Thursday Decmember 23, 2021 Vol. 144 No. 43 www.waitsburgtimes.com

SERVING WAITSBURG, DAYTON AND THE TOUCHET VALLEY

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ONE DOLLAR



Pocket iNet truck, covered in electric icicles, passes one of the Holiday Light Contest winner's homes on Saturday night during Waitsburg's heArtfelt Christmas parade.

THIS WEEK



Guady Gals' entry Saturday's Waitsburg Holiday Parade (See page 7)



and cookies for (See page 7)



Pioneer Portrait of the Lions Club Turkey (See page 10)

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Waitsburg City Council met for last time in 2021

Two city properties to be surplused, budget approved

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—The Waitsburg City Council met on December 15 for the year's final meeting. This was the last meeting for outgoing council members Karl Newell and Karen Gregutt. Roughly 15 community members attended the meeting.

During public comment, library board member Marie Gagnon provided an update on the Weller Public Library improvements. She shared that a ceiling project was nearly done, and a wiring project that was started last month was nearly halfway complete. All wiring work is being done by Walla Walla Electric.

She said the wheelchair lift has been ordered and is expected to arrive in January. Library volunteers will complete the landing deck and a small wall on the lower level of the lift to prevent getting fingers or arms pinched.

Terry Lawhead added that the library was purchasing new computers and would be working on bylaw changes in the upcoming month.

Tom Bennett, an owner of American 35 (former Anchor Bar), commented that he would be hosting a small campfire, hot cider, and cookies after the parade on

Mayor Marty Dunn opened a public hearing on the adoption of the 2022 City Budget. Copies of the budget were available for attendees. It is also available online at the city website.

City improvement plans include water and sewer line work, chip sealing, and GIS work to digitize the city's water and sewer line maps. The budget total for 2022 was roughly \$2.5 million.

There will be no tax levy increase in 2022.

TOUCHET VALLEY LADIES GOLF CLUB DONATES TO IRRIGATION PROJECT

THE TIMES

DAYTON—Touchet Valley Ladies Golf joined efforts to fund the irrigation project at the Touchet Valley Golf course. On December 15, Cherie Hinchliff from Touchet Valley Ladies Golf presented a \$2,000.00 check to Sean Thurston, Touchet Valley Golf and Recreation treasurer. This donation was given to help fund the new irrigation project at the Dayton golf course, which will benefit golfers of all ages.

The club hosts Junior Golf each year, offering young golfers in our community a free week of instruction and a BBQ at the end of



WAITSBURG - PAGE 5

Cherie Hinchliffe presenting a \$2,000 check to Sean Thurston, TVG Treasurer

the week. The club provides the program to cultivate new golfers who will love the game as much as they do.

Cherie Hinchliff has been the chairperson in charge of Junior Golf for several years and was selected by the club members to present this donation. Due to COVID19 restrictions, the club has not been able to host Junior Golf for the past two years. They hope to offer a safe class for young golfers again in 2022.

Touchet Valley Ladies Golf is invested in the community and the beautiful golf course that golfers are fortunate to have in Dayton. The club is committed to helping make the course the best it can be for everyone who loves golf.

The club meets on Wednesday mornings from Spring to Fall. They welcome ladies interested in golfing to come and join their group. They strive to have fun when they golf, and it doesn't matter the level of experience. Email tvlgolf@hotmail.com if you would like more information.

All donations to the irrigation project through the Valley Giving Guide will be matched during December. Go to https://tinyurl.com/mrw72ftx.

There is still time to double your gift by taking advantage of the matching donation. Donations can also be made on the following Facebook page, https://www. facebook.com/229814007566081/posts/1013772695836871/?sfnsn=mo

Dayton City Council Meeting

Year-end meeting covered employee and union concerns

By Justin Jaech | THE TIMES

The Dayton City Council convened its regular meeting at 6 p.m. on December 15, 2021. All members of the city council were present except for Byron

The city council discussed Resolution 1484, which ould allow the mayor to execute an interlocal agreement with Columbia County for shoreline planning and master plan updates. Councilmember Mike Paris moved to approve, and Misty Yost seconded. Council passed the resolution unanimously.

Next, the Council considered approving a new contract with the union representing the city's public works employees. The new agreement includes an increase of the annual clothing and boot allowance from \$250 to \$300, subject to the payroll capabilities of the city. The new contract also adds a Health Saving Account (HSA) plan in which the city will match con-

tributions of the employees up to \$25 each month. The contract stipulates union employees will receive a three percent wage increase in 2022, 2023, and 2024. In 2021 employees were given a 1.5 percent wage increase. Under the current contract, an entry-level wage includes possible five-step increases. The new agreement expands the steps to eight beyond the entry-level wage, which could allow the current maximum hourly wage of \$23.71 to increase to \$28.35 per hour with at least 16 years of service with the city.

Christine Broughton moved to approve the resolution with the stipulation that the dollar amount budgeted to cover the HSA not be exceeded. The motion was seconded by Mike Paris and passed unanimously.

Next, the Mayor presented ordinance 2021-1988 to address some "housekeeping issues" with the current 2021 budget. The budget amendment was proposed to reallocate funds across multiple funds to cover costs associated with various city expenses and allocate additional revenues.

City council members felt that the ordinance was unclear. Waitsburg City Administrator Randy Hinchliffe, contracted to develop the budget, was not available to answer any questions due to a schedule conflict. Deb Hays, the interim City Clerk, was asked if the ordinance had to be passed before the end of the calendar year. Ms. Hays said that she thought the city had until January 20, 2022, to "get all their ducks in a row." The Council decided to table the ordinance until the next regular city council meeting.

The final action item was authorization for the mayor to approve a Discretionary Holiday for all regular status City of Dayton employees for Wednesday, December 22, 2021, per city regulations. The day before Christmas is generally approved as a discretionary holiday. With Christmas falling on a Saturday this year, the city employees asked for Wednesday to

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NEWS

NEWS BRIEFS

AT THE LIBERTY:

Encanto

THE TIMES

DAYTON—*Encanto* is the tale of an extraordinary family, the Madrigals, who live hidden in the mountains of Colombia in a magical house, in a vibrant town, in a wondrous, charmed place called an Encanto. The all-new original Disney film (with a screenplay by Lin-Manuel Miranda and others) features the voice of Stephanie Beatriz as Mirabel, an ordinary 15-year-old who's struggling to find her place in her family.

"Mirabel is a really funny, loving character who also deeply yearns for something more," says Beatriz. "She's also not afraid to stand up for what she knows is right—something I love and relate to very much.

This Disney animated film is rated 90% favorable by the critics at Rotten Tomatoes, and 93% by the audience. The critics consensus is that this movie is an enchanting, beautifully animated film for the whole family. The audience assessment is that Encanto delivers gorgeous animation, catchy songs, and a heartwarming message. It is rated PG for some thematic elements and mild peril, with a runtime of 109 minutes. This movie shows at the Liberty Theater DEC 17-28 (2 Weeks, but not on the Friday the 24th or Saturday the 25th) on Friday and Saturday (Dec. 17, 18) at 7:30 pm, Sundays at 3 pm, and on Tuesdays at 6:30 pm (not 7:30).

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

THE LIBERTY THEATER - DAYTON



Thrifty Tuesdays Fridays 7:30 pm Saturdays 7:30 pm

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

EC 17-28

(2 WEEKS)

Reserved Seating
With COVID spacing
Masks Required
Buy tickets online
At libertytheater.org
Or at Box Office
Tues & Fri 2-5 pm

Rated PG

ENCANTO





The Times

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The Times

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THE ROYAL BALLET SCREENING AT GESA POWER HOUSE THEATRE

THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA —Gesa Power House Theatre presents a Live Cinema screening of The Royal Ballet's current production of The Nutcracker on Thursday, December 23 at 7:00 p.m.

The Nutcracker is a family favorite at Christmas time and is one of the most delightful ways to discover the enchantment of ballet. The story of Clara, a girl on a magical Christmas Eve adventure, is accompanied by sparkling music and even dancing sweets! Watch the full company of The Royal Ballet in this much-loved ballet classic.

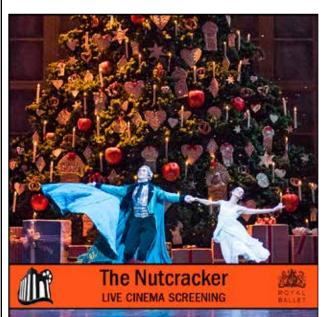
The cast of this production of The Nutcracker includes Akane Takada (The Sugar Plum Fairy), Cesar Corrales (The Prince), Christopher Saunders (Herr Drosselmeyer), Isabella Gasparini (Clara), Luca Acri (Hans-Peter/The Nutcracker).

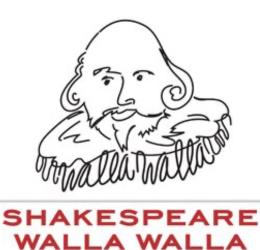
Filmed during a live event, the Live Cinema Series broadcasts offer audiences an equivalent to the best seat in the house, with incredibly detailed close-ups of the performers. Shakespeare Walla Walla supports the Live Cinema Series. The Live Cinema series continues in 2022 with new productions by The Royal Ballet and The Royal Opera.

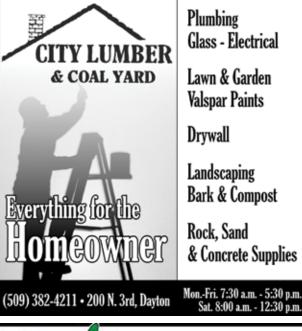
This screening has an approximate runtime of 2 hours 30 minutes. Beer, wine, popcorn, and snacks will be available for purchase and may be taken into the theater.

General admission tickets (\$15 adults, \$10 students) are available online at www.phtww.org or by calling the box office at 509-529-6500.

Additional precautions, such as required mask use for unvaccinated patrons, will be observed based on the latest guidance from state and county health departments.









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NEW YEAR'S EVE COMMUNITY FIREWORKS DISPLAY WILL BEGIN AT 8 P.M.

THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA—The city of Walla Walla is announcing its New Year's Eve community fireworks display will begin at 8 p.m. on Dec. 31, 2021, based on a survey conducted earlier this month.

The fireworks will be launched at Walla Walla Community College and last around 15 minutes. Western Display Fireworks will produce the pyrotechnics, which is expected to include some of the largest shells ever launched in the Walla Walla Valley. All community members are invited to attend the free, family-friendly event.

Residents selected the start time for the event via an online survey that was open from Dec. 2-13, 2021. Survey respondents were asked to choose one of three options: 8 p.m., 9 p.m., and midnight.

The city received 260 years by the deadline of

The city received 869 votes by the deadline; of those, 520 were cast for the event to start at 8 p.m. (59.83%), 180 were cast for midnight (20.76%), and 167 were cast for 9 p.m. (19.22%).

The display was originally scheduled for July 4, 2021, but city officials on June 29 decided to postpone the event due to the extreme heat and drought conditions at the time.

SENIORS HONORED BY EXCHANGE CLUB

THE TIMES



Dana Evans, Club President, and and Phillip Provost, Youth-Activities director honored seniors Megan Forney and Brayden Mohney on December 15th at the Walla Walla Exchange Club luncheon as Youth of the Month for December. They each received a plaque and read their essays during the luncheon. Both will be competing for a \$1000 college scholarship.

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

WSU Walla Walla County Extension is searching for a full-time 4-H Coordinator. This WSU Administrative Professional position provides oversight and leadership, including volunteer management, for the 4-H Program in Walla Walla County. This position is also responsible for community outreach efforts and serving youth outside of the 4-H club system under the direction of the Extension Director, 4-H Youth Development Faculty, and the State 4-H Director. A bachelor's degree and two (2) years of experience in a related field are required. Must be available to work frequent evenings and weekends. Experience with 4-H desired, but not required. Must be able to pass a criminal history check and provide proof of vaccination. For more information and a full job description, visit: https://wsu. wd5 myworkdayjobs.com/ en-US/WSU_Jobs/job/Walla-Walla-County-4-H-Youth-Development-Extension-Coordinator_R-3179 WSU IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/ AFFIRMATIVE ACTION **EDUCATOR AND EMPLOYER**

4-H Youth Development

Extension Coordinator

Academic Specialist |
Dayton Middle School
WSU Tri-Cities GEAR UP
is seeking an Academic
Specialist at Dayton Middle
School with a work location
in Dayton, WA. Position has
responsibility for increasing
GEAR UP students' academic
performance, family
engagement, awareness of
post-secondary opportunities,
and career exploration. Ability
to tutor Algebra is preferred.
Position requires a Bachelor's

degree and two (2) years of professional work experience in student services or related education/experience. A Master's degree in a related field may substitute for one (1) year of professional work experience. Any combination of relevant education and professional experience may be substituted for the educational requirement on a year-for-year basis.

Student Achievement Specialist | Prescott Junior **Senior High School** WSU Tri-Cities GEAR UP is seeking a Student Achievement Specialist at Prescott Junior Senior High School with a work location in Prescott, WA. Position has the responsibilities of tutoring, advising and mentoring students to include assessing participants' needs and creating individual action plans. Provides student and academic support services to increase college and career readiness, guide students with college and career exploration, support in planning and supervising field trips to college campuses Position requires a Bachelor's degree and two (2) years of professional work experience in student services or related education/experience, A Master's degree in a related field may substitute for one (1) year of professional work experience. Any combination of relevant education and professional experience may be substituted for the educational requirement on a year-for-year basis. Apply online by January 3, 2022 at https://hrs.wsu.edu/ jobs/. WSU is an EO/AA educator and employer.

Waitsburg **School Board** swears in new member, looks to 2022

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—The Waitsburg School Board held its final regular meeting of the year on December 15, 2021. Board member Stephanie Cole was unable to attend.

The meeting started with the newest board member, Dr. Carol Clarke, being sworn in by Superintendent Mark Pickel. Clarke will hold the seat formerly filled by Pam Chapman through the remainder of the

Secondary Principal Stephanie Wooderchak reported that two Waitsburg High School students, Megan Forney and Brayden Mohney, were recognized for essays they wrote at a special presentation during the Walla Walla Exchange Club meeting earlier that day.

Hannah Peralez and Abbi Paolino were recognized for their essays submitted to the American Legion Auxiliary contest. Both girls were awarded a gold \$100 bill for their writing.

The Plaza Theater hosted the Waitsburg School District students for a special movie screening before the winter break. Wooderchak reported that the Plaza donated the space for the event.

She reported various upcoming events, including ski dates for middle and high school students. Tentative dates for sixth graders going to Camp Wooten are May 31-June 3. She said the school would provide updates as they get closer to the actual dates. Board members added that they were very thankful that Camp Wooten would open this year.

Superintendent Pickel shared a sports update on behalf of Athletic Director Sam Korslund, who was attending the Dayton School Board meeting that same evening. High school basketball teams were in COVID-19 quarantine after a player showed up to practice despite being symptomatic and later testing positive.

Pickel reported that the AD and boys basketball coaching staff were exploring options to allow 8thgrade boys to play high school JV due to low turnouts.

He provided a tentative update on Spring Sports, including 14 high school baseball players, 11 softball players, nine track and field athletes, and five golf athletes interested. He also gave a brief update on the future fall sports schedule.

The DW Combine seats had all been filled, and the committee will begin addressing issues that the future of the combine will face, including WIAA classification and facilities use. Board member Clarke asked if the Combine had established any minimum numbers for sports teams. Pickel said that the combine had, in 2019.

Pickel shared a facilities and maintenance report. He said that maintenance staff was preparing for projects that would take place over Christmas break and that two school bus drivers would be taking their CDL driving test that week. One driver would be a substitute driver only, while the other was interested in driving a regular route.

The drivers would be going to Connell to test, Pickel said, after they had issues with the CDL test administrator in Walla Walla. Pickel reported that the Walla Walla tester stopped the testing after the two aspiring bus drivers failed their pre-trip inspection. The drivers were not given an opportunity to advance. This is a standard practice in Washington State CDL testing.

The goal was to find a tester that would be slightly more accommodating to encourage the new drivers' confidence would not be squashed.

During the Elementary Principal report, Pickel shared that the school's building goal was to focus on writing skills across all grades. He said that teachers were currently reading "The Writing Revolution,"

working with ESD 123 on professional development regarding writing. After reading the book, the staff will work with Lindsey Fangman from ESD 123. Pickle said they would be focusing on what each teacher needs incoming students to know as they move through their school years.

Pickle said Santa visited the Elementary School earlier in December for hot cocoa and pictures with the students and families. Pickel said that it was an enjoyable event, and Karen Huwe had taken photos for the event.

He shared that elementary school students hung their hand-made ornaments on the Community Christmas Tree in downtown Waitsburg. He thanked Walla Walla Electric for providing a truck to hang ornaments in higher areas on the tree. Students also performed for the Winter Program on December 14, and the program was live-streamed online. The live stream is available to view on the district's Facebook

During the Superintendent Report, Pickel shared a brief enrollment update. He said that he was aware of a couple of families moving out of the area, and he expected the full-time enrollment (FTE) to go down

Walla Walla County Department of Community Health held a vaccine clinic at the school's multipurpose room, and they would be holding a second dose and booster clinic on January 4th. If anybody in the community needs a booster, Pickel has asked that they reach out to him so that he can provide the DCH with the correct number for dosage purposes.

An appraiser had been out on December 1 to begin the appraisal process for two properties owned by the district, which were to be sold. A public notice will be published before the sale of the properties.

The board discussed student representation on the board. Board member Sarah Boudrieau said that she had spoken to other districts that offered a partial credit for student representatives and was asked to forward that information to Wooderchak for review. Pickel said he would be revising student forms and a timeline for the next regular meeting.

After reviewing new policies for the first reading, the board adjourned.

DAYTON - FROM PAGE 1

be the discretionary holiday rather than the day before Christmas as is customary. The Council passed the motion without com-

The mayor introduced the new public works director, Ryan Paulson. Weatherford also thanked Christine Broughton and Mike Paris for their many years of service. He also thanked Heather Hebert and Fred Crowe for stepping up to serve when needed.

Christine Broughton, speaking for the Parks and Recreation Committee, said it had begun looking at redesigning the city park and was working with Vickie Zoller concerning the proposed public pool.



Mike Paris (above) and Christine Broughton were thanked for their service.

Misty Yost reported the HR Committee had been revamping the City Planner and Clerk/Treasurer job descriptions with input from Dena Martin. Yost included salary and benefit information in the job descriptions. Yost changed some requirements to allow job experience to substitute for education. The hope is that the changes to the job descriptions would attract more people to apply for these vacant positions. The Council voted to approve the new job descriptions.

During public comment, Zoller said that a feasibility study must be done to determine the cost to build and maintain the pool. The Friends of the Pool advocates for a Parks and Recreation Parks District. Zoller offered the same proposal to the Columbia Port District.

The consensus of the Mayor and Council was that the city wants to support the aims of the Friends of the Pool but were unwilling to support the project financially at present.

Zoller said she thought money for the feasibility study would need to be raised before March to meet the timeline to get the matter on the ballot in November.

The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.

Community Calendar

Waitsburg Monthly Meetings

Waitsburg City Council

Third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Waitsburg School Board

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

Waitsburg Gun Club

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

Walla Walla County Commissioners

Every Monday and Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m.

Call-in information is available at https:// www.co.walla-walla.wa.us/government/ commissioners/2020 agendas.php

Friends of the Weller Public Library TBA Weller Public Library,

212 Main St., Waitsburg

Waitsburg Celebration Days Meeting

Location to be announced

Dayton & Columbia County Meetings

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

Board of Columbia County Commissioners work session meetings Second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 9 a.m.

Call-in information available at https:// www.columbiaco.com/114/County-**Commissioners**

Dayton City Council

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

Dayton School Board

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

Columbia County Public Hospital District Board of Commissioners

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

Dayton Memorial Library Board of Trust-

Every month on the Third Monday at 7:00

Zoom Meeting ID: 852 3836 3787

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

Dayton Kiwanis Club Meeting - Online Second and Fourth Thursday at Noon Zoom Meeting ID: 559 815 3650

Starbuck City Council

ees Meeting

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

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5598153650

Waitsburg Presbyterian Church 504 Main Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. 337-6589 Pastor Stan Hughes Waitsburg Chapel Sunday School 9:45 a.m Worship 11 a.m. Evening Worship 6 p.m. Bible Study Wednesdays 7:30 p.m. 337-6235 Rev. Jimmie Daves Waitsburg Christian Church

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

DAYTON SENIOR ROUND TABLE LUNCH

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

Thursday, September 23

Tuesday, September 28

CENTER 504 Main Street

WAITSBURG SENIOR

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

Tuesday, December 28 Chicken & dumplings Vegetable

Pea salad Fruit juice Brownie

WAITSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

Winter Break December 20 - Decemember 31

No School until January 3.





Brought to you courtesy of Lloyd's Insurance, Inc

Thursday, December 23, 2021 - THE TIMES | 3

NEWS & COMMENTARY

LETTERS

Letter to the Editor -

I am writing in support of our Columbia County Sheriff's Office. Sheriff Joe Helm has created a strong team of Deputies that choose to serve and protect our county. THANK YOU ALL!

It's always easy to boo and hiss from the cheap seats. It's always easy to hide behind a keyboard and post inflammatory statements or outright lies to social media. It's easy to cherry pick incidents and use those random incidents to display law enforcement in a bad light. I rarely see those same people sharing all the positive deeds performed every day by our local Sheriff and Deputies. These are folks that are plugged into this community in many ways both professionally and personally. They are members of our community just like everyone else and it matters to them that we all have a safe community to live in. However, they also have a job to do, a job that is complicated on any given day and even more so by recent changes in laws in Washington State. It's unfortunate that there are people that cannot police themselves and therefore need to have police do it for them.

What's fortunate is to have a Sheriff that cares about the county he serves, is focused on positive community-based policing and is striving to build a team of Deputies that are willing every day to do a job that not everyone or anyone could do.

So, THANK YOU Sheriff Helm, we appreciate your leadership skills and appreciate the work and protection your Deputies provide for Columbia County.

Vicki Zoller Dayton, Wash.



Touchet Valley Weather

WALLA WALLA COUNTY VACCINE CLINIC UPDATE

THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA— Walla Walla County Department of Community Health (DCH) and healthcare partners will temporarily close the Providence Southgate vaccine clinic during the week of December 20. Additionally, the Southgate clinic will have altered hours for the week of December 27.

There will be two clinics for anyone 12 years and older on Tuesday, December 28 and Wednesday, December 29. On Thursday, December 30, the clinic will offer first- and second-dose vaccines to those ages 5-11 years old. The clinic will be closed on Friday, December 31 and Saturday, January 1.

Beginning after the New Year, the vaccine clinic schedule will change from what it has been at Southgate. Instead of offering doses Tuesday through Saturday, the clinic will be open Thursday through Saturday. Everyone interested in scheduling an appointment at Providence Southgate should visit https://www.covidwwc.com/clinics.

The COVID testing site at Providence Southgate will not have altered hours for the week of December 20. The site will be open Monday, December 20 through Friday, December 24, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Anyone in need of a COVID test can find testing appointments and locations at https://www.covidwwc.com/testing.

Residents without Internet/computer access can call the DCH helpline (509) 524-2647 and leave their name, date of birth, phone number, and a message stating that they need assistance scheduling an appointment.

DCH encourages all residents to visit the County COVID website or text COVIDWW to 888777 for information on upcoming vaccination clinics.



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Valley Vision Clinic 22 West Main Street Walla Walla, WA 99362 www.valleyvisionclinic.com

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Dennis Poffenroth, O.D. Luther Ness, O.D. Angela Ferguson, O.D. Jeremy Beam, O.D.

Rick Harrison, O.D.

Justin Dalke, O.D. Dec. 22, 2021 Waitsburg's Seven Day Forecast

Wednesday **Thursday** Saturday Sunday Friday Monday Tuesday Scattered Rain Scattered Rain Scattered Snow Scattered Snow Scattered Snow Cloudy High: 49 Low: 38 High: 46 Low: 33 High: 44 Low: 34 High: 41 Low: 26 High: 34 Low: 19 High: 30 Low: 16 High: 29 Low: 13 **Weather Trivia Local Almanac Last Week** the Greeks and $oldsymbol{\gamma}$ ans often erect Did Day High Low Normals Precip Precipitation 1.13' 40 36 41/30 Tuesday 0.00'Romans often Normal precipitation 0.51" Wednesday 43 41/30 28 0.00" temples where lightning Departure from normal+0.62' Thursday 37 30 40/30 0.09" Average temperature 34.9° Friday 39 27 40/30 0.03" Answer: Yes, they worshiped the gods there in an attempt to appease Average normal temperature 35.1° 54 40/30 0.00" 28 Saturday Departure from normal-0.2° 0.74" Sunday 42 29 40/30 **Weather History** Monday 30 40/30 0.27" Data as reported from Walla Walla Dec. 22, 1983 - On the first day Sun/Moon Chart This Week winter, 75 cities reported record low temperatures for the Moonrise Sunrise Sunset Moonset **Day** date. Twelve of these reported Wednesday 7:33 a.m. 4:10 p.m. 10:24 a.m. 7:27 p.m. First

Thursday

Saturday

Sunday

Monday

Friday

Tuesday 4:14 p.m. 1:20 a.m. **Reader's Forum**

7:33 a.m.

7:33 a.m.

7:34 a.m.

7:34 a.m.

7:34 a.m.

4:11 p.m.

4:12 p.m.

4:12 p.m.

4:13 p.m.

4:14 p.m.

8:36 p.m.

9:45 p.m.

10:53 a.m.

11:17 a.m.

Full

10:55 p.m. 11:38 a.m.

Prev Day 11:58 a.m.

12:06 a.m. 12:18 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

Preference comes following additional reports of blood clots after J&J vaccinations THE TIMES

PFIZER, MODERNA VACCINES

NOW RECOMMENDED OVER

JOHNSON & JOHNSON

OLYMPIA,—The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) is recommending people 18 and older choose to receive an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) instead of the single-shot Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine. This update follows guidance and recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices

(ACIP) and the Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup. Individuals who wish to receive the J&J vaccine are encouraged to reach out to their health care provider to discuss their options, as J&J will still be available across the state.

The preferential recommendation follows new

data presented to the ACIP about thrombosis and thrombocytopenia syndrome, or TTS. TTS is a rare but serious condition involving blood clots and a low blood platelet count seen in some people who received the J&J vaccine. However, the risk is rare. Nationwide, 54 cases of TTS, including nine confirmed deaths, have been reported, which is a fraction of a percent of the 14 million doses of J&J given overall. While TTS has been seen in both men and women, the most at-risk group is women 30 through 49. People who received the J&J vaccine who develop a severe headache, abdominal pain, leg pain, or shortness of breath within three weeks after vaccination should contact their health care provider.

Of the more than 11.4 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine given out across Washington, about 436,000 doses have been the J&J vaccine, which equals about 4%. According to data reported to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) through Nov. 30, there have been six possible cases of TTS following J&J vaccinations in Washington, including one death.

"Public health and safety are, and will always be, our top priorities, which is why we are adopting this new guidance," said Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH, Secretary of Health. "Today, more than 5 million Washingtonians are fully vaccinated, which means they are protecting themselves from serious illness, hospitalization, and death. I continue to encourage everyone to get vaccinated and, with this news, boosted with an mRNA vaccine as soon as possible."

"With this recommendation, COVID-19 vaccines based on mRNA are preferred over J&J vaccines, but J&J continues to be an option for those who aren't able to receive mRNA vaccine," said Dr. Tao Sheng Kwan-Gett, Chief Science Officer. "With new variants like omicron on the scene, it's important for people to get vaccinated and boosted to increase their protection against COVID-19, especially the elderly, children, and adults with chronic conditions. Vaccines save lives."

Those with questions or concerns are encouraged to talk to their trusted health care provider or visit DOH's COVID-19 Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions page. Everyone five and older are currently eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. The ACIP recommends everyone 16 and older receive a booster dose of mRNA vaccine two months after the first dose of J&J or six months after completing the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine series. mRNA booster doses after an initial dose of J&J have been shown to be effective. To find vaccine locations near you, visit Vaccine Locator, Vaccines.gov, or call the state's COVID-19 hotline at 833-VAX-HELP. Language assistance is available.

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The Times

12/26

New

record lows for the month. The

mercury plunged to 51 degrees

below zero at Wisdom, Mont.

Waco, Texas set an all-time low

at 12 above zero.

A PROUD TRADITION

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

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

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

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NEWS

Dayton School Board Update

Board discussed retention efforts and Day Estate Trust

By Justin Jaech | THE TIMES

The Dayton School Board held its monthly meeting using Zoom at 6 p.m., December 15, 2021. All board members were present for the Zoom meeting, David Bailey (Chair), Zac Fabian, Grant Griffen, Jeffrey McCowen, and Fred White.

Fred White made a motion to approve the consent agenda, comprised of the minutes for the November 17 and December 1, 2021, meetings, and recommendations to hire Jerry Dedloff Jr. as a custodian and Angie Whaley as the youth & government advisor. Also included in the consent agenda was approval for a stipend for the HR/Benefits Director, a stipend for the robotics club advisor, Jeanne Walter, acceptance of the resignation/retirement of paraprofessional Peggy Robanske, and approval of Dan Rushing's leave of absence for the remainder of the year.

There was no public comment offered during that portion of the meeting.

Dr. Molly Kreyssler from Bloom Consulting reported on the Student and Staff Workshop results, held as a part of the superintendent's school improvement plan. The complete report is available on the district's website as part of the School Board Packet for the December 15, 2021, meeting.

The report contains results from feedback forums conducted with students from fifth through twelfth grades to understand why students are leaving the district. The most common response from students was the wish for a more positive community in and around their learning environment. Students sought more positive leadership and modeling from teachers and staff.

Some participants cited bullying and the lack of a culture of kindness as problems. The school has received some positive feedback on the recently launched kindness campaign.

Students expressed a willingness to accept positive change; however, students did not express a high level of optimism that the district would implement positive change. Dr. Kreyssler recommended staff keep a positive tone when talking about issues in front of students as negative remarks may color students' overall perception of the school.

Feedback from the students said some do not feel cared for or wanted in the Dayton School. Furthermore, students stated they are willing to accept necessary disciplinary actions but want their discipline to be a learning experience.

Jeff McCowen asked Dr. Kreyssler what the staff provided as feedback. Dr. Kreyssler had spent an hour with the K-5 staff and the 6-12 staff. Both groups identified modeling as their primary action to address the issues raised by the students. Teachers also expressed how difficult it is to distinguish between teasing and bullying by someone who has not heard the whole exchange.

Trista Villaro, ASB president, reported that spirit week has been postponed until January and will be a basketball spirit week. She also said that the ASB wrapped up homecoming in October.



Kol Medina, president of Blue Mountain Community Foundation.

Kol Medina, president of the Blue Mountain Community Foundation (BMCF), gave an overview of the Day Estate Trust. The BMCF is a charitable bank and manages trust assets donated for funding charitable causes, often in grants and scholarships. The Day Estate Trust was established in 1972 by William Day's estate

with two beneficiaries, the Dayton School District and the Columbia County Hospital District, each receiving 2.5 percent of the assets each year.

A local bank initially managed the trust, but after a series of bank acquisitions, the Day Estate Trust is now managed by Bank of America as a trustee. Bank of America is a for-profit institution and required by law to distribute funds based on the value of the total assets, not just the income each year.

For example, Bank of America manages a similar trust consisting of a farm with two schools as beneficiaries. Since the appraised value of the farmland has been increasing rapidly, the required distributions are depleting liquid assets. The bank may soon be forced to sell off the farmland to pay the required percentage of assets to the trust's beneficiaries each year.

In the interest of keeping the Day Estate farm intact, other trustee options are being sought. The BMCF is a non-profit organization and is not constrained by the same distribution rules as Bank of America. As trustees, they would keep the farm intact with lower management costs.

Depending on the farm's profits, the income to the school and hospital would be roughly comparable to what it has been in the past, perhaps slightly higher. Bank of America has asked to sign off on the Non-Judicial Agreement authorizing the transfer of assets to the BMCF. Beneficiary agreements to the asset transfer are not required by law but sought as a courtesy. Earlier in the day, Mr. Medina asked and received approval for the transfer from the Hospital District at their board meeting.

The school athletic director, Sam Korslund, reported that a COVID-19 symptomatic player on the boy's high school basketball team attended practice last week, causing the week's games to be canceled. All players were tested the following Monday, and none tested positive. Mr. Korslund will be able to make up the games lost by picking up a couple of games over Christmas break.

On Friday after the board meeting, Mr. Korslund sent an e-mail to parents informing them that the Washington State Department of Health, in response to an increase of COVID-19 cases linked to interscholastic sports, has increased the testing requirements for all indoor, high-risk sports. Testing will now be required for all athletes, regardless of vaccination status, and will increase from twice per week to three times per week. Testing of athletes will be done on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of each week beginning in January.

The middle school boys' basketball season concludes this Saturday in Burbank. The girls' middle school basketball team begins practicing on January 3, 2022. Sign-ups for spring sports have been good, and the football schedule for next fall is complete with a full nine-game slate. All the athletic combine committee positions are filled with the first meeting to be scheduled in January.

Elementary school principal, Amy Cox, reported the school counselors would be running social-emotional workshops along with art workshops for select students during Christmas break. She also discussed the student of the month program where their teachers would choose a handful of students based on criteria, not necessarily academics.

Principal Cox addressed the behavior plan, calling it a "work in progress." The school is working on restorative practices and looking at proper consequences to address behavior problems, emphasizing natural consequences. In short, the program is being designed to solve behavior problems, not just assign punitive actions.

Kristina Brown, the secondary school principal, also spoke of the student of the month program, saying the program focuses on character strengths, not just academics. For example, this month's awardees were based on the character attribute "respect."

Superintendent Guy Strot reported no significant changes to the district's COVID-19 numbers or

The district's full-time enrollment report showed that in August 2020, compared to December 2021, the elementary school numbers increased from 174 to 177, middle school decreased from 94 to 77, and high school decreased from 108 to 92. Overall, the district has 346 students now compared to 376 in August 2020.

Strot has ordered signs to be posted notifying the general public that school property is closed to the public during school hours and after dark.

The board took care of several administrative items and adjourned the meeting at 7:01 PM

WAITSBURG - FROM PAGE 1 Fifty-seven percent of the levy funds will go towards the General Fund, while the other 43% will go to the City Street and Road Fund to help cover the city's share of work planned for the up-

Joseph Roberts, co-owner of the Royal Block, asked if the actual budget was available to view and if yearover-year comparisons were available.

City Administrator Randy Hinchliffe said that the city considers year-over-year comparisons to create each year's budget, but he added that annual budgets fluctuate as services change. He used last year as an example, where the General Fund showed a large shortage because the city handed garbage services over to Basin Disposal instead of handling the ser-

The city approved the budget as presented.

The council approved the third payment of \$7,050.53 for the Millrace Grade Improvement proj-

Last month, the council rejected all surplus bids for the vacant lot between the American 35 and the former WhoopemUp Café. The council decided to review and revise the city's real-estate policy.

Changes to the policy included adding options to the bidding process. Under the revised policy, the city may choose one or more of four methods to market and dispose of surplus property. Under sealed bidding, the city requests bids no less than 90% of the assessed value. The city may accept the highest and

The main revision allows the city to request proposals that specify the proposed use for the surplus real property. The request for proposals will enumerate the council's factors, requested to evaluate the proposals. These should include price which does not have greater weight then the other factors.

The revised policy is temporarily available to view at the city's website, <u>www.cityofwaitsburg.com</u>. The council approved the revised policy.

The council reviewed and approved the State of Washington Transportation Improvement Board Fuel Tax Grant Agreement, which would cover up to \$45,124 of certain project costs. The money would be used towards chip seal project costs in the upcoming

An agreement for legal services with Jared Hawkins of Hawkins Law, PLLC, of Walla Walla was approved. Hawkins Law will charge \$200 per hour, reduced from \$225 per hour.

The council discussed a contract from Anderson Perry & Associates, of Walla Walla, for a GIS Jumpstart and High Accuracy Asset Inventory, to begin preparations for the GIS Mapping project, which will provide an accurate, digitized map of the city's sewer lines. The cost of the contract is not to exceed \$59,596.

Councilmember Henze shared that during a Community Health and Preparedness meeting, Lanny Adams noted the GIS system could be helpful for flood control and mitigation efforts. Councilmember Gregutt added that it would be helpful with fire hydrant use and maintenance. The contract, which was approved by the council, can be viewed in the online meeting packet.

The council approved the surplus of the vacant lot at 124 Main Street, using the request for proposal model. Proposals must be submitted to City Hall by 2 p.m. on January 14, 2022. The bids must be no less than 90% of the appraised value of \$24,000. The council will review the bids and award the surplus in January 2022.

Council approved the surplus of the former City Hall building, 147 Main Street, also using the request for proposal model. Proposals must be submitted to City Hall by 2 p.m. on January 14, 2022.

The council voted to table the Touchet River Levee Rehab Project until the January 2022 meeting.

During reports, Mayor Marty Dunn said the council had overcome a challenging year, and he thanked them for their work. He also thanked Hinchliffe and the rest of the city's staff, including public works, for all their work and their ability to get the necessary work done, even though they were short-staffed. Mayor Dunn also thanked the outgoing council members for their service.

Councilmember Henze shared that the Community Health and Protection committee met and discussed the use of the GIS system in relation to flood control and mitigation efforts. She also shared that she had attended an Elected Officials training earlier in the month and had 'learned a lot.'

Councilmember Romine said that an alleged solicitor in town was very pushy. He urged community members to call the non-emergency dispatch line to report similar incidents.

Wrapping up ten years of service, Councilmember Newell's closing words were 'I believe in term limits.' The remarks garnered a laugh out of the entire room.

Councilmember Gregutt provided an update from the Planning Commission, sharing that the American 35 owners presented changes to the façade of the building that the commission recommended the council approve. The commission asked the owners to present a more detailed plan for the buildings painting scheme.

She said a resident had approached the commission with pre-approval questions for lot-line adjustments. It was determined that the adjustment was not a good approach, but everything was handled smoothly.

She shared three thoughts as she neared the end of her final meeting. She echoed Mayor Dunn, saying she felt that the council handled a pandemic-riddled year very well. She thanked all the council members for their time and the skills they bring to the Council table. She thanked Hawkins and Hinchliffe for all their work and then shared that serving the city had been a privilege.

The council voted to approve the payment of bills before adjourning for the night.

BIRTHDAYS

December 23: Tyler Hofer, Joyce Beckley, Claire Raven, Alta Daniel, Larry Bickelhaupt, Lorene Brown, Kim Douglas, Richard Bessey, Karen Lambert, Chelsea Gore.

December 24: Shirley Kitterman, Carolyn O'Brien, Shane Hilton, Mary Conner, Barbara Wagener, Tracey Harper, Karen Stroobants.

December 25: Solon Pietila, Donna Manley, Les Richardson, Sonia Borrowdale, Annette Becker, Carol Hevel, Dalton Carlisle, and Neil

December 26: Sandra Farley, Sydney Claire Brookshire, Jennifer Nielsen, Margie Douglas.

December 27: Everett Wright, Laura Keyser, Veronica Hartwell, Adam Branson, Marcus Mead.

December 28: Brendan Donovan, Peggy Baker Mudd, Marie Leonard, Nancy Otterson, Jo Ann Perry, Ellie McWilliams, Scott Huwe, Gail Harshman, Sarah Chromy, Kelly Jo Lyons, Janice Mason Eatherton, Christopher Danforth, Richelle Coleman, Jayce Gleason and Jay Dimak.

December 29: Jared Kibler, Betty Rollins, Linda Anderson, Howard Laughery, Dick Finch, Miles Hubbard, Holly Menino, Kevin Blair, Colby Mayberry.

NEWS & LEGALS

COLUMBIA PULP AND GMCO CORP ANNOUNCE NEW PRODUCT LAUNCH

DAYTON—Columbia Pulp I, LLC and GMCO Corporation announced plans to partner in the processing and sale of an innovative chloride-free soil stabilization and dust control product under GMCO's IntegriBlend brand. The IntegriBlend-CF product developed by GMCO is built upon Columbia Pulp's novel biopolymer chemistry platform, introducing a high-performance non-chloride alternative to dust suppression and soil stabilization applications.

The biopolymer is a natural plant extract derived from the wheat straw pulping process, one of several natural product lines being produced at Columbia Pulp's state of the art biorefinery located in SE Washington state.

"We couldn't be more pleased working with GMCO's product development and sales team. They're a proven leader in the marketplace and a good fit for this sector of our business" says K.C. Kuykendall, V.P. of Sales and Technology Bio-Polymer Division with Columbia Pulp.

"GMCO Corporation is excited and proud of our new partnership with Columbia Pulp. The technological concept that Columbia Pulp set out to prove years ago was an incredible idea and has now been proven by the diligent people within that organization. Their bio-polymer adds another dimension to GMCO's lineup of products used to meet the diverse demands of our customers" says Jeremy Henderson, President.

GMCO Corporation

In the early 1960s, GMCO Corporation began serving the Western Slope of Colorado through road construction projects and chip sealing work. Client base grew, an opportunity to expand services and began offering gravel road stabilization products that safely controlled dust while preserving the road. Today, GMCO serves Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Texas, Nebraska, Washington, Idaho and California specializing in environmentally friendly and naturally derived road maintenance products including their new bagged salt product Torch SD and livestock feed salt. GMCO is proud to be committed to transporting, storing, and applying products that are responsible and with a focus on environmental preservation and sustainability. Visit www.gmcocorp.com

Columbia Pulp I LLC

Columbia Pulp upcycles residual wheat straw into eco-friendly alternative fiber wetlap pulp serving the paper and packaging industries. The Company also produces unique biopolymer products with several industrial and agricultural applications. Utilizing locally sourced straw and an innovative biorefinery process, Columbia Pulp's 140,000-square-foot mill adds roughly one hundred family wage jobs to the agricultural communities of southeast Washington. Columbia Bio-Polymer products are sustainable American-made derivatives of wheat straw, free of the quality and supply inconsistencies common to other wood and agriculture- based products.

NEW COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDANCE RELEASED AFTER MULTI-COUNTY OUTBREAK LINKED TO HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING TOURNAMENTS

THE TIMES

OLYMPIA - The Washington State Department of Health (DOH), is updating the health and safety requirements for high contact indoor sports in the wake of a multi-school, multi-county outbreak. The outbreaks are linked to a series of wrestling tournaments held in early December and are linked to an estimated 200 COVID-19 cases. Genomic sequencing recently confirmed at least three cases are omicron.

DOH takes these outbreaks very seriously and is changing the existing guidance by adding the following health and safety measures for all indoor, high-contact sports and activities (basketball, wrestling, water polo, and competitive cheer), effective immediately:

- Required testing of all athletes, coaches, trainers, and support personnel, regardless of vaccination status.
- Increased testing frequency to three times per week. Among those screening tests, at least one must occur no sooner than the day before the competition; ideally, and whenever possible, the day of the event.
- In addition, DOH wants to remind people of existing requirements for all K-12 sporting events that help keep athletes, staff, and families safer when attending these events:
- All indoor event spectators must wear masks and should distance from other families or households to the degree possible.
- Mask wearing is required among all athletes, coaches, trainers, and support personnel in indoor public spaces except when actively competing. Referees must wear masks except when actively officiated and running.
- DOH also recognizes some of the affected local health, education, or athletic leaders are choosing to postpone or cancel sporting events or pause sporting activities in order to stop further spread of the disease. There may be differences in how these activities are handled, so they would encourage people to be patient with any potential process or scheduling changes at the local level.

'Omicron is a game-changer, but we know layered prevention measures slow the spread of COVID-19 in sports, schools, and communities." said Lacy Fehrenbach, Deputy Secretary for the COVID-19 response. "Please get vaccinated, boosted, wear a well-fitting mask, and maintain your distance to help our kids stay healthy, stay in the game, and stay in school."

'Vaccinations, in addition to testing and masking, will help keep our athletes healthy and allow everyone to continue to enjoy sporting events while also limiting the spread of disease," said Dr. Tao Sheng Kwan-Gett, Chief Science Officer. "Getting a booster will make protection against the omicron variant even stronger. The booster vaccine is now available for everyone 16 years and older."







LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE SUPERIOR **COURT OF THE STATE OF** WASHINGTON

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA No. 21 2 00517 36 **SUMMONS ERIC AND MARGARET** ANDERSON, as Trustees of the EMA Trust, Plaintiffs,

A 26 FOOT CIRCULAR PARCEL OF REAL PROPERTY QUITCLAIMED TO GEORGE B. DAGUE AND BERTHA L. DAGUE ON JUNE 8th 1917; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OR SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST TO GEORGE B. DAGUE and BERTHA L. DAGUE; and ALSO ALL OTHER PERSONS OR PARTIES UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY RIGHT. TITLE, ESTATE, LIEN, OR INTEREST IN THE REAL ESTATE DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT HEREIN.

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

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

Plaintiffs seek to quiet title

to a 26-foot circular parcel of real property ("the Subject Property") located in Walla Walla County in the State of Washington, which parcel of real property was quitclaimed to George B. Dague and Bertha L. Dague on June 8, 1917. Plaintiffs, together with their predecessors in possession, have been in the actual, open, adverse, notorious, and uninterrupted possession of the Subject Property for more than ten (10) years immediately prior hereto, and are entitled to a judgment of the court establishing the validity of that title and barring any further claim of any person or entity to the Subject Property. DATED this 16th day of

November, 2021. HAWKINS LAW, PLLC By: /s/ Brian H. Andrews,

WSBA #57791 Of Attorneys for Plaintiffs The Times November 18, 25

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



IN THE SUPERIOR **COURT OF THE STATE OF** WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA NO. 21 4 00265 36 PROBATE NOTICE TO **CREDITORS** In re the Estate of DOUGLAS B. HARVEY, 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 by RCW 11.40.070 by serving or mailing to the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the

(1) Thirty (30) days after the personal representative 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: 23 Dec, 2021 (anticipated) Personal Representative: Jane Y. Hashimoto

c/o Michael E. de Grasse Counsel for Personal Representative 59 S. Palouse St. P. O. Box 494

Walla Walla, WA 99362 Walla Walla County Superior Court Cause No.: 21 4 00265 36

/s/ Jane Y. Hashimoto, Personal Representative The Times December 23, 30, 2021, January 6, 2022

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

WALLA WALLA No. 21 4 00272 36 PROBATE NOTICE OF **CREDITORS**

In Re the Estate of PAULA FAIRLEY JR Deceased.

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

Date of First Publication: December 23, 2021 /s/ CANDICE PARKS,

Administrator of the Estate of PAUL A. FAIRLEY, JR. Attorney for the Administrator and address for

mailing and service: Steven C. Frol Minnick-Hayner, P.S. P.O. Box 1757

249 West Alder Walla Walla, WA 99362 Publish: The Times December 23, 30, 2021,

January 6, 2022 12-23-b

Notice of the adopted

election resolution: A combination mail-in and poll-site election for a board seat on the Walla Walla County Conservation District will be held on January 27, 2022 at 45 Terminal Loop, Walla Walla Washington in the conference room. Polls will open at 8:00 a.m. and close at 12:00 p.m. Registered voters who reside within the Conservation District boundary are eligible to vote. Candidates must be registered voters residing in the conservation district, equating to unincorporated areas in Walla Walla County. The candidate filing deadline is December 27th, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. Election procedures are available at the district office. Ballots are available upon request for eligible voters, but must be requested on or before 4:00 p.m. on January 6th 2022 Please contact the District office at 509-956-3758 or by email at cat.garza@ wwccd.net for a ballot or if you have any questions. Aviso de Elección:

La elección annual de La Junta de Supervisores del Condado Distrito de Conservación Walla Walla se va a realizar el 27 de enero en persona, desde las 8 en la mañana hasta las 12 en la tarde (45 Terminal Loop, Walla Walla en la sala de conferencias), y por correo también. Contacte Grant Traynor por correo electrónico (grant.traynor@wwccd.net) o teléfono (509-956-3767) para más detalles.

> The Times December 23, 2021 12-23-c

Announcement of a vacancy:

The Walla Walla County Conservation District is announcing a vacancy of a mid-term elected position on the Board of Supervisors, the current term of this position is from December, 2021 through May, 2023. Supervisors are public officials who direct the activities of the conservation district. Although they serve without compensation, they are eligible to be reimbursed for appropriate expenses. Interested candidates must be registered voters who reside within the boundaries of the District, equating to unincorporated areas in Walla Walla County. The Application period is open from December 16th, 2021 through January 13th, 2022. Interested candidates must file their required candidate information at the following location: WWCCD, 325 N, 13th Ave. Walla Walla, WA, no later than 4:00 p.m. on January 13th, 2022. For more information, please contact the Walla Walla County Conservation District via phone at 509-956-3758 or email at cat.garza@wwccd. net, or visit the Walla Walla **County Conservation District** website at http://www.wwccd.

Aviso de Vacante: Hay una vacante en La Junta de Supervisores del Condado Distrito de Conservación Walla Walla para un periodo desde el 16 de diciembre de 2021 hasta el 13 de enero de 2022. Contacte Grant Traynor por correo electrónico (grant.traynor@ wwccd.net) o teléfono (509-956-3767) para más detalles.

The Times December 23, 2021 12-23-d

Baking for the birds

Gracie and I are fighting winter break cabin fever by baking for the local wildlife, and our pups

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

It's day two of Winter Break here in the Compton household, and it feels like week six of cabin fever for my daughter, Gracie. To combat the boredom, Gracie and I have been busy whipping up treats and cookies for the birds and squirrels of Waitsburg.

Each winter, our yard is swarmed by plump little Dark-eyed Juncos. We have a couple of fruit trees in our yard that the birds love. This winter, we decided to give them a little something extra, just in time for the snow.

I discovered fat bombs for birds while scrolling online one day, and they are so simple to make. Start by gathering all-vegetable fat (I used the blue container of Crisco) and a high-quality wild bird seed mix. Nancy's Dream Garden Center in Waitsburg has great birdseed mixes.

In a large bowl, mix the vegetable fat and the bird-seed. We used one cup of fat for every two cups of seed, but the recipe is flexible. Once the seed is all incorporated, form the mixture into balls. Roll them in a separate bowl of birdseed, and cool for 24 hours.

We placed a couple of balls on fence posts and one in each tree on our property. The birds have loved them and are

flocking to our yard by the dozens.

It was a tremendous sensory outlet for preschooler Gracie. She enjoyed squishing the vegetable fat around, feeling the different textures of the seeds and how they mixed with the Crisco. It was a very productive playtime!

I highly recommend putting something down under your project, as it can get a little messy with younger kids. I have a Dollar Store shower curtain that I use for big projects. Including the shower curtain, the project cost less than \$15, and I had plenty of leftovers!



Gracie also enjoyed making squirrel cookies. These have kept the squirrels busy enough to leave the birds' fat bombs alone.

Squirrel Cookies (for squirrels):

1 large egg

1 ½ cup all-purpose flour

1/3 cup unsalted butter (must be unsalted)

½ cup sugar

½ teaspoon baking soda

½ cup brown sugar

1 cup unsalted peanut butter.

Preheat your oven to 375*, and line two cookie sheets with aluminum foil. Combine the wet and dry ingredients, mixing until all incorporated. Shape the dough into 1-inch balls, and then press them flat with your palm or a fork (I let Gracie do this part, and she loved it). Bake one sheet at a time for 10-12 minutes. Remove from the oven, let cool on a cooling rack.

We placed the cookies around our yard, and nearly all of them have been snatched up. Since the snow, they have been especially popular, and Gracie enjoys going out and placing a new batch out each morning.

The squirrel cookies had three dog snouts going crazy, so we decided to make our pups a little treat while we had the oven warmed up. My sister, Emily, gifted me a dog-biscuit-shaped pan, and it came with an easy bacon apple pupcake recipe.

Bacon apple pupcake:

2 tablespoon cooked, finely chopped bacon bits

2 1/2 cups whole wheat or oat flour

1 tsp salt

1 egg

1/4 cup beef or chicken stock

1/4 cup applesauce.

Preheat your oven to 350*. Mix all ingredients until a heavy dough is formed. If the dough seems to dry, add a little extra stock for some moisture. If you have a dog biscuit pan, press the dough firmly into each well, nearly to the top. If not, roll the dough out and use a cookie cutter to get your shape. Bake for 18-20 minutes until each bone is golden brown and firm. Cool treats on the pan for one minute, and then place

on a cooling rack. Repeat the process until all the dough is used. This recipe makes roughly 40 treats, so you'll have plenty to share!

All of this baking was an excellent way for Gracie to burn off some energy while learning some kitchen skills and improving fine motor skills. With my guidance, Gracie learned the different measuring cup sizes by scooping flour and birdseed. The projects were engaging and helped her focus, listen, and be patient.

Happy winter baking, everyone!





Waitsburg's heARTfelt Christmas Parade

Different route, same spirit

THE TIMES

Waitsburg residents and supporters came together to put on a holiday parade Saturday night. With less than a month to plan, build floats, advertise, or warm up our singing voices, the heARTfelt parade brightened up the holiday. Many thanks to those who made this little Christmas miracle happen!



The parade on its way from downtown on route through Waitsburg's neighborhoods. Residents greeted the participants from the sidewalks and porches along Main Street, Third Street, Orchard, Seventh Street before ending back at the Elementary School parking area.

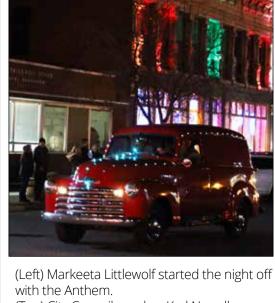




(Right) The Guady Gals were a fan favorite, living up to their name with a all the glam including a chandelier.

Below) The Walla Walla Fair Frontier Days entry with Princess Dalli and Queen Jenna.

(Below left) Tiina and Joe riding in Jade, take a break from The Royal Block to join the fun.



with the Anthem.
(Top) City Councilmember Karl Newell making the route in his red truck.





SPORTS & NEWS

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

By Eric Umphrey | THE TIMES

This week I will review the cases of the players on the BBWAA Hall of Fame ballot that are in their second and ninth year of eligibility. The players are Jeff Kent, Gary Sheffield, Billy Wagner, Many Ramirez, Scott Rolen, Omar Vizquel, Andruw Jones, Todd Helton, Andy Pettitte, Bobby Abreu, Mark Buehrle, Torii Hunter, and

Jeff Kent has the most home runs as a second baseman with 354 and an MVP award in 2000. His career slash line over seventeen seasons is .290/.356/.500. So why did Kent get only 32.4% of the vote in 2021 his eighth year of eligibility? Kent's defense was average at best, and this has held him back in the voting.

Gary Sheffield was a nine-time all-star, finished in the top three for MVP voting three times and has an offensive WAR total of 80.7. Sheffield was a feared hitter and someone you always paid attention to when he was up to bat. He took such violent swings at the ball and when he made contact too early it resulted in dangerously fast flying foul balls that were better avoided than caught by fans. Sheffield was named in the Mitchell Report as a played that had used steroids. Sheffield's personal trainer was Greg Anderson who was the same trainer used by Barry Bonds.

Billy Wagner finished his career with 422 saves good for sixth on the all time list and an ERA of 2.31. In his last season at age 38, he finished with 37 saves and an ERA of 1.43. His strikeout rate of 33.2% is the highest of all pitchers who have pitched at least 800 innings. He received 46.4% of the vote last year and you should expect that number to climb this year. It is difficult for relief pitchers to get into the Hall of Fame, and it may take several more years for Wagner's vote total to hit the required 75%.

Manny Ramirez was suspended for 50 games in 2009 for violating baseball's drug policy. In 2011, he was again suspended, this time for 100 games. Instead of taking the suspension he decided to retire that year. In September he asked to be reinstated and MLB reduced his suspension to 50 games. During his career he was a 12-time all-star, won two World Series with the Boston Red Sox, won a batting title in 2002 and has the most post season home runs and runs batted in all time. In 2021 he received 28.2% of the vote.

Scott Rolen has seven all-star games and eight gold gloves in his career. If he makes it into the Hall of Fame it will be due to the extra push that his great defense gives him. Rolen's career WAR total is 70.1 which is slightly higher than the 68.4 total of the average HOF third baseman. He received 52.9% of the vote last year and of returning players has the best chance to make it in this year.

Former Seattle Mariner Omar Vizquel received 52.6% of the vote in his third year on the ballot in 2020. The three-time all-star and eleven-time gold glove award winner played twenty-four seasons in the major leagues and finished with 2,877 hits for his career. Unfortunately, Vizquel has been making headlines for the wrong reasons in recent years. Domestic abuse allegations surfaced in December of 2020 and a sexual harassment lawsuit in August of 2021 both caused his voting percentage to drop to 49.1% in last year's vote.

Andruw Jones started with the Atlanta Braves in 1996 at the age of nineteen. A five-time all-star and ten time gold glove award winner he looked destined to be a Hall of Famer when he lead the league in home runs with 51 and runs batted in with 128 in 2005 at the age of twenty eight. However, by age thirty he quickly went into decline and hit only .222 that season his last with Atlanta. He played five seasons after that but never more than 107 games.

Todd Helton's career slash line is .316/.414/.539. However, the knock on him is that he played his career for the Colorado Rockies and that inflates his numbers. If you adjust for park factors his career slash line is .287/.381/.488. Still good but don't expect him to get in this year.

Andy Pettitte compiled 256 wins, was a three time all-star and won five World Series with the Yankees. Pettitte's admission to using human growth hormone during his career resulted in him getting just 13.7% of the vote last year.

Bobby Abreu was a very good outfielder that played for eighteen years but one gold glove and only two all-star game appearances doesn't make for a Hall of Fame

Mark Buehrle was a five time all-star, won four gold gloves and won a World Series with the White Sox in 2005. He had a similar career to Pettitte, but with a lot less wins and strikeouts. He received 11.0% of the vote last year.

Torii Hunter was a five time all-star, won nine gold gloves and played for nineteen seasons. His 50.7 career was is impressive but the average Hall of Fame center fielder has a career WAR total of 71.6. He received 9.5% of the vote last year.

Tim Hudson was a great pitcher that didn't stand out among his peers. He finished his career with a record of 222-133 with a 3.49 ERA and four all star appearances. His post season pitching record of 1-4 despite thirteen starts doesn't help his case.

Next week, we will begin reviewing the careers of the four players voted in by the Golden Days Era Committee.

Wolfpack against Colfax







Marlene Ocker

(Top right) Monte Petticord moving down the court.

(Top), Keon Lindley covering a Colfax

(Left) Wolfpack players work to keep the ball away from their opponents

Girls and Boys Varsity & JV play Oaksdale





Karen Huwe

(Top left) Freshman, Jackson Karl, #5, shoots a 3 in the JV game

(Top) Freshman, Teagen Culley, #24, shoots a 3 in the girls' varsity game.

(Left) Junior, Monte Pettichord, #11 shoots a 3 in the boys varsity



2021 -2022 Supporters

Please support these businesses who support our student athletes!



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

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Doyle Electric

Dayton Mercantile & Subway

McDonald Zaring Insurance

Lloyd's Insurance

Lawrence Ranch, Inc

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Weinhard Café

Gravis Law

Ten Ton Coffee & Art

The Royal Block

Elk Drug

Karl Law Office, PLLC

Waitsburg Grocery

Bluewood

LIFESTYLES

Weird, Wonderful, and Sleep

By Vicki Sternfeld-Rossi | THE TIMES

My life seems weird now that we have decided to slow down the operations at the restaurant. Our new focus on catering, take & bake, and working with some winemakers for special dinners is more fun and for sure, less stressful.

Now I have time to go to the gym, but am I? Not as much as I should! The excuse is I'm still decompressing, although I'm not sure how long that will be a viable

I'm finally reading again and recently finished two books and am on to a third. I've perfected downloading books from the library to my Kindle and iPad, saving me bookshelf space, and I don't pay for books to download.

Best of all, this past Thursday evening, we went to drink wine and listen to music at the open mic night at the Royal Block. Mingling with friends, meeting new neighbors while listening to some interesting tunes with a glass of wine in hand was a treat. The best part of the evening is that I didn't have to do the work, someone else had to clear the tables, ring up the sales, pour the wine, and bus the tables. This is a routine I could get used to. And probably will!

Even with extra time on my schedule, I haven't managed to keep up with the laundry. I just look at the hamper and say "later, I've got plenty of time." At some



point, the time will come. In fact, it's on the list for this weekend, I'm running out of underwear.

Of course, I still haven't touched my tax preparations, and I still have my summer sandals taking up space in my closet, while my winter boots are in the attic storage bin. I'm sure the first snow will help prompt me to make the shoe switch.

To my credit, I am making some good use of my newfound time. I have my snow tires on! I delivered the first of many bags of clothes to St. Vincents, and I planted more tulips. Rome wasn't built in a day, a little progress every day. And since time is not as precious as it has been, I am enjoy-

ing the luxury of procrastination.

The downside to having more time with less work is: I'm not moving as much. I will need to get to the gym, because I do not want to buy a new wardrobe! Without as much running around, I'm not as tired by the end of the day, so my insomnia has returned. This time, I've sworn off late night Amazon purchasing to read instead. However, with the holidays around the corner, it is difficult to restrain myself. I am bombarded with emails and ads, touting bargains I need to take advantage of immediately! I am standing firm! No more binge shopping from my iPad in bed when I can't sleep!

The answer to my insomnia may rest with my rest free mattress. We recently ordered a new mattress and bed frame. My demand was a firm mattress, one more substantial than the three-inch futon we have been sleeping on. The ability to raise the head and foot of the bed was Daniel's requirement. The new mattress will ensure sleep. Even with the cost of hiring an electrician to install bedside sockets, the new bed should save me money since a sleeping person can't order off Amazon.

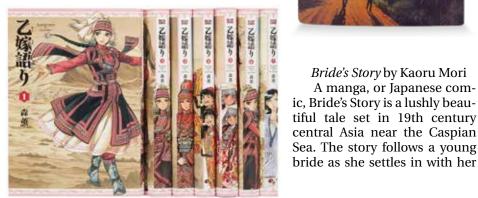
Book Review:

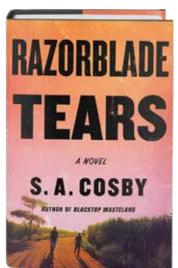
Director's Choice

Reviewed by Todd Vandenbark, Library Director Columbia County Rural Library

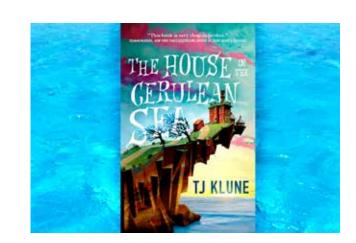
Razorblade Tears by S.A. Cosby

Perfect for fans of John Wick, Razorblade Tears is a fast-paced, can't-put-it-down tale of revenge. After their sons are gunned down in broad daylight, two ex-convicts must put aside their vast differences and work together to bring justice. This book reads like a big-budget action thriller, and if it doesn't become a movie, I for one will be very disappointed.





Bride's Story by Kaoru Mori A manga, or Japanese comic, Bride's Story is a lushly beautiful tale set in 19th century central Asia near the Caspian new family in their village. There are hints at a larger plot, but much of the "action" has to do with the day-to-day lives of these people. As such, it's the art that really carries the story, with everything from the embroidery to the wood carvings to the sheep drawn in exquisite detail.



The House in the Cerulean Sea by T.J. Klune

The blurb on the cover of this book proclaims it "very close to perfect" and I must agree. The story follows the quiet and unassuming Linus, a social worker who checks up on orphanages that house magical children. He's called to pay a visit to one such orphanage, with its five children (six if you count the baby wyvern) and their caretaker. It's a story of love and found family and will have you laughing as much as it has you holding back tears.

...and more heARTfelt **Christmas**

Top) Ten Ton Coffee hosted the Christmas Bluegrass Jam following the parade.

(Far right) Santa and his elf visited The Plaza Theater before the parade, giving Santa a chance to warm up with mild and cookies before the parade.

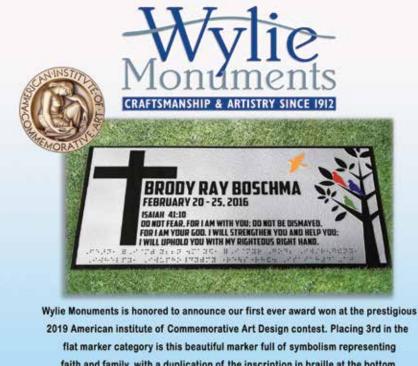
(Right) The Friends of the Library float loaded up with happy kids and Miss Rosie as they leave the library to line up for the parade.











2019 American institute of Commemorative Art Design contest. Placing 3rd in the flat marker category is this beautiful marker full of symbolism representing faith and family, with a duplication of the inscription in braille at the bottom. Thank you to the Boschma family for placing your trust in us.

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FUN & GAMES

GBIN EN BIAR IT FAM

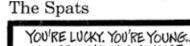


"Ordinarily, I'd use my political connections to get out, but my political connections are in here, too."

LAFF-A-DAY

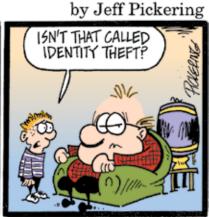


"I just don't feel it's necessary to say thank you for each instrument!"









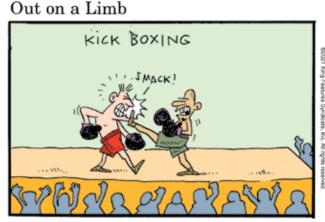
by Mike Marland







by Gary Kopervas





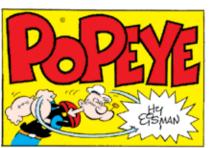
Amber Waves









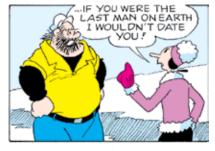


















PIONEER PORTRAITS

Ten Years Ago

December 22, 2011

The WP Cardinals aren't just the toast of Waitsburg, which honored the team with a special dinner sponsored by the Commercial Club at the Town Hall last Thursday - the 2011 2B state football champions are the toast of the entire state. Quarterback Zach Bartlow last week was named Player of the Year on the Washington Associated Press All-State football team as voted by writers and editors from around Washington. It's the highest honor any football player can receive in his division. His father, WP head coach Jeff Bartlow, was named Coach of the Year by the Seattle Times.

Twenty-Five Years Ago December 26, 1996



[Photo Caption] Waitsburg Lions Club Turkey Smoke Chairman Wayne Peterson, left, and club member John Lindsey tote one of the last trays of smoked turkeys from the barbecue pit, located near the Lions' Cookshack at the Days of Real Sports grounds. The service club smokes and sells the birds as a fund-raising project, which it, in turn, contributes back to the community. All 396 turkeys smoked during the Christmas segment of the project have been sold, Peterson reported.

Fifty Years Ago

December 23, 1971

Dear Santa, I am a little girl and my name is Tammie. I would like to tell you want I want for Xmas. I would like a set of dishes and a smart pants doll and a jump rope and some Barbie clothes for my Barbie and a jewelry box. I know it's a lot but that what I wish. Thank you, Tammie Leroue (First Grade).

Dear Santa, I would like to have a poncho and a record player for Christmas I have tried to be a good girl. Love, Lianna Lightfoot (First Grade).

Dear Santa Claus, Will you get me a bag of marbles? And I hope you have a good time. Your friend, Paul Pressler (Second Grade).

Seventy-Five Years Ago

December 27, 1946

Jackie Alexander and Ruth Wolfe will add to the nucleus of a good first year team in basketball at Eastern Washington College of Education. Both girls played for Wait-Hi and received their training under Miss Ruth Gray.

Caroline Louise Davis was honored on her sixth birthday Monday at a party at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Davis. Five little friends enjoyed the occasion.

Over 130 attended the Legion Auxiliary turkey feed last week which was a very successful and enjoyable affair. Jim Stonecipher and Johnny Romine were in charge of arrangements.

One Hundred Years Ago

December 23, 1921

Coach Jack Kinder presented grey "W's" to the football men at a banquet Tuesday evening. Getting the awards were captain Mount Shaffer, Ward Guntle, Orville Fox, Craig Vining, Arden Archer, Gail Shiltz, Elmer Sayers, George Kanz, Herman Breeze, Ronald Graham, Hubert Kinder, Leland Kessler, Fred Carver, and Caroh Scrimsher.

"The Evergreen" Confectionary of which M. H. Cox is the proprietor, is preparing to improve its already fine plant by the installation of a 3-ton ice machine and refrigerating plant.

Miss Charlotte Kingman who is attending the state normal school at Ellensburg arrived home on Saturday to spend the holidays.

One Hundred Twenty-Five Years Ago

December 25, 1896

The Young Peoples Society of Christian Endeavor of the Christian Church gave a "Lemon Social" at the residence of T. J. Hollowell this evening which promises to surpass anything previously given by that society.

Arthur Roberts this week finished cleaning out the tailrace and making numerous other improvements at the electric light plant and now there need be no fear but that we will have lights every night - high water or no high water.

PUZZLES & LIFESTYLES

Super Crossword

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109 Bully's threat

110 Warehouse

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112 Hardly tidy

115 Cartoonist

116 Celestial

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- horn-honking driver? 42 Thin and supple 47 Duck cousin
- Messing 49 More plucky 50 Lt.'s inferior 53 "I see mice! 56 Ear-related

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- 90 Tolkien terrorizers **91** Up
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- 5 Grain beard 6 Up to, informally 7 Paradise

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- 12 Tov train when doubled 13 Quantity in a narc's bust
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117 Off-Broadway as Gremlins and Pacers 118 French 75 Belgian river **76** Spain's El — 77 Teapot part **78** "I'm so frustrated!" 82 Water, to Gigi 83 Rangers' and Rays' qp. 85 Brunei locale 86 Mean whale 87 High point 88 One-named

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57 Rocket paths

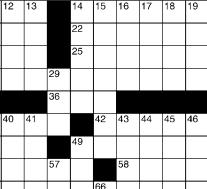
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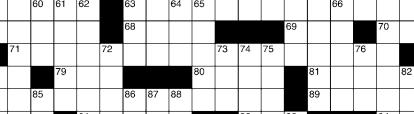
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51 And not

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- 119 TV actress 121 Reverse 123 Bronze 127 Olive of
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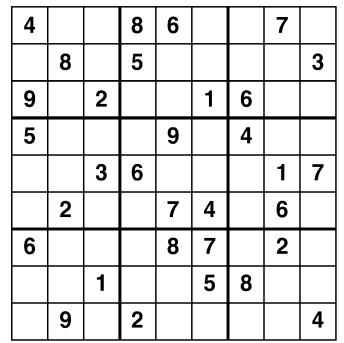
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by Linda Thistle

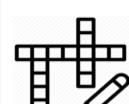


Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!

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MY RECIPES Luke Chavez

Gingered Waldorf Salad



For the food obsessed, like me, planning a menu for a holiday fête can take weeks of research and recipe testing. While Thanksgiving is often made up of standard classics to pair with turkey, for me Christmas is an opportunity to experiment, building menus centered on different meaty mains. Over the years, my holiday repertoire has developed a rotation of favorites from Julia's bœuf bourguignon, or herb crusted rib roast, to stone fruit stuffed pork loin and classic glazed ham. Once the main dish is picked the real fun starts, choosing complementary side dishes and a list of wine pairings. While the menus change from year to year, one dish seems to always make it on our winter holiday table, my Waldorf salad. With festive pops of red and green, this colorful salad is as pretty to look at as it is delicious. Enlivened with lemon and fresh ginger, this makes a vibrant palate cleanser to even the richest of savory center pieces.

Ingredients:

For the dressing:

½ cup sour cream

2 tablespoons mayonnaise

Zest of one lemon, finely grated 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice

1 tablespoon fresh ginger, peeled and finely grated

Salt and black pepper to taste

For the salad:

2 crisp apples, such as Fuji or Honeycrisp

2 teaspoons fresh lemon juice 4 stalks celery, thinly sliced (about 1 cup)

1/3 cup dried cranberries

1/3 cup walnuts, chopped and toasted 4 oz aged white cheddar

1 bunch flat leaf parsley, stemmed

In small bowl whisk together sour cream, mayonnaise, lemon zest, ginger, and 2 tablespoons lemon juice. Season to taste with salt and fresh ground black pepper. Set aside. Can be done several hours ahead of time, keep covered and chilled until ready to serve.

Core apples and slice into 12 to 16 thin wedges. Slice each wedge in half cross wise and toss in large mixing bowl with the 2 teaspoons of lemon juice. Toss in celery, cranberries, and walnuts.

Chop cheddar into small bite sized cubes and add to the bowl with apples and celery. Remove all stems from the parsley and divide into two piles. Coarsely chop one half of the parsley and toss into the salad. Leave the other half as whole leaves and add them to the salad as well, reserving a few to use as garnish.

Shortly before serving, pour in the dressing and toss to coat. Taste and ld more salt if needed. Garnish top with parsley leaves and a fresh crack of black pepper.

Use the best quality firm and sweet crisp apples you can find. Honeycrisp, fuji, or pink lady are all lovely choices. Do NOT peel the apples, as their rosy color adds to the beauty of this salad.

If you can't find dried cranberries, raisins can be substituted. However the ruby color, and tart sweetness of the cranberries is very much pre-

A quality stainless steel microplane is a fabulous kitchen gadget to add to your tool drawer. They are great for getting the fine gratings of citrus zest and ginger for this recipe. Also wonderful for grating garlic cloves, hard cheeses, and spices. I use mine almost daily.

For a variation on this salad, try using a firm crumbly blue cheese such as Roquefort or Stilton, instead of the cheddar.

In years past I have also added some chicory leaves, such as curly frisée, Belgian endive, or radicchio, for a bright and bitter counter to the sweet components of this dish. You could also try serving this salad on crisp romaine leaves for an elegant presentation.

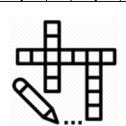
Wishing my readers a safe and lovely holiday season. I hope this salad becomes a new favorite to share with your loved ones. Enjoy.

Super Crossword — Weekly SUDOKU —

Answer

—— Juper Crossword———																				
Answers																				
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THE LAST PAGE

City of Waitsburg plans for the new year

THE TIMES

A chat with the mayor and city administrator.

WAITSBURG-A worldwide pandemic, heavy flooding, staff shortages, supply chain issues, and a shortage of funds made for a difficult past two years for the City of Waitsburg. Mayor Marty Dunn and City administrator Randy Hinchliffe sat down with The Times to reflect on the last two years and plans for the

This year began with public meetings restricted to Zoom or other virtual matters, something that Mayor Marty Dunn said was a learning experience. He said the city council handled everything well and adjusted to the situation as it changed.

This year, Dunn said the council navigated through the heated discussions concerning the potential surplus of the Main Street property housing the Weller Public Library. In the beginning of the surplus discussions, Hinchliffe stated that the building needed more repairs than the city could afford, given its current financial status after experiencing major flooding in 2020. American Disability Act requirements, including widening doors, adding accessible entryways, and wheelchair-accessible bathrooms were just a couple of the many updates the aging building needed.

The community reacted strongly against a surplus of the library property. The city council's public meetings on the surplus and meetings held by the Friends of the Library and the Weller Public Library Board concerning the library's status were well attended.

As the city council explored the potential surplus, they were presented with conflicting information about which duties the Library Board and the city have concerning the building.

After the council and mayor decided not to put the surplus to vote, Dunn asked the Library Board of Trustees to become more active and report to the council regularly. Communication between the city and the library board has improved greatly, said

Hinchliffe said that when the City of Waitsburg initially looked at doing ADA-compliant updates at the library, he planned for a rear entrance space that was wheelchair accessible, similar to what the current Board of Trustees has started. He commended the board, and all the volunteers, for their planning and work so far.

The Library Board of Trustees has elected new members and renewed efforts to provide leadership. The library has received a much-needed deep cleaning, and volunteers poured a large cement pad in preparation for an ADA-compliant wheelchair lift, which should arrive in January 2022.

This year, the city completed the Millrace Grade project, which wrapped up nearly a decade of improvement projects along the Main Street corridor. The Millrace grade is located just north of the town and is a well-used route for large harvest and agricultural trucks. A sharp corner, paired with poor visibility and a steep embankment, created issues when two vehicles met each other along the road. The project also leveled out the railroad crossing and created an ideal spot for the Touchet Valley Trail to end, should the project go through.

"It took a long time," Hinchliffe said. "We were approved for funding a couple of years ago, but it took so long to get through DOT's paperwork process.

Hinchliffe said he'd initially thought the project qualified for railroad safety funding, however, that section of railway is not active enough for those funds. Eventually, Hinchliffe was able to secure funds through the Department of Transportation (DOT). Hinchliffe said the DOT funding required many rightof-way, environmental, and unexpected approvals.

The improved stretch of road provides a detour route in an emergency or should the Preston Avenue bridge be closed for replacement.

Flood protection measures were on nearly every city council meeting agenda as the city continues to recover after 2020.

"We did a bunch of flood control work, but I really don't want to have to test it," Hinchliffe said, worried about the upcoming winter conditions and remaining damage to the Touchet River levee. "Hopefully, it's a nice, mild winter."

The City of Waitsburg saw an opportunity to relocate City Hall. Using FEMA reimbursement money, the council voted to purchase the former LimaGrain building at 106 Main. The city had determined the former City Hall building needed more improvements than it could fund. According to Dunn and Hinchliffe, the building was built as a bank which made its layout difficult for the city's day-to-day operation. The steep steps, shared apartment access, and hard-to-reach storage areas contributed to the decision to move the city's operations.

This year's purchase of the 106 Main St. building was discussed and approved by the council in special and executive meetings, which did not include public disclosure or comment. After the sale was completed, the disposition of the former building was discussed in public meetings, and the council voted at the last council meeting to surplus the property.

The city made the official move to the new building in November, and City Hall is open for business in the new space. The new location includes an office for Hinchliffe and a reception area where Deputy Clerk Brittany Zuger can conduct business. There is an office space for Public Works Director Jim Lynch and an employee break room.

The building has ample storage space in the back to house the city's lawnmowers, small tractors, street sweepers, and other light equipment. Hinchliffe said that they are unsure if the building will be used for council meetings at this time.

"2021, with the COVID-19 stuff, was a bit of a tough deal," said Dunn. "I have to commend Randy (Hinchliffe) and the city crew for being able to get through what we got through, and everything they handled, even though they were down one man on the crew. They stepped up and did what they needed to do and kept going. I'm really proud of them."

The Public Works department contended with employee shortages throughout the year, as it maintained the parks, cemeteries, fairgrounds, and city

The new year looks busy as the city prepares to start further improvement and infrastructure proj-

The sewer lines are one of many infrastructure items to be addressed. This summer, a large portion of the lines near W 7th will be relined, and manholes will be installed at each turn along the system. Sewer lines running through residents' yards will create some obstacles, Hinchliffe anticipates.

Aging manholes need to be sealed, as well, Hinchliffe said. Since the flooding in February 2020, the water tables have shifted, and there have been new leaks at manhole points that were not impacted before.

Chip sealing throughout Waitsburg is also on the to-do list, Hinchliffe said. Most of the work will be done on the west side of town, with a few streets east of Coppei Avenue scheduled to be sealed.

Construction for the splash pad at Preston Park will begin this spring. The sprinklers, jets, and other components have been purchased, and the project will break ground in time to be open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. The splash pad will provide Waitsburg's children a safe area to cool off during the summer months.

Both Hinchliffe and Mayor Dunn are looking forward to a year full of improvements and change, including the revival of the downtown corridor with at least two new restaurants and a bar opening, and the Royal Block and Ten Ton Coffee thriving.

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