sunflowers are selected when their seeds have formed but are tender. Above right: Baker Creek Heirloom Seed taster's expression is hard to read, but she goes for a second bite.



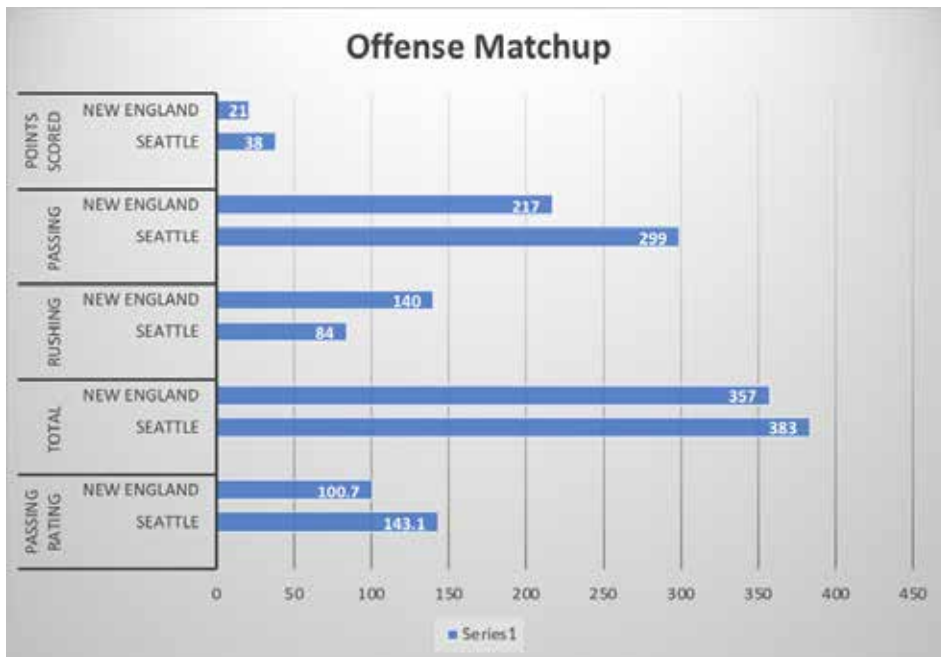
Above: The grilled sunflower head is good in theory. In practice, the sunflower head is potable, but better extracted with a fork than bite.

SPORTS

NFL Week #2 – Patriots vs. Seahawks

By Eric Umphrey | THE TIMES

In week two, the Seahawks will host the New England Patriots on Sunday Night Football. The nationally televised game is at 5:20 PM on NBC. The Patriots have had some roster changes; the biggest is new quarterback Cam Newton, who takes over for Tom Brady, who now plays for Tampa Bay. Cam Newton missed all but two games last year with the Carolina Panthers with a foot injury. He looked fine last week in New England's win over the Miami Dolphins, completing fifteen of his nineteen passes for one hundred and fifty-five yards. Newton also rushed for seventy-five yards and two touchdowns.



Russell Wilson had a nearly perfect day for the Seahawks, completing thirty-one of thirty-five passes for three hundred and twenty-two yards and four touchdowns. Two of those touchdown passes went to running back Chris Carson, who had more receiving yards (forty-five) than running (twenty-one). Kicker Jason Myers had a perfect start to the year, making his only field goal attempt and all five of his extra points.

Seattle is favored to win this home game and should be a tough matchup for New England. The Patriots now appear to be a more run focused team with Cam Newton as quarterback. Seattle's defense once again looks strong against the running game, and those two factors should lead to a week two victory in Seattle.

Mariner's Playoff hopes still alive

By Eric Umphrey | THE TIMES



The Mariners have gone 14-7 in their last twenty-one games and find themselves in third place in the American League West. The Houston Astros, who are currently in second place, have gone 8-13 over their last twenty-one games and had a six-game losing streak in the middle of that span. This puts the Mariners just one and a half games behind the Houston Astros with twelve games left to play, including three games against Houston in Seattle. For Seattle to have a chance to move into second place and guarantee a playoff spot, they will probably need to win all three of those games against Houston.

Most of the Astros problems this year center around pitching. Justin Verlander is still on the injured list and hasn't pitched since his opening day win against the Mariners. Gerrit Cole was lost in free agency and Lance McCullers Jr. has an earned run average of 5.79. Houston's bullpen is ranked 29th out of thirty teams in baseball.

Not all of the Astros problems can be blamed on pitching. The Astros two best players haven't hit all season. Jose Altuve, a former American League MVP, is playing at a below replacement level with a .224/.284/.322 triple-slash line and a -0.6 WAR. Alex Bregman, Houston's All-Star third baseman, seemingly has forgotten how to hit against right-handed pitchers this year, batting .203/.306/.378 in seventy-four at-bats.

Two of Seattle's trade deadline acquisitions have played well in limited action. Ty France is hitting .308/.400/.564 with two home runs in his first eleven games with the Mariners. Catcher Luis Torrens is hitting .286/.355/.464 with a home run in his first eight games as a Mariner. The starting pitching for Seattle is peaking at the right time.

In his last five starts, Marco Gonzales has four

wins, and a 3.18 earned run average. Justus Sheffield has a 2-1 record over his previous five starts with a 3.52 earned run average. Justin Dunn has also pitched well over his last five starts with two wins, and a 3.68 earned run average.

Seattle's record currently stands at 22-26, with twelve games remaining. Houston is sitting at 23-24, with thirteen games left. If both teams ended the season with identical records, Houston would advance to the playoffs because they have a better head to head record against Seattle. Seattle must finish at least one game ahead of Houston to advance. Houston's magic number to make the playoffs is eleven while Seattle's is fifteen. A magic number is the combination of wins needed by that team and losses needed by its competitor in the standings. For example, if the Mariners finish the season with seven wins and five losses, then Houston would have to finish the season with five wins and eight losses for Seattle to make the playoffs. In this example, the Mariners 7 wins + 8 Houston losses equal the magic number 15. This would give the Mariners a final record of 29-31 and Houston a final record of 28-32.

MLB American League Leaders

ERA		Batting Average		Strike Outs		Runs Batted In	
S. Bieber	CLE 1.53	T. Anderson	CHW .369	S. Bieber	CLE 102	J. Abreu	CHW 48
D. Keuchel	CHW 2.19	D. LeMahieu	NYN .350	L. Giolito	CHW 82	M. Trout	LAA 39
L. Lynn	TEX 2.40	J. Candelario	DET .325	G. Cole	NYN 79	M. Olson	OAK 38
K. Maeda	MIN 2.43	N. Cruz	MIN .323	L. Lynn	TEX 79	K. Tucker	HOU 37
D. Bundy	LAA 2.48	I. Kiner	TEX .321	T. Glasnow	TB 73	L. Voit	NYN 37
Wins		Home Runs		Saves		Stolen Bases	
S. Bieber	CLE 7	M. Trout	LAA 16	B. Hand	CLE 12	A. Mondesi	KC 16
D. Keuchel	CHW 6	N. Cruz	MIN 16	L. Hendriks	OAK 12	M. Margot	TB 11
R. Dobnak	MIN 6	L. Voit	NYN 16	A. Colome	CHW 11	D. Moore	SEA 11
L. Lynn	TEX 6	J. Abreu	CHW 15	T. Rogers	MIN 9	J. Ramirez	CLE 10
M. Gonzales	SEA 5	T. Hernandez	TOR 14	R. Pressly	HOU 9	I. Kiner	TEX 8



STANDINGS

AL West	W	L	PCT	GB
Oakland	30	18	.625	-
Houston	23	24	.489	6.5
Seattle	22	26	.458	8.0
Los Angeles	20	28	.417	10.0
Texas	17	30	.362	12.5
AL East	W	L	PCT	GB
Tampa Bay	30	17	.638	-
Toronto	26	20	.565	3.5
New York	26	21	.553	4.0
Baltimore	21	26	.447	9.0
Boston	17	31	.354	13.5
AL Central	W	L	PCT	GB
Chicago	31	16	.660	-
Minnesota	30	19	.612	2.0
Cleveland	26	21	.553	5.0
Detroit	20	26	.435	10.5
Kansas City	20	28	.417	11.5

Mariners Hitting

	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	BB	BA	OBP	OPS	WAR
Ty France	39	5	12	2	6	6	.308	.400	.964	+0.6
Kyle Lewis	166	34	49	10	27	27	.295	.390	.884	+1.6
Dylan Moore	117	23	31	7	15	10	.265	.353	.866	+1.2
J. Marmolejos	81	9	21	6	18	5	.259	.302	.833	+0.1
Luis Torrens	28	3	8	1	3	3	.286	.355	.819	+0.0
Kyle Seager	161	27	40	7	33	24	.248	.355	.796	+1.4
Phillip Ervin	24	4	6	0	2	5	.250	.379	.754	+0.2
Sam Haggerty	50	7	13	1	6	4	.260	.315	.715	+0.4
J.P. Crawford	155	27	37	2	15	22	.239	.339	.681	+0.8

AB – At Bats, R – Runs, H – Hits, HR – Home Runs, RBI – Runs Battled In, BB – Base on Balls, BA – Batting Average, OPS – On Base Plus Slugging, WAR – Wins Above Replacement

The birds & bees, Waitsburg style

By Vicki Sternfeld-Rossi | THE TIMES

As you all probably know, I'm a city girl. Born in New York (Brooklyn), we then moved to Queens, and eventually to the suburbs of Long Island. We grew nothing in New York, except for one crab apple tree and a pear tree, that never bore fruit. Our vegetables didn't come from the ground; they lived in little white boxes in the freezer. My mother would boil salted water, drop in the frozen vegetables, then cook the life out of them.

We eventually moved to Tucson, Arizona, because my father's arthritis became debilitating from the cold weather. The only thing that grows in Tucson is cactus! We had a gray rock lawn, a few cacti, and an oversized air-conditioner.

Five years later, we moved to Los Angeles. Our first home was an apartment with no garden space. Eventually, my parents bought a house, wisely, they hired a gardener. Happily, my mother had graduated to cooking fresh vegetables instead of the frozen bricks of broccoli, cauliflower, and peas.

Until I went to culinary school, married Daniel, sold my condominium, and we bought a house, did I grow anything.

Any discussion of "birds and bees" had nothing to do with gardening. They usually are prefaced with a "wink, wink", someone's unplanned baby, or the permission slip from my parents allowing me to attend health class when the subject was human reproduction, and all that went with it.

Now that we have spent spring and summer becoming (or attempting to be-



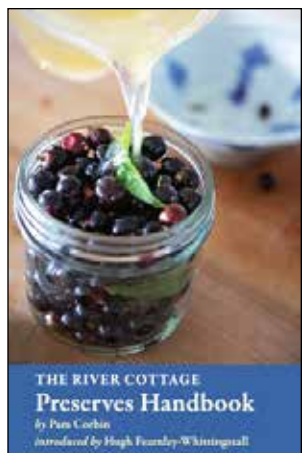
come) gardeners, the "birds and bees" have a whole different meaning. When I tried to figure out why sunflower and safflower plants grow in abundance in our backyard, I realized birds that we graciously feed, drop seeds all over, planting them wherever they happen to fall. The quails and mourning doves are too big to rest on the perches of the feeder, so they vacuum the seeds off the ground and then peck the dirt to grab worms. It would be great to train them to leave the worms and take the slugs!

I think that the birds like to pluck seeds that we plant and move them just for spite. I know exactly where I planted eggplant, somehow zucchini grew there instead. Yesterday I spotted an eggplant growing about 30 feet from where I know I planted it three months ago, and next to it was Kale, which I know I didn't plant, because I don't like Kale. Are the birds trying to mess with me? Are they trying to encourage us to eat a healthier diet? They don't show much appreciation for all the feeders we stock for them.

I have learned that certain flowers attract bees and hoverflies, both I'm told are good pollinators. So, I let them live, even though they are incredibly annoying when I'm trying to water, weed, and harvest the three green beans I just spotted.

A few weeks ago, I yanked all of the "over the hill" arugula from the garden. Evidently, during my yanking, seeds dropped and have sprouted in the ground next to their original raised bed planter. I was thrilled; I love arugula. I called to Daniel to show him our "new crop," instead, Mugsy came flying over, sniffed, and trampled the arugula, then promptly lifted his leg and peed on it. It has since lost its appeal, but maybe some bird or bee will be kind enough to grab a few seeds and replant them on higher ground, and out of Mugsy's reach.

Book briefs



The River Cottage Preserves Handbook, by Pam Corbin, (Ten Speed Press, 2010).

The British have a knack for preserving, and author Pam Corbin has created easy steps with gorgeous images in this book. There is nothing more rewarding than preserving fruits and vegetables from the garden,

so get out the kettle and grandma's canning jars! My favorite recipe from the book is Bachelor's Jam; a recipe with fruit, sugar and rum, brandy, or gin.

You can sign up for the River Cottage Newsletter or check out River Cottage Food Tube!, on YouTube where you can also check out John Wright's Foraging Guide.

Review by Twila Johnson-Tate



18 Tiny Deaths: The Untold Story of Frances Glessner Lee and the Invention of Modern Forensics, by Bruce Goldfarb (Sourcebooks, 2020).

Are you a fan of Dexter, all the CSI shows, or any of the other modern-day police dramas or documentaries?

This is the story of a woman who helped bring law enforcement out of the dark ages and into a science-based investigation for sudden and violent crimes. Using her talent and meticulous attention to detail, Frances Glessner created *the Nutshell Studies of Unexplained Death*. These studies are a series of dollhouses recreating unsolved crime scenes in accurate detail. The dioramas were used to train law enforcement officers to investigate crimes, and her methods are still in use today.



The Nutshell Studies of Unexplained Death, by Corinne May Botz (Monacelli Press, 2004).

This book is the perfect companion to Frances Glessner Lee's life story. It contains photographs and diagrams of the actual dioramas from the Nutshell Studies. At first glance, this looks

like a book of charming, handmade dollhouses, complete with tiny knitted sweaters, woven rugs, quilts, and paintings. Looking closer, one will also see signs of a potential crime, including empty bottles, stacks of money, and of course, the bodies of the unfortunate victims.

The photographs are beautiful and rich. Botz explains how she found these works of art and crime-fighting. She provides photographs from multiple angles, diagrams with a key to what is found in the image, and a brief synopsis of each case.

Reviews by Lane Gwinn

The Cookie Chronicles Chapter 18—The Walkabout

I'm the type of dog who loves to roam around

By Paul Gregutt | THE TIMES

There is one thing that gets Cookie—otherwise, the GOAT (Greatest Of All Time)—repeatedly into big trouble.

We call it the Walkabout. The word has fallen into general usage but initially referred to a ritual journey by Aboriginal Australians. During these solo pilgrimages, the individual would head off into the Outback, often as a rite of passage into adulthood. The Walkabout was a break from the modern world and a spiritual practice as well, forging connections to traditional lands and practices.

Is it too much of a stretch to consider Cookie's walkabouts as somehow comparable? Let's consider the facts.

After she was weaned, Cookie spent the first year of her life semi-abandoned, removed from other dogs, and relegated to an isolated existence outside a home where her birth brother and others were kept. It was her constant, relentless barking that alerted us to her unhappy condition and changed all of our lives for the better.

Although she has been a much-loved member of our family for almost nine years, she has not forgotten (nor forgiven) her past. And from time to time, usually in the spring but sometimes unpredictably whenever the mood strikes, she sets off to revisit it.

Now in terms of physical distance, this is not a long journey. But psychologically, it is much more complex. What triggers any specific walkabout is not always clear, although it could be something fairly obvious—the sound of power tools or compression brakes, strangers walking by, or maybe just an annoying cat or squirrel.

Once the decision to take off has been made, she finds a spot to leave Mr. B where we are not likely to notice him. Mr. B does not accompany Cookie on walkabouts but remains here at home as a sort of sentinel. Often our first clue that she's vanished is when we stumble upon Mr. B out in the grass, with no dog in view.

Cookie is small enough, smart enough, and sneaky enough to escape our notice with relative ease. We may be out in the garden planting or mowing or pulling weeds, or simply engaged in conversation, and she'll just slip quietly out the back Jack and set herself free.



More often than not, she heads back to her old stomping ground. It's not a well-kept yard, and the uncut grass and untended grounds provide plenty of hiding places. Sometimes she just stands in front and barks for awhile, exorcising old demons, or calling to her long, lost brother, or just giving the owner a bit of a lecture. Who knows?

The reason these walkabouts are a problem is simply that they are potentially dangerous. I confess that we are helicopter parents and pretty much always fear the worst whenever the dog is not directly under our control. Cookie is all of 12 pounds, and a good-size raptor might find her to be a tempting snack. Almost any other unleashed dog is a potential danger. And whenever she does finally return, usually slinking back with her tail tucked well below the horizon and a look of deep guilt on her face, it often requires an energetic brushing to rid her of foxtails, goat head thorns, miscellaneous burrs and brambles, and various unidentified clumps of smoot and smudge that may well lead directly to the shower.

The question of motivation aside, it's clear that these walkabouts are deeply etched into Cookie's psyche, as they have continued unabated over many years, despite all of the pleading, yelling, lecturing, bribing, and bargaining on the part of her mother and me. In search of their ultimate meaning, we turn to the Oracle of Wiki.

"These periods of mobility are typically ceremonial," the Oracle notes. "They are unrelated to and unseen by those not familiar with Aboriginal beliefs. They often reflect and show disinterest in, or even alienation from,

the state."

Are we The State? Is our beloved dog's wandering an expression of alienation? Is she suffering from some deep existential distress? Or are the walkabouts simply one of those inscrutable dog-mind activities we can only observe in utter confusion?

As is true of much of life these days, such musings bring to mind an old record. "The Wanderer" was a big hit 60 years ago for Dion DiMucci. I can imagine Cookie humming it to herself, with just a word change here and there:

"Well, I'm the type of dog who will never settle down;
Wherever there's a lamppost, you know that I'm around.
I sniff 'em and I squirt 'em 'cause to me they're all the same;
And any dog who comes along will surely know my name –
They call me the Wanderer
Yeah the Wanderer
I roam around, around, around, around, around, around..."

Special Fall 2020 Camping Season Extended

Several Washington State Parks remaining open until Nov. 1

THE TIMES

Washington State Parks is extending the camping season at select parks throughout the state through November 1. The extension is in response to a higher than normal demand for camping at parks across the state due to the COVID-19 pandemic since most parks booked up quickly this summer. There were less available slots to accommodate time for cleaning between visitors. This extended reservation season offer is for 2020 only.

Extended parks:

- Bay View—campsites and all cabins
- Beacon Rock—campsites
- Belfair—campsites and cabins
- Cape Disappointment—campsites
- Illahee—campsites
- Lake Sylvia—campsites
- Larrabee—campsites
- Manchester—campsites
- Millersylvania—camping extended to year-round
- Moran—campsites currently open at 50% capacity
- Penrose Point—campsites
- Potlatch—campsites
- Rainbow Falls—campsites
- Rasar—campsites and cabins
- Scenic Beach—campsites



Beacon Rock

Courtesy photo

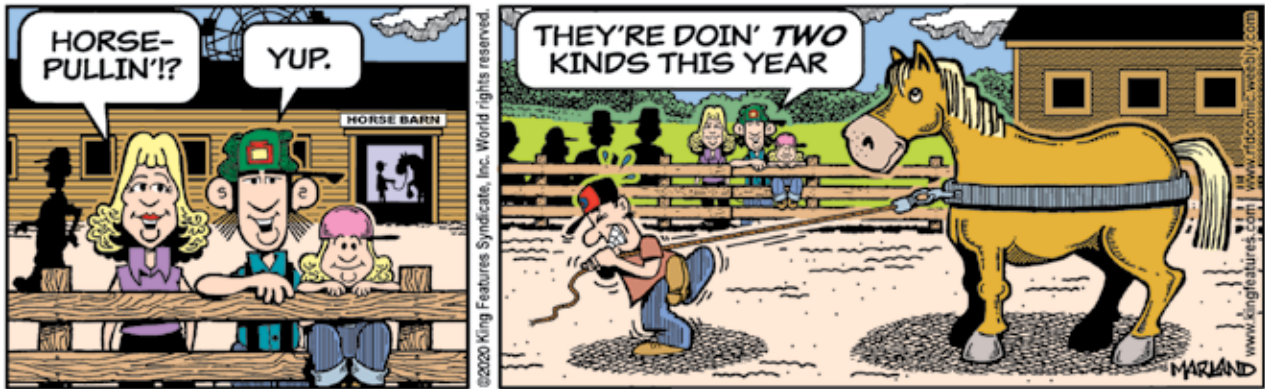
- Sequim Bay—campsites
- Spencer Spit—campsites currently open at 50% capacity
- Twanoh—campsites
- Twin Harbors—campsites

Washington State Parks officials encourage guests to make reservations for camping at a state park in advance. This ensures there will be a designated place upon arrival to desired locations and reduces interactions with staff.

Call (888) CAMPOUT or (888) 226-7688 or visit www.parks.wa.gov to schedule a visit online.

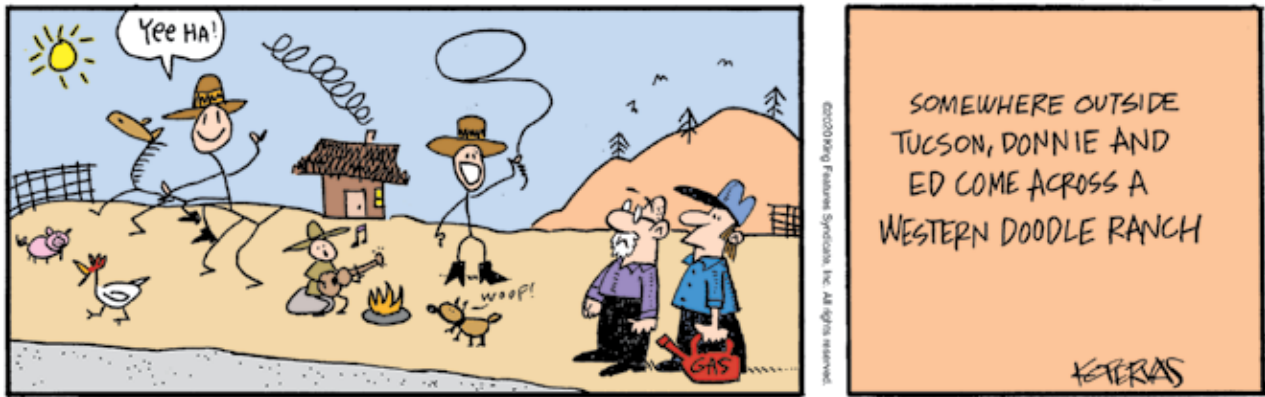
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



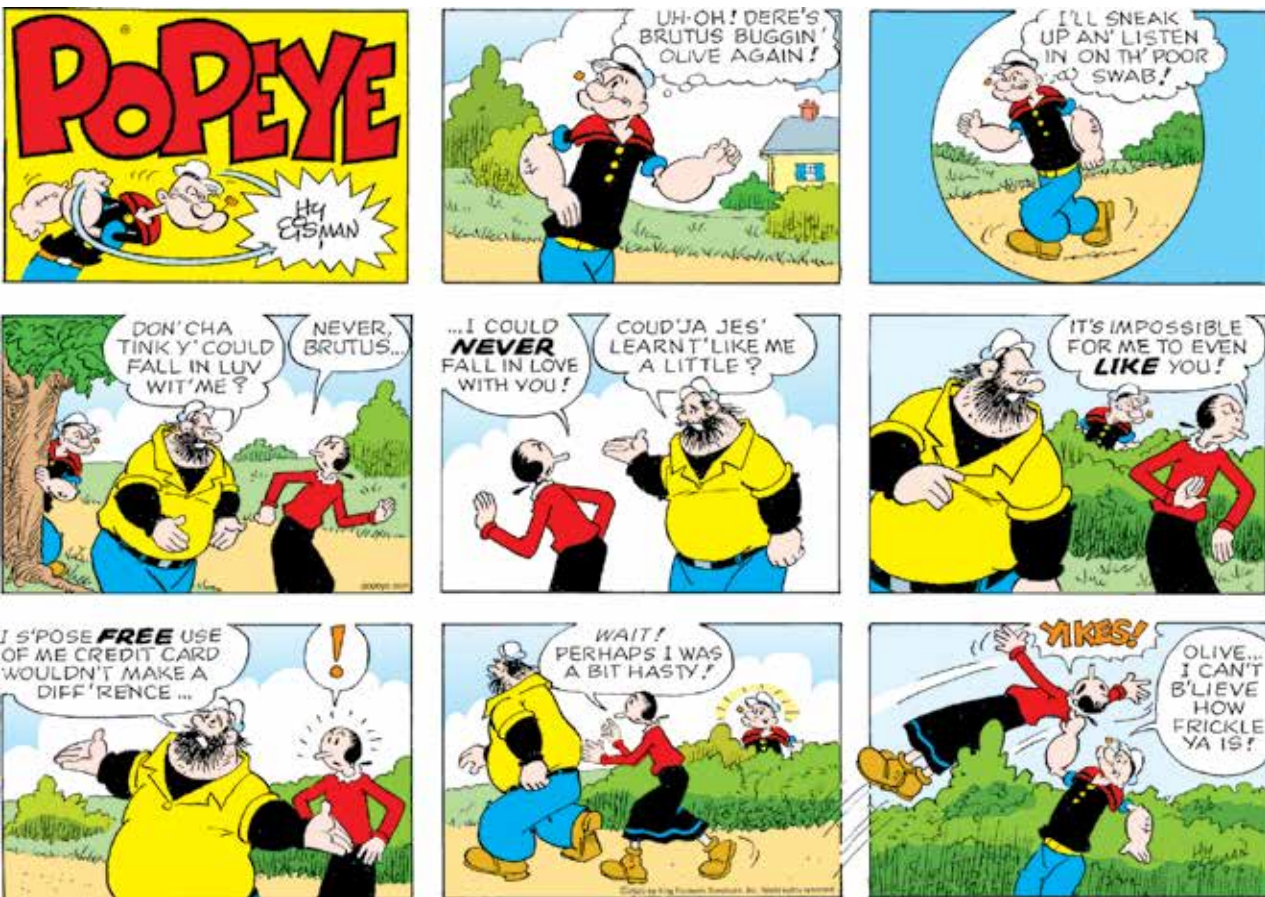
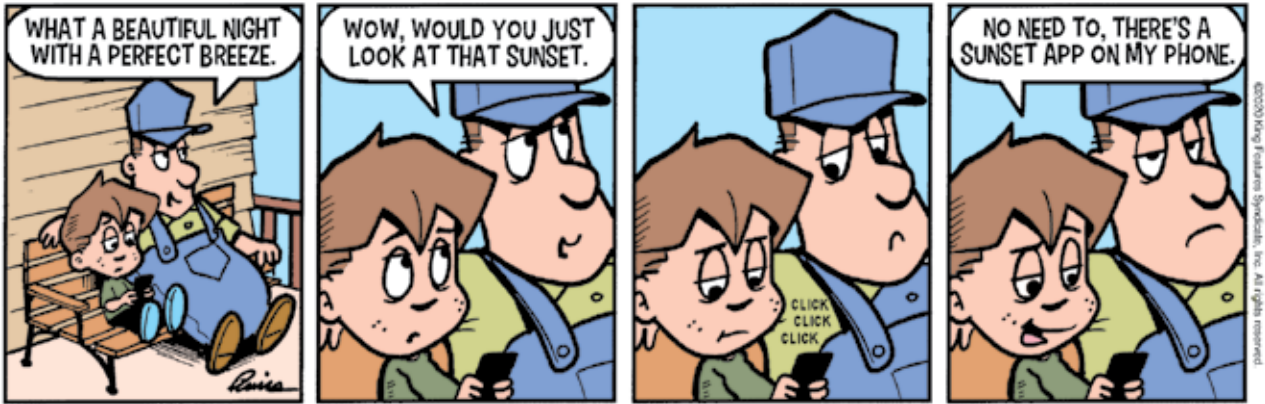
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



PIONEER PORTRAITS

Ten Years Ago

September 16, 2010

[Photo caption] Bill and Jan Zuger at one of the historic buildings on his grandfather's homestead off Highway 124 near Bolles Road. The land is now farmed by Bill's son, Greg.

[Photo caption] Pacific Power Regional Community Manager Bill Clemens hands over a check for \$1,000 to Loyal Baker, president of the Ye Towne Hall board in Waitsburg. The grant will allow the board to buy custom-made, insulated, and updated doors for the 1928 building in downtown Waitsburg.

You're invited to the rededication ceremony of Ye Town Hall, September 21, at 7 p.m. in celebration of the 2010 renovation project.

[Photo caption] Michelle Forsyth prepares to stretch her carefully crafted installation representing the natural environment at the site where Swis-sair flight 111 crashed in 1998.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

September 21, 1995

For the past half-decade, Waitsburg has been the fastest growing community in Walla Walla County, when ranked by population growth. The surprising finding was revealed in a recently released county planning department figures for the years 1990-95.

The old school bell, which once graced the belfry of Central School, has found a new home in the entryway of the recently completed Waitsburg Elementary School.

The Port of Walla Walla has announced that the financing and environmental permits have been finalized for construction of the Ponderosa Fibres of Washington wastepaper recycling plant adjacent to Boise Cascade's paper mill at Wallula.

Michael and Charla Saranovich are the proud parents of a 7-pound, 2-ounce girl, Cassia Alex, born September 14, 1995, in Evergreen Hospital in Kirkland, Wash. The baby's grandmother is Bonnie Saranovich of Waitsburg.

Fifty Years Ago

September 24, 1970

Mr. Morris Kurth, former Dayton businessman, has purchased the Touchet Valley Hardware from Miles Brunton. He will assume ownership as of October 1, 1970. Kurth and his wife Rebecca "Becky" as she prefers to be called, plan to move to Waitsburg as soon as they can locate suitable housing.

Wedding vows were exchanged Saturday evening, September 26, in the First Christian Church in Waitsburg by Miss Judith Ann Langdon and P03 Forrest H. Adkins, Jr.

[Photo caption] Prescott Tiger 1970 Football Team—Front row, left to right, Wes Romine, Chuck Anderson, Tom Piersol, Dave Barta, Jeff Discus, Martin Sander, Kirk Erwin, Ken Phillips. Second row, Steve Morasch, Steve Gerkey, Richard Leonard, Clayton Stueckle. Third row, Tom Hiatt, Mike Bowe, Frank Hart, Ed Gerkey, Cliff Crownover. Back row, head coach Shannon Hiatt, Leland Phillips, Wade Williams, assistant coach Ashley Watson.

The people who get up in the world today are the ones who drove carefully the night before.

Seventy-Five Years Ago

October 5, 1945

Pets, hobbies, flowers, canned goods, garden products, and other displays will be featured Saturday afternoon at the annual Community Fair and Pet Parade.

John R. Donnelly and Miss Dorothy Talbott of Dayton were married Thursday, September 27, in Walla Walla. Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Kison arrived home last week after three years in the service. They plan to leave soon for a short vacation in the east before returning to re-open their business, the K&K jewelry shop.

One Hundred Years Ago

October 8, 1920

Miss Naomi Hatch and Mr. Clay Carnett were quietly married at Walla Walla, Wed. September 29. The packing house at the Taggard orchard started up this week with a small crew.

F.M. Scott has a new line of Parisian pattern waists. They are something new—just received them. The prices are very reasonable.

Orin Walker, son of Mr. and Mrs. M.C. Walker of Coppei, is among the Waitsburg boys who are attending the State College at Pullman. Orin is a graduate of the local high school.

Waitsburg is to have Episcopal church services twice a month hereafter. Bishop Page has appointed Edwin D. Ford to have charge of the missionary work of Dayton, Huntsville, and Waitsburg.

One Hundred Twenty-Five Years Ago

October 11, 1895

C.M. Mack and Carl Taylor and E.W. McCann will leave next Wednesday on a hunting expedition through north Idaho.

Vacant houses in this town are as scarce as hen's teeth—a fact which we take pleasure in chronicling.

Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Laidlaw last Friday evening gave a very pleasant musical party in honor of Miss Nellie Johnson. A splendid program was rendered, after which an elegant collation was served amid much merriment.

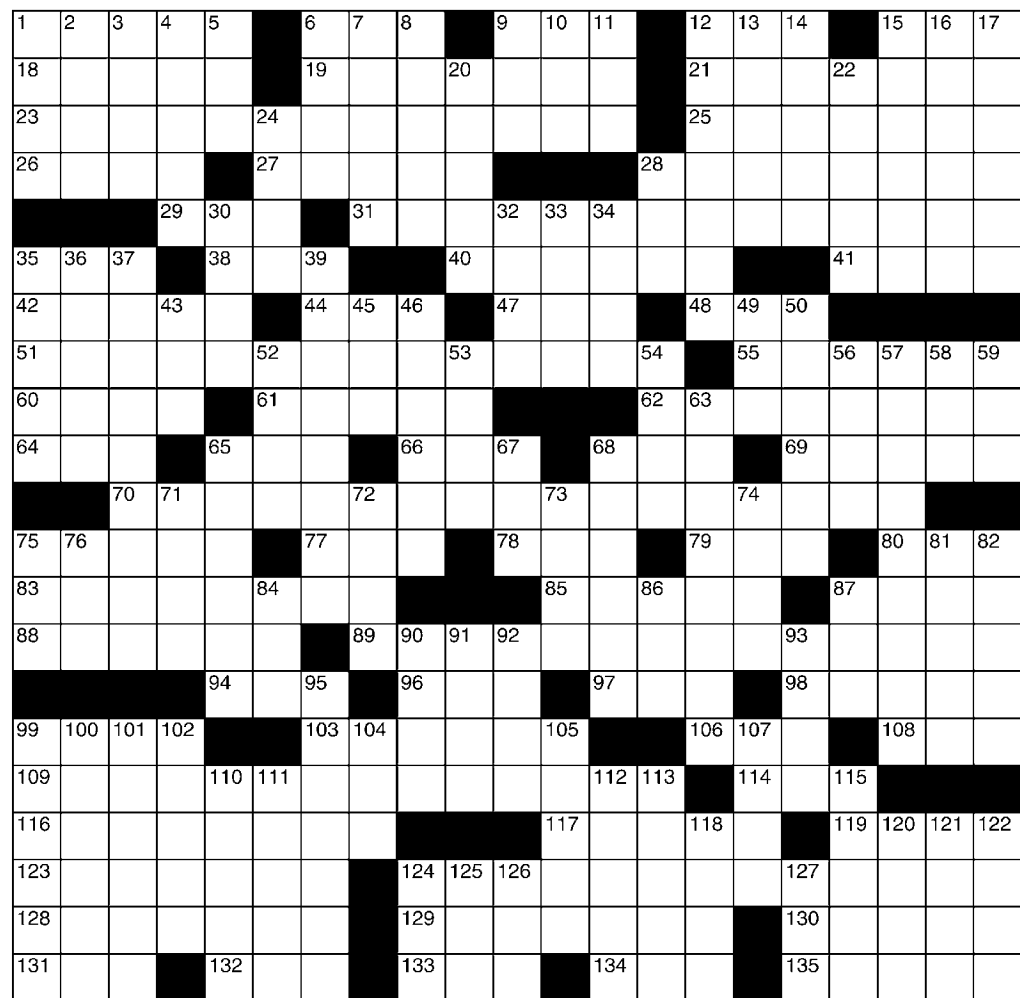
The Quite at Midnight (Q.A.M.) Club gave its first dance of the season in Armory Hall last Saturday evening, and it was a pronounced success.

FUN & GAMES

Super Crossword

COUNTY EXTENSION

- ACROSS**
- 1 Singer Judd
 - 6 1960s war zone
 - 9 Old Glory's country
 - 12 Morse click
 - 15 For each
 - 18 City-related
 - 19 He played Lou Grant
 - 21 Haifa native
 - 23 "Alfie" singer
 - 25 Boasted of
 - 26 Idyllic spot
 - 27 City east of Syracuse
 - 28 Not inert
 - 29 See 71-Down
 - 31 Longtime porcelain brand
 - 35 Hitter Ripken
 - 38 Fish-fowl link
 - 40 Some linens
 - 41 Desires
 - 42 Typeface option
 - 44 Gave birth to
 - 47 Put — show
 - 48 Outer: Prefix
 - 51 City on the eastern shore of Lake Erie
 - 55 Pouch near a kettle
 - 60 Aid in crime
 - 61 Mix up
 - 62 "It's my guess ..."
 - 64 Workshop
 - 65 Ending for opal
 - 66 "Quantico" network
 - 68 Overwhelm
 - 69 Be inviting to
 - 70 Former Fleetwood Mac guitarist
 - 75 Belt holders
 - 77 They often show DOBs
 - 78 — chi
 - 79 Not-so-great
 - 80 Greek "H"
 - 83 Zagreb native
 - 85 Part of a flight of steps
 - 87 Aesir god
 - 88 Walk shakily
 - 89 Follower of James Buchanan
 - 94 Energize, with "up"
 - 96 Dawn deity
 - 97 You, in Germany
 - 98 Piano exercise
 - 99 Optimal
 - 103 Provide with a new outfit
 - 106 Not-so-great grade
 - 108 La. neighbor
 - 109 Laurel and Hardy film
 - 114 "Woof!"
 - 116 Effective use of language
 - 117 Lascivious guys
 - 119 Cuba's Castro
 - 123 Spanish dances in 3/4 time
 - 124 Race held every May
 - 128 Let go
 - 129 "Being Julia" star Bening
 - 130 Diglyceride, e.g.
 - 131 Some inserts
 - 132 Steered
 - 133 Topiary tree (1985 film)
 - 134 Suffix with shepherd
 - 135 English county (it can be added to the ends of this puzzle's seven longest answers)
 - 1 Unclad
 - 2 Bone-dry
 - 3 Certain woodwind
 - 4 Divine food
 - 5 B&B, e.g.
 - 6 Pond dweller
 - 7 "Robin —" (Irish ballad)
 - 8 Senator Rubio
 - 9 Bi- less one
 - 10 Min. division
 - 11 La. neighbor
 - 12 Very varying
 - 13 Designer Mizrahi
 - 14 Fight stopper
 - 15 Pint-size
 - 16 Nine and two
 - 17 Bill add-ons
 - 20 Vacillates
 - 22 Restless
 - 24 Irish money
 - 28 Decompose
 - 30 "To Live and Die —" (1985 film)
 - 32 Sailor's call
 - 33 Joker Jay
 - 34 Put on
 - 35 Plotters' plot
 - 36 Caribbean island
 - 37 Vital factor
 - 39 Zimbabwe, before 1979
 - 43 Astern
 - 45 Plus
 - 46 Postpones
 - 49 Hub: Abbr.
 - 50 Grow incisors, e.g.
 - 52 Nation
 - 53 Jack of "Dragnet"
 - 54 Fuzzy fruit
 - 56 Voyaging
 - 57 Feeling blue
 - 58 Energize, with "up"
 - 59 Figure out
 - 63 Written with a #2, say
 - 65 Foot arch
 - 67 Loin or chop
 - 68 Watchdog breeds
 - 71 With 29-Across, new Apple product of 2013
 - 72 Author O'Brien
 - 73 Coins or bills
 - 74 Pop singer Halliwell
 - 75 PC monitor type
 - 76 Jorje's gold
 - 81 Diacritical squiggle
 - 82 Attach
 - 84 Great anger
 - 86 Friend in France
 - 87 Mo. #10
 - 90 Paul Anka's "Eso —"
 - 91 Butter-and-flour mixture
 - 92 "Dream on!"
 - 93 — do-well
 - 95 Glorified
 - 99 Diva Streisand
 - 100 Resounded
 - 101 Turtles' tops
 - 102 Private pupil
 - 104 "That kinda thing": Abbr.
 - 105 Rich cake
 - 107 "Pie of cake!"
 - 110 Virtuous
 - 111 It isn't poetry
 - 112 Travel plan
 - 113 Body tubes
 - 115 Smart-alecky
 - 118 Barely earns, with "out"
 - 120 Intro painting class, maybe
 - 121 Rival of Lyft
 - 122 Old stringed instrument
 - 124 Singer Starr
 - 125 Suffix with ethyl
 - 126 Florida-to-Indiana dir.
 - 127 Moines lead-in



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TEENY MCMUNN: MY RECIPE BOX

Sausage & Apple Stuffed Squash

I put this into the recipe column probably last fall or so. Believe it or not, fall is almost here and this recipe is very fall-ish. Acorn squash and apples.

Speaking of apples, it's time to starting checking out apple recipes.

I made blueberry zucchini bread today, during my self-induced isolation from the smoke, and realized it is almost impossible to use up all the zucchini in baking. We did add it to our chicken vegetable soup and that helped reduce the inventory a bit.

I've made this and it is very good. I believe turkey sausage could be substituted. One version added Parmesan cheese. If you alter it, please share.



INGREDIENTS:

- 2 acorn squash, halved and seeded
- 1 Tbsp butter, melted
- ¼ tsp garlic salt
- ¼ tsp sage
- 1 lb. pork sausage (regular seasoning)
- ½ c. onion
- 1 celery rib, finely chopped
- 4 oz mushrooms, chopped
- 1 apple, cored and chopped
- 1 c. fine breadcrumbs
- ½ tsp sage
- Salt and pepper
- 1 egg, beaten
- 2 Tbsp fresh parsley, chopped

DIRECTIONS:

Combine the melted butter, garlic salt, and ¼ tsp sage. Brush over cut side and cavity of squash. Salt and pepper to taste. Bake in large roasting pan, cut side up, at 400° for 1 hour (I remember that it didn't take that long, so check) or until squash is tender, yet still holds its shape.

Meanwhile, make the stuffing. Fry pork sausage until brown, remove and drain well, leaving a few tablespoons of drippings in pan. Add onion, celery, and mushrooms, sauté for 4 minutes. Stir in apple and sauté for two more minutes.

Combine sausage, vegetables, apple, and breadcrumbs in a large bowl. Taste and season with sage, salt and pepper to taste. Stir in egg and parsley.

Fill the squash halves with stuffing, return to oven for 20 more minutes, until egg is set. Garnish with parsley and shredded Romano cheese.

MY NOTES:

I don't know who would time the sauté, but it is what the recipe said! I remember it as being a bit dry so perhaps add more onion?? I'm ready for hot dinners again. ENJOY. ©

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Soil with a pH level above 7 is alkaline and less than 7 is acidic (7 is "neutral"). Plants that like acidic soil include azaleas, rhododendrons, hydrangea, gardenias, camellias, holly shrubs, crepe myrtles, calla lilies and pine trees. To increase the acidity of

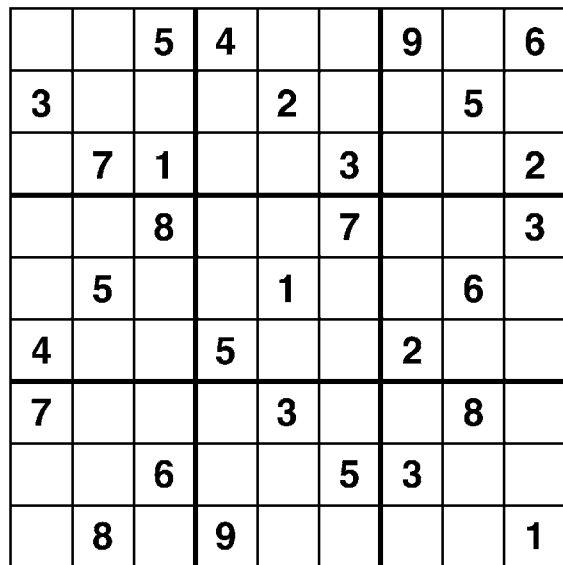
Acidic soil your soil, you can mix ground rock sulphur into it, using 1.2 oz. per square yard for sandy soils and 3.6 oz. per square yard for all other soils. You can also add sawdust, composted leaves and peat moss to lower the soil pH. - Brenda Weaver

Sources: www.thegardenhelper.com, www.gardeningknowhow.com

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

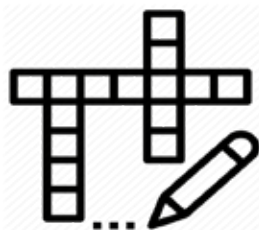


Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

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

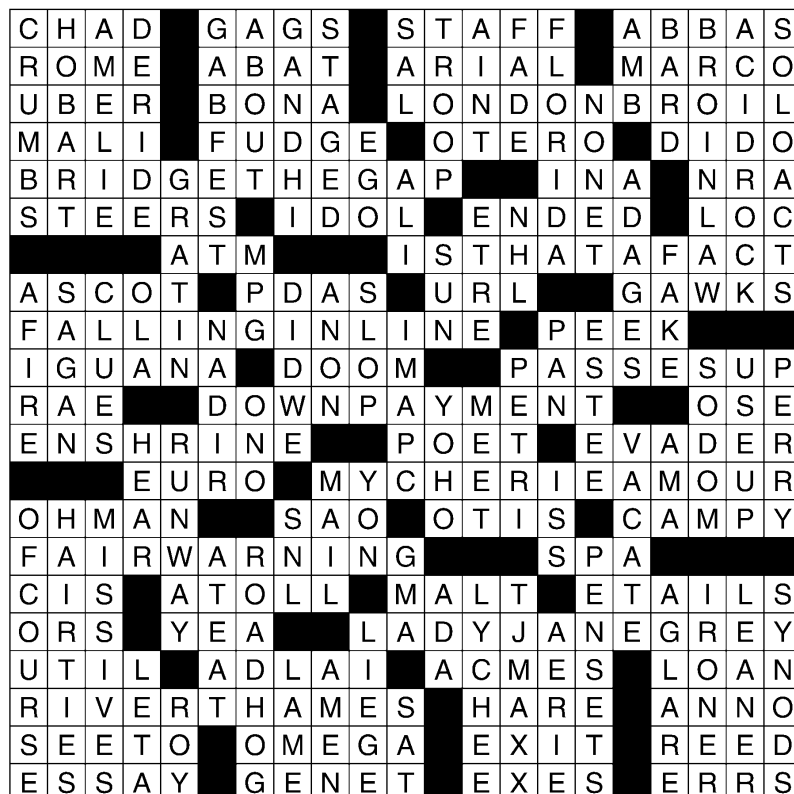
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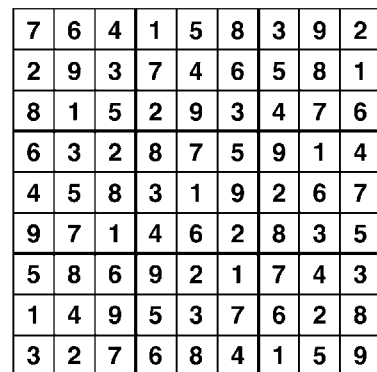
LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS:

Super Crossword

Answers



Weekly SUDOKU Answer



THE LAST PAGE

Youth livestock show and sale a success in Columbia County

A successful, COVID-19 conscious sale was held last weekend in Dayton

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

DAYTON—Things looked a little different at the Columbia County Fair last weekend. There were no spectators, still-life exhibits or fair food, but that didn't stop the livestock classes or sale.

Instead of cancelling, the Columbia County Fair chose to livestream market and fitting and showing classes- and even those looked far different than usual with a limited number of masked participants vying for the purple and white Champion ribbons.

The sale, which is typically held on Saturday afternoon, was pushed back to Sunday afternoon. The fairgrounds were strangely quiet with the absence of the demolition derby. The outdoor, open-air sale was live streamed since bidder-attendance was limited. Only one representative per business was allowed to attend the in-person auction.

Ten goats, six sheep, twelve beef and nearly forty hogs were offered to buyers, all raised by local youth. Many of the animals offered at the youth sale were purchased by youth from Dayton and Waitsburg with the intention of being used as 4-H and FFA animals, however both organizations declared early on in the global pandemic that in-person activities were prohibited until counties met certain levels in their respective state's reopening plans. That left many parents and children wondering how they would recoup the cost of raising an animal.

Luckily, the Columbia County Youth Livestock Sale Committee is made up of ranchers, farmers, and past and present 4-H parents who understood both the severity of the pandemic and the cost of raising a market animal.

Support poured in from local businesses like Bi-Mart, Waitsburg Grocery, and Seney Land and Livestock. Grandparents, aunts and uncles, parents, and a long list of businesses pitched in additional support money, helping the youth sell their animals for well-above market value. Buyers had the option to turn their purchased animal (meaning they purchased the animal but do not want the meat after butchering. There is a set price that the seller or the livestock company can purchase the animal for once it is turned) or declare a 'take-out' and send it to Blue Valley Meats or C&L Lockers for processing.

Goat prices bounced back and forth and hovered right around the \$4-\$7 per pound mark. The Grand Champion goat was raised and sold by Grace Coulston, of Waitsburg. The Reserve Champion goat was raised and sold by Jessica Lambert, of Waitsburg. Kaelie Jonas, of Dayton, presented the Grand Champion lamb, followed by Reserve Champion Ellie Jonas, also of Dayton.

Beef prices varied greatly, hanging around the \$3 to \$5 per pound price range. Jaycee Cox, of Dayton, sold the Grand Champion market steer, and Raymond Yutzy, of Dayton, followed closely behind with the Reserve Champion market steer. Rhianna Crawford, of Waitsburg, started the swine sale with her grand champion hog, followed closely by Eden Glaus, of Waitsburg. Prices ranged between \$3 and \$5 per pound, with some even hitting above the \$5 mark.



Beka Compton

Top: Judson Hall charges into the sale ring with his steer, who weighed in at a hefty 1,316 pounds. Above: Jaycee Cox stands with Pat Barker, who purchased her Grand Champion market steer.

Columbia County "Very Unhealthy" on U.S. Air Quality Index

Limit time spent outdoors

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON—In the aftermath of the Flood of 2020, and during the COVID-19 shutdown, Columbia County Commissioner Mike Talbott expressed the following sentiment.

"All we need now is a trifecta."

Talbott was referring to the addition of wildfire to the year's challenges.

Columbia County witnessed its first fire of the season this month; the Rattlesnake Fire, thirteen miles southeast of Dayton, burned roughly 475 acres in the Umatilla National Forest. Emergency Management Director Ashley Strickland said conditions are just right to make this a prime time for wildfire.

Wildfires cause other problems beyond property damage.

Dense smoke from the many fires burning throughout the western states settled into the Touchet River Valley last weekend. The air quality was listed as Hazardous on the Washington Air Quality Advisory Index during the weekend. On Monday morning, it was listed as Very Unhealthy on the same index.

The smoke is not expected to clear until the end of this week.

Particulate matter from smoke can exacerbate health problems.

Dayton resident Carol Lane has asthma. She and her friends canceled a camping trip because of the smoke, and she is doing the right thing by staying inside her home.

Particle pollution from smoke is especially dangerous for people who have asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, respiratory infections, heart or circulatory problems, children under the age of 18, pregnant women, smokers, people with diabetes, and people recovering from COVID-19.

Dayton General Hospital Cardiopulmonary Department Manager Tom Anderson said wildfires burn everything in their path.

"All those power lines have cables coated with plastics and rubbers that emit cancer-causing agents when burned. As do all the buildings that get burned to the ground," said Anderson.

Anderson said he sees lots of future business for the Cardiopulmonary Department. Last weekend, he saw a person driving with their window down while smoking a cigarette.

"Please don't let my business be you and your family," he cautioned. "If you are concerned, talk to your provider. Take steps to limit your time outdoors."

Here are some tips from the Washington State Department of Ecology:

If you are indoors:

- Keep indoor air as clean as possible.
- Make a low-cost clean air fan. This simple fan-filter combination can reduce tiny, harmful particles in polluted air. Change the filter when it gets dirty. There is a tutorial on the D.O.E website at Ecology.wa.gov
- Keep windows and doors closed. Blow a fan directly on you to keep cool. Fans cool people, not rooms.
- Check current air quality regularly. Air quality conditions can change quickly. Open your windows for fresh air when air quality gets better.
- Use a high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter in your furnace to reduce indoor air pollution. Change the filter when it gets dirty.

- Set your air conditioner on recirculate so dirty air doesn't come inside.
 - Air purifying machines may help remove smoke particles indoors, but they don't remove gases and odors.
 - Don't add more air pollution: Avoid smoking, using a wood stove or fireplace, burning candles or incense, or vacuuming.
 - Reduce physical activity inside when air quality outside is at or above the "unhealthy" category.
 - Leave the area affected by wildfire smoke if you can't keep the indoor air clean.
- If you are outdoors:
- Check current air quality regularly. Air quality conditions can change quickly.
 - The best respiratory protection is to wear an N95 or N100 mask. However, these are in short supply because of COVID-19, and they need to be saved for medical workers. A paper mask, dust mask, or cloth mask will help a little bit, but won't filter out fine particles or hazardous gases in smoke.

The Columbia County Health System is working with Columbia County Emergency Management Services to distribute KN95 masks to the public. KN95 masks provide 95% protection against particles greater than 0.3 cm in diameter. Residents can obtain these masks from the County Public Health Department at: (509) 382-2181, or from the Waitsburg Clinic at: (509) 337-6311, or from the Columbia County Family Clinic at: (509) 382-3200.

Air Quality Index (AQI) Values	Levels of Health Concern	Colors
<i>When the AQI is in this range:</i>	<i>...air quality conditions are:</i>	<i>...as symbolized by this color:</i>
0 to 50	Good	Green
51 to 100	Moderate	Yellow
101 to 150	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Orange
151 to 200	Unhealthy	Red
201 to 300	Very Unhealthy	Purple
301 to 500	Hazardous	Maroon

U.S Air Quality Index



Ray Compton

Main Street Waitsburg was almost unrecognizable on Friday, September 11. An average September morning quickly turned into one of the haziest events the area has seen when a smoke plume, fed by massive wildfires, covered the state.

AIR QUALITY - FROM PAGE 1

as their lungs are still developing, and they breathe more air per pound of body weight than adults. Pregnant women, adults over the age of 65, people with diabetes, and people who smoke are also in the 'at-risk' group.

Weather patterns over the next couple of days look hopeful through the foreseeable future, with no hot, dry winds expected for at least a week. The air quality is likely to improve over the next week, though smoke will continue to linger.

To stay up to date with air quality conditions in the Walla Walla Valley, visit www.wasmoke.blogspot.com.

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