

**Thursday** March 4, 2021 Vol. 144 No.1 www.waitsburgtimes.com

SERVING WAITSBURG, DAYTON AND THE TOUCHET VALLEY

**Published Since 1878** 

**ONE DOLLAR** 



Superintendent Mark Pickel promised students at Waitsburg Elementary a Silly String day if they met their \$2,000 Jump for Heart fundraising goal. The students blew the goal out of the water, raising a grand total of \$5,185.96. Colt Boudrieau was the top raising student, raising \$540. A good sport, Mr. Pickel will be sillystringed again on March 4, so Group B students don't miss out.

### **COVID-19 vaccine** clinics playing catchup on second doses

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON—Although initial COVID-19 vaccination efforts have been uneven, incremental progress is being made, CCHS CEO Shane McGuire told the Hospital District Board of Commissioners at their meeting last week.

"A lot of the story still remains about supply," he said.

McGuire said inventory of the vaccine was initially managed to cover first and second doses. After the governor issued an edict requiring 95% of the vaccine should be used each week, vaccines reserved for second doses were used as first doses by the district.

"Then we ended up in a situation where we didn't have second doses," he said. The Health System did receive some of Whitman County's oversupply of the Pfizer vaccine, which was used for first doses during the initial weeks of vaccina-

McGuire said there have been a higher number of requests for the vaccines than the federal government can provide, and larger allocations have been going to larger population centers.

Shipment delays caused by severe winter weather during the week of Feb. 14, set the clinics back a week.

Things seemed back on track last week when 530 second doses and 24 first doses of the Moderna vaccine were administered.

However, this week is a different story, because the hospital pharmacy was denied its request, according to CCHS COO Stephanie Carpenter.

There were some doses left over from last week and a shortened clinic was scheduled for Tuesday, March 2. The next clinic will be on Thursday, Mar. 11, if an allocation is received.

McGuire said the vaccination clinics at the fairgrounds are well organized.

"We had people show up an hour early because they heard horror stories about waiting hours to get vaccines. There is no waiting. The waiting is the observation time," he told the commissioners at their Feb. meeting.

The Columbia County Public Health Department is now scheduling appointments for people in all Phase 1B tiers. Call the health department at: (509) 382-2181. A COVID-19 vaccine Phase Finder tool is located at www.doh.wa.gov.



COVID-19 vaccination clinic at the Columbia County fairgrounds. The clinics took place over three days, instead of two, mainly to catch up on administering second doses of the Moderna vaccine. The week of March 1 was limited to one clinic held Tuesday.

Dr. Michael Luce worked as

a vaccinator at last week's

Michele Smith

# The Dayton Memorial Library has a new library director

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON—Todd Vandenbark is the new Library Director for the Dayton Memorial Library.

Vandenbark said he became interested in Library Science when a friend told him that libraries value people who come from diverse backgrounds and have a varied work experience.

Indeed, Vandenbark has had a variety of jobs. He has worked as a daycare teacher, computer tech support consultant, customer service rep at a major telecom call center, lifeguard and swim instructor, school bus driver, camp counselor, martial arts instructor, and Keebler elf.

Yes, Keebler elf. Vandenbark said back when Keebler was selling "Sweet

Spots" cookies, he had a job stacking and shrink-wrapping boxes of cookies, when they came off the production line, at a plant in Denver, Colo.

We could sample extras whenever we wanted, but I got tired of them pretty quickly," he said. "Homemade is so much better!"

In 2009, Vandenbark earned a Masters of Library Science with a specialization in Technology Management from Indiana University at Indianapolis, Ind. Prior to that he earned a B.A. in Psychology from Luther College, in Decorah, Iowa.

He was most recently employed for five and a half years by Warburg College in Waverly. Iowa, where he was the Information Literacy and Technology Librarian. Before that, he worked at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, and the University of Utah.

After more than a dozen years working

as an academic librarian, Vandenbark said he is ready for a career shift, to a role where he can apply his experience and leadership in service to the community.

"I am most looking forward to serving patrons of a wider range of ages, inter-

Courtesy photo

Todd Vandenbark

ests, and needs, in a new setting, one that is different than where I grew up," he Vandenbark enjoys working with children, especially young children. When

the COVID-19 restrictions ease, he hopes to offer music and storytelling events at the library. He would also like to apply his skills in web design to the library's website en-

hancing the social media presence online. "Finally, I want to learn all I can about Dayton and Columbia County's resi-

dents, their information needs, and find new ways to serve our patrons," he said. Vandenbark grew up in the Chicago suburbs, the oldest of four boys. He has

two daughters, Alissa, who is a student at Haverford College in Pennsylvania, and Sonia, who lives in Portland, Oregon with her husband, and their two and a half year-old son, Milo. In his spare time, Vandenbark enjoys international folk dancing, biking, play-

ing guitar, singing in a choir, and hiking through scenic areas, in and around, places he has lived.

#### **INDEX**

Weather..... 2 Calendar..... 3 Commentary..... 4 Legals..... 6 Pioneer Portraits... 10 Puzzles..... 11 **Times Traveler** Wendy

**Short-eared Owls** 

D/W and Prescott Volleyball



## **TOUCHET VALLEY LIFE**

#### **NEWS BRIEFS**



#### **WALLA WALLA DISTRICT LOCKS CLOSED MARCH 6 FOR MAINTENANCE**

#### THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA—The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) announced on March 1 that all USACE navigation locks on the Columbia and Snake Rivers would be closed for preventative maintenance and annual inspections on March 6 at 6 a.m.

Columbia River navigation locks are located at Bonneville Dam at river mile 145, the Dalles Dam at river mile 191, John Day Dam at river mile 126, and McNary Dam at river mile 292.

Snake River navigation locks are located at Ice Harbor Dam, at river mile 10, Lower Monumental Dam at river mile 41, Little Goose Dam located at river mile 70, and Lower Granite Dam at river mile 107.

Corps officials anticipate all Columbia River locks and two Snake River Locks, Lower Monumental and Little Goose, will return to service March 21 at 11:59 p.m.

Ice Harbor and Lower Granite are scheduled to return to service by March 28, at 11:59 p.m.

The Walla Walla District may temporarily suspend public vehicle crossings at Lower Monumental, Little Goose, and Lower Granite due to work activity. Crossings are subject to close at any time and the Corps will notify the public in advance if possible. Travelers in Washington are strongly encouraged to call 888-DAM-INFO (888-326-4636) for crossing information.

### **CHAMBER MANAGER TAKES JOB AT WHITMAN COLLEGE**

#### THE TIMES

DAYTON-The Dayton Chamber of Commerce board of directors announced March 1 that Molly Weatherill-Tate, manager of the Chamber, has accepted a position at Whitman College as Director of Admission Operations.

"This is an opportunity Molly couldn't possibly pass up," said Chamber Board President Bette Lou Crothers. "We're all very happy for her and wish her the best."

Crothers said Weatherill-Tate accomplished much in the year and half she's been with the Chamber.

"She brought a lot of loyalty back to the Chamber."

Under her leadership, the Chamber's website was redesigned, a Dayton tourism video was released and the Chamber joined a regional think-local organization. Several shop-local campaigns ran, including Shop Local! Share the Love, Big Hearts for Small Business, Rally for Restaurants, and Think Local banners were displayed on Main Street. And despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, several events were still held-All Wheels Weekend Carvid-20 virtual car show and Friday Night Cruise, a Halloween candy give-away drive thru, Brix and Brew online silent auction and virtual live auction and a month-long Christmas celebration.

"I've enjoyed my time with the Chamber and getting to know so many dedicated people who make this community such a great place to live," Weatherill-Tate said. "I'm sad to be leaving the Chamber, but I'm not leaving Dayton. This is my home-and I'm sure I'll be tapped as a volunteer."

In her new role, Weatherill-Tate will be responsible for, in partnership with the Director of Admission, the overall experience of prospective students and families as they navigate the college exploration and application process at Whitman. She will lead a team who collectively coordinate the logistics of application processing, on-and-off campus admission events, campus visits and print and digital communications.

Weatherill-Tate's last day at the Chamber will be March 18. Crothers said the board has already begun a search for a new manager. Assistant Manager Lauren Parsons and Chamber volunteers will man the office during the search. Interested applicants may submit a cover letter and resume to chamber@historicdayton.com.



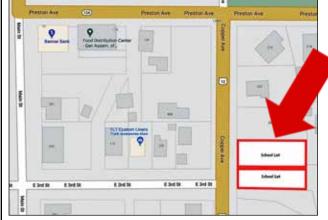
Molly Weatherhill-Tate

### **SCHOOL BOARD TO TAKE COMMENT ON SALE OF PROPERTY**

#### THE TIMES

WAITSBURG-A public hearing will be held on March 18, at the Waitsburg School Board monthly meeting, regarding the sale of vacant school property.

Two adjacent parcels, located near the corner of Third Street and Coppei Avenue, in Waitsburg, are no longer required for school district purposes. The board will be taking comment both in favor and opposed to the sale of the properties. For further questions, contact Superintendent Mark Pickel at (509) 337-6301.



### TREEHOUSE YOUTH **CHAMPIONS LUNCHEON TO FEATURE SUCCESS STORIES AND A VIRTUAL MEAL TOGETHER**

#### THE TIMES

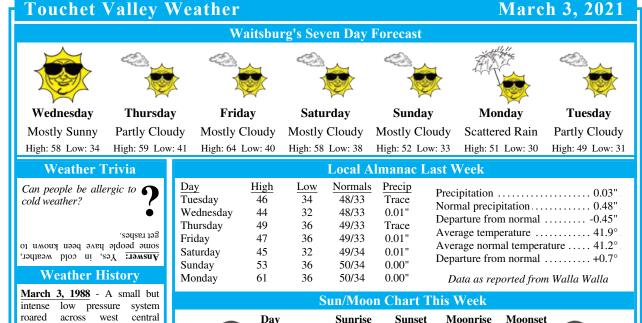
SEATTLE-Treehouse's annual Champions Luncheon is usually held in a ballroom with more than 1,000 supporters throughout the community. Youth impacted by foster care share stories about their journeys and triumphs in partnership with the nonprofit advocacy organization. This year, because of the pandemic, the event will be hosted online on March 17, from 12 p.m.- 1 p.m.

"We're excited because now we're not limited to how many people will fit in one room. Everyone can attend, and no one is limited by geography," said Spencer Sheridan, Community Engagement Manager at Treehouse. "Treehouse is a statewide organization serving more than 7,800 youth, with supporters in Tacoma, Spokane, and beyond—who all make that possible—can be together at the same time."

The event will feature live content and will debut two impact videos. One story shares the story of one caregiver, who has partnered with Treehouse for more than 30 years. She has fostered numerous children, eventually adopting eight of them

"We partner with children, youth, and young adults, always listening to what it is we can do to support them as they unlock their own potential," said Dr. Lisa Chin, Treehouse CEO, who will speak live during the event. "To provide that support, we must continue to partner broadly throughout the community and challenge ourselves to change the system together to best serve youth."

Prior to the event, registered participants will receive a video that showcases an aspiring chef and Treehouse participant, Paris, as she demonstrates how to prepare a special meal to eat during the event. To register for the free event, visit www.treehouseforkids.org/champions.



**Sunrise** 

6:27 a.m.

6:25 a.m.

6:24 a.m.

6:22 a.m.

6:20 a.m.

6:18 a.m.

6:16 a.m.

Sunset

5:42 p.m.

5:44 p.m.

5:45 p.m.

5:47 p.m.

5:48 p.m.

5:49 p.m.

5:51 p.m.

**Moonrise** 

11:30 p.m.

Prev Day

12:49 a.m.

2:03 a.m.

3:10 a.m.

4:07 a.m.

4:54 a.m.

Moonset

8:53 a.m.

9:22 a.m.

9:58 a.m.

10:42 a.m.

11:35 a.m.

12:37 p.m.

1:46 p.m.

First

Full

**Day** 

Wednesday

Thursday

Saturday

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Friday

Last

New 3/13

Mississippi at 90 mph. A tornado

in southern Mississippi picked up

an automobile, carried it 150

feet, and tossed it through the

brick wall of an unoccupied

retirement home.

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# **TOUCHET VALLEY LIFE**

# Mid-April goal to unveil 30 percent of the Touchet Valley Trail design

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON-Adam Schmidtgall, Principal Engineer, and Brian Hansen, Project Engineer for Anderson/Perry & Associates, provided an update about progress on the Touchet Valley Trail design at the February meeting of the Port of Columbia

Schmidtgall said the intention is to have 30-percent of the trail design completed by the end of February to submit to the Port commissioners for review.

"We believe a month and a half is enough time for a community meeting in

Schmidtgall said the engineers had worked closely with the Touchet Valley Trail Steering Committee, county officials, city officials from Dayton and Waitsburg, and others to get to this point in the planning.

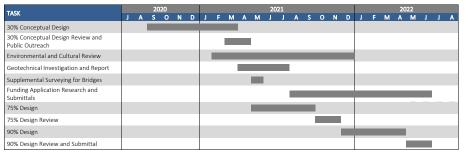
"It has taken a lot of coordination to get to this point. We feel it is pretty important to make sure this path is headed in the right direction," he said.

In June 2020, the Port commissioners voted to forward the Trail Concept Plan to Anderson/Perry & Associates for their use as they continue studying the trail's feasibility and work on the preliminary design.

The Touchet Valley Trail Committee's vision is to link the communities of Waitsburg and Dayton with nearby recreational opportunities featuring local heritage, river access, and scenic landscapes while stimulating the economic and social vitality of the region.

The Touchet Valley Trail project history can be found on the Port of Columbia website at portofcolumbia.org.

Project Design Schedule



### Port's agreement with NoaNet provides a possible avenue for community-wide broadband service

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON—At their meeting in February, the Port of Columbia commissioners approved an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with NoaNet (Northwest Open Access Network) to provide broadband service to the Port office and to Port-owned businesses.

Dickinson said the Port office will be used as a hub for a wireless system which will serve the tenants in the Rock Hill Industrial Park, and, possibly other businesses and residences, at that end of town.

"According to NoaNet wireless system technologies have improved greatly over the last few years, so it's possible to reach quite a distance from our office,' Dickinson said.

The Port is planning to send Request for Proposals (RFPs) out to internet service providers.

Dickinson said NoaNet is also preparing to apply for federal funds for extending broadband into un-

The ILA will allow the Port to work with NoaNet on the application process. If successful, the Port will be a subrecipient of a portion of the funds, which can be used to build the fiber-to-the-home system, as laid out in the Port's broadband study.

In March of 2018, legislation was adopted by the state allowing ports in Washington State the authority to build broadband infrastructure in their jurisdic-

A broadband survey conducted by the Port in Oct. of 2018 indicated the majority of the community were either unhappy with their current service, or wanted improvements to their existing internet options.

The Port reached out to several internet service providers to gauge interest in providing a broadband feasibility study, and contracted with PocketiNet. Their study was completed in Feb. 2020.

PocketiNet representatives shared findings from the study at a Port meeting in March, 2020.

PocketiNet CEO Todd Brandenburg said the need for highspeed internet is high, especially in rural communities where attracting business and providing opportunities to work, or learn from home, is essential.

"There is a marketing advantage that allows you to put your name on the map," Brandenburg said at that

The goal is that by 2028 all residents and businesses in Washington State should have access to 150 Mbps (Megabits symmetrical, up and down), he said.



### Community Calendar

#### Waitsburg Monthly Meetings

#### **Waitsburg City Council:**

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

#### **Waitsburg School Board:**

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

#### **Waitsburg Celebration Days:**

March 15 at 7 p.m. tinyurl.com/5e8fdhpq

#### **Walla Walla County Commissioners**

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

Call-in information is available at <a href="https://">https://</a> www.co.walla-walla.wa.us/government/ commissioners/2020 agendas.php

#### **Dayton & Columbia County Meetings**

**Board of Columbia County Commissioners** First and second Monday of each month at

Call-in information available at <a href="https://">https://</a> <u>www.columbiaco.com/114/County-</u> **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. Zoom call information can be found at https://www.daytonsd.org/page/school**board** 

#### **Columbia County Public Hospital District Board of Commissioners**

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

#### **Coalition for Youth & Families**

Fourth Wednesday monthly at 3 p.m. https://coalitionforyouthandfamilies.org/ get-involved

**Columbia County Rural Library District** Special Meeting—Budget workshop

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

#### **Starbuck City Council:**

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

### Mass Sunday 5 p.m. 382-2311 Fr. Steve Werner Waitsburg Presbyterian Church 504 Main Sunday School 9:30 a.m. 🕏 Worship 11 a.m. 337-6589 Pastor Stan Hughes Waitsburg Chapel 320 W. 2nd Sunday School 9:45 a.m Worship 11 a.m. Evening Worship 6 p.m. Bible Study Wednesdays 7:30 p.m. 337-6235 Rev. Jimmie Daves Waitsburg Christian

Church

604 Main St

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School 9:00 a.m

Each Sunday

337-8898

Rev. Matthew Wyatt

### **DAYTON SENIOR ROUND TABLE LUNCH** MENU

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

#### Thursday, March 4

Fish sandwich Potato chips Pickled beets Salad Crisp Milk

#### Tuesday, March 9

Alice Springs chicken Mashed potatoes Gravy Roll Stewed tomatoes Oranges

# Milk

#### **WAITSBURG SENIOR CENTER** 504 Main Street

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

Tuesday, March 4

Pineapple ham Scalloped potatoes Vegetable (chef's choice)

Bread Brownie

Brought to you courtesy of Lloyd's Insurance, Inc

### WAITSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

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

#### Thursday, March 1

B:Green eggs & ham L: Dog on a log Oodles of noodles Blue goo Pink ink

Friday, March 2 B: Cook's Choice L: Cook's Choice

#### Potato salad

Monday, March 8

B:Breakfast sandwich L: Pulled pork sandwich Chips Grapes Peanut butter cookie

#### Tuesday, March 9 B: Waffles

L:Crispitos Spanish rice Bell pepper strips Kiwi

Walla Walla (509) 525-4110

# **NEWS & COMMENTARY**

#### LETTERS

#### IN DEFENSE OF SMALL **BUSINESS**

Dear Editor,

I am concerned about the conflicting messages we as small business owners are receiving from our gov-

I thought small (Ma & Pa) businesses were viewed favorably by most Americans. Some of the policies that have been put forth lately will have a significant negative impact on small businesses and small towns.

1. Low Carbon Fuel Standard:

If this legislation passes it will raise the price of fuel for everyone and eventually raise the price of everything for everyone. All this with no guarantee of improving our climate. Small businesses cannot absorb increased operation costs as easily as large corporations. This will lead to more consolidation as small businesses are forced to close and the big boys gobble up their market share. Small businesses are the foundation of our middle class and for that reason we are essential to maintaining a middle class in America.

2. Mandatory Overtime Pay For Agricultural Workers (and possibly retroactive):

If this legislation passes we will see the same result. Small farmers will not be able to absorb the increased labor expense and will be forced out of business and be replaced by large corporate farms. The rally cry that we have been hearing for years is that "Big Ag" is bad and that small farms are preferred. But that is another topic of discussion.

3. Removing the Four Lower Snake River Dams:

This is in direct conflict with the Low Carbon Fuel Standard that is currently being pushed through Congress. Removing these dams will require using much more carbon intensive transportation methods to move crops from Eastern Washington and Idaho to Portland for export.

I know that Governor Inslee is passionate about climate change and now during his "Magic Moment" with democratic control of all three branches of government he seems determined to push this agenda through without consideration of the extreme negative effect it will have on our small businesses, small towns, and the state population as a whole.

David and Dianne McKinley Dayton, WA

#### **WWCSO**

#### February 23

A male filed an animal cruelty complaint against a business in Walla Walla County. Walla Walla County

A hit and run occurred in the county. Walla Walla County

Subject backed into a power pole, causing damage to it, and left in the 700 block of Ernst Street. Walla Walla County

#### February 26

Unknown suspect struck a mailbox in the county. Walla Walla County

Possession of stolen property and firearm violation were found to have occurred in the county pursuant to a Pasco PD investigation and search warrant execution. Burbank

#### February 27

Informational report. Walla Walla County

Deputies responded to an assault in the 400 block of Powell Street in Waitsburg. Both subjects involved claimed the other assaulted the other. Waitsburg

#### February 28

Goat killed by two dogs. Walla Walla County

To the Editor,

Recent articles in this publication and others have told only part of the story that is the first semester of the COVID era in Dayton. Here is the reality:

A recent article in the Waitsburg Times misquoted our MS/HS Principal claiming truancy didn't contribute to the D and F grades as only 3 students were truant; this is not true nor is it what was said by our Principal in the Board Meeting. What she stated in that Board Meeting (conducted via Zoom and recorded) is that little to no support is given to the school district by the Columbia County Court system for students in truancy and that she had just been in court that day for 3 students in active truancy. Those 3 students accounted for 21 total F grades in the first semester.

The facts are 14 students in active truancy, or with excessive absence on the verge of truancy, accounted for 45% of the first semester F grades. When that is removed from the context it paints a much worse picture than what is actually happening.

In our Middle School (including truancies), there were 87 F's accounting for 18% of the total grades. On the opposite end of the spectrum, there were 159 A's accounting for 34% of the total grades. The rest break down as follows: 87 B's (18%), 77 C's (16%), and 58 D's (12%). In total, 4 students had only D and F grades where 22 had only A and B grades.

In our High School (including truancies), there were 46 F's accounting for only 7% of the total grades and 223 A's accounting for 36% of the total grades. The rest are as follows: 173 B's (28%), 109 C's (17%), and 74 D's (12%). Three students had only D and F grades where 25 students had only A and B grades.

Put into full context our first semester statistics show tremendous success and areas for improvement. Fortunately, we have dedicated staff and parents striving to make school in the COVID era successful, and students rising to the challenge. They deserve to have their success added to the mix if any part of the story is told.

Sam Korslund Academic Specialist WSU GEAR UP Dayton School District

PUBLISHER'S NOTE: In response to Mr. Korslund's letter, The Times reached out to those involved and confirmed the accuracy of the information in the Feb.11, 2021 article concerning the Dayton School Districts efforts to support students with failing grades.

The comment attributed to Principal Brown:

'Truancy can't be blamed for the situation as only three students were habitually absent in January, Brown told the board. Student attendance has actually improved over the last three years.'

This does not refer to all truancy; just those Brown considered habitually absent in January.

This was pointed out to say truancy is not the only factor the board should take into consideration.

We appreciate readers' comments and fact-checking as accuracy is important to all of us at the paper.

Traffic call, 2nd Street

Oliver and Adraine Michels.

#### February 26

9-1-1 Call, Dayton High School Animal call, 2nd Street Attempt to locate, Country Village

#### February 27

Citizen contact, Columbia County Courthouse 9-1-1 Call, Front Street Malicious Mischief, Highway 12

#### February 28

9-1-1 Call, Bluewood

Violation of court order, 5th Street

Times Traveler

Recognizing her Gran's famous scones, newly threeyear-old Wendy of Edmonds, WA, spent some time flipping through The Times while waiting for cake. Happy Birthday Wendy!

#### BIRTHDAYS

March 5: Dick Baker, Jean Miller, Larry Wayne Bunton, Paul Fischer and Kristen Danielson.

March 6: Marianne Newell, John P. Janovich, Shane Johnson, Trulie Griffin,

Michael Jantz, Ryan and Scott Downing, Del Benson, Larry Olson and Kevin Jones.

March 7: Renee Adams, Jayce Dunleavy.

March 8: Donovan Smith, Tanaa Maib and Scott

March 9: Larry Johnson, Robert Langdon, Steve Pierson, Jennifer Bennett, Kay Baker.

March 10: Bill Gluck, Win Deanna Anderson, Frank Reser and Casey Worth.

March 11: Jacqueline Klaas, Catherine Donnelly, Kelly Lodato, Aaron DeFord, James Kenworthy, Dan David

#### CCSO

#### February 22

Civil problem, Cameron Court Welfare check, 2nd Street

Traffic stop, Main Street

#### February 23

Traffic stop, Highway 12 Search warrant, Country Village Citizen contact, City Lumber

#### February 24

Found property, St. Vincent de Paul Animal call, Harlem Road Accident, non injury, Hartsock Grade

February 25

Lost property, Dayton Mercantile/Subway

#### A PROUD TRADITION

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

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

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

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

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

### **Reader's Forum**

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

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

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

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

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

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3-year subscription: \$105

#### **Out of County**

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



# Former Dayton resident receives lung transplant, asks for help with medical costs

Fred Banks received a life-saving transplant in April 2020, and has lifelong medical costs for medication, care

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

SEQUIM—After years of misdiagnosis, incorrect treatment, and fighting for each breath, former Dayton resident Fred Banks received a bilateral lung transplant in 2020. Now, his family is reaching out for help with the resulting medical

Banks was born and raised in Dayton before moving to Prescott and then to Walla Walla, where he and his wife Berniece raised three children. In 2015, he moved to Sequim, Washington, to be closer to a granddaughter battling childhood leukemia. Fortunately, his young granddaughter is in remission and doing well

However, the road to restored health for Banks has been a long one, according to his daughter, Karie Banks-Wellsandt. An initial misdiagnosis cost the family years of precious time and treatment, as he was being treated for allergies.

In December 2018, Banks learned he was actually suffering from pulmonary fibrosis, a disease that occurs when lung tissue is damaged and scarred, making it hard for the lungs to function properly. According to the Mayo Clinic, the damage is irreversible, but symptoms can be lessened with medication and therapy. Lung transplants are often an appropriate option for patients who meet certain criteria.

Like many people in the area, Banks was a wheat and barley farm worker for years, where he was exposed to concentrated amounts of wheat and barley chaff, anhydrous ammonia, dust, and other toxic materials which were ruled out as the cause of his condition by doctors working on his case. His current doctor asked if he had ever been exposed to high levels of mold, and while he cannot confirm it, Banks believes that he may have been exposed to mold that naturally occurs in large wheat piles.

In 2019, he woke up barely able to catch his breath. His outer extremities were purple, starved of oxygen. During a three-day hospital stay, Banks learned that he was a candidate for a lung transplant, but first he had to lose weight. With the help of pulmonary therapy, Banks was able to drop nearly sixty pounds, improving his chances for a successful transplant and recovery.

On April 16, 2020, Banks received a life-saving bilateral lung transplant at the University of Washington Medical Center in Seattle (UWMC), WA, despite all of the obstacles that a global pandemic could muster. He had been called to the hospital twice prior, with both sets of donor's lungs eventually being deemed unfit for

"On April 15, we got a call that they wanted me at the hospital at six that evening so that I could be prepped for a bilateral transplant," Banks said. "Because of COVID, my wife could only be with me for a few minutes. The next morning, the doctors showed up with a gurney, and away we went. I remember them talking a little bit, telling me that they were going to put me under. The last thing I remember was telling everyone 'good night.'"

Once he was released from the hospital, he stayed at the Seattle Transplant House for post-transplant care and monitoring.

"I thank those people and everyone who donated at that time because it cost us nearly \$3,000 per month," Banks said. "We were there until the end of August."

Today, he is physically doing very well; however, the cost of treatment during this recovery stage is a major hardship to himself and his family. He has a daily regimen of medications, including two anti-rejection medications, multiple antibiotics, aspirin, and antivirals, which total roughly \$500 per month. One anti-rejection medication alone, CellCept, costs Banks \$120 per month.

He currently undergoes bronchoscopies at UWMC every two to three weeks to ensure 100% lung function with no blockages or signs of rejection. Travel by ferry from Sequim to Seattle costs roughly \$40 to \$60 for a roundtrip ticket, and he must cover that cost and lodging as his insurance does not cover travel expenses.

To help offset costs, his daughter has set up a GoFundMe page and created an online raffle fundraiser to help raise the \$35,000 they estimate will cover the remaining costs of treatment. Any remaining funds will be donated to the Transplant House Seattle, which accommodates transplant patients and their families in the days surrounding surgery and to the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation, an organization committed to understanding the disease.

Banks-Wellstand has set up an online raffle website, https://www.fredbanksmedicalraffle.com/, which accepts both item donations and raffle bids. She said that she is always willing to accept item donations.

A GoFundMe has also been set up to benefit the Banks family and help with medical costs, <a href="https://www.gofundme.com/f/fred-banks-medical-fund">https://www.gofundme.com/f/fred-banks-medical-fund</a>.

### PULMONARY FIBROSIS AND OTHER LUNG DISEASES ARE A HAZARD IN SOME FARMING PRACTICES

According to data provided by the US National Library of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health, agricultural workers are at a greater risk of respiratory problems due to exposure to chemicals, dust, and naturally-occurring materials like crystalline silica.

A multicenter case-control study in 2000 found evidence of interstitial lung disease, like pulmonary fibrosis, to farm and livestock workers. In 2006, a study found approximately 32% of ag-workers had pneumoconiosis (any lung disease caused by the inhalation of organic or nonorganic airborne dust and fibers), compared to roughly 19% of non-ag workers in California.

According to Johns Hopkins Medicine and the American Lung Association, symptoms of pneumoconiosis include:

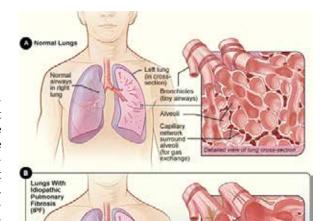
Cough Lots of phlegm Shortness of breath Chest tightness

"Velcro" crackles present over lower lung fields

Symptoms of pneumoconiosis are usually aggravated by strenuous activity, but may become present during periods of rest as the disease progresses. If the scarring is severe, oxygen may not be able to reach the bloodstream easily, resulting in low blood oxygen levels, putting stress on other organs such as the heart and brains, which can result in additional symptoms.

There are no tests that specifically diagnose pneumoconiosis. Your doctor will perform a physical examination, focusing on the chest area. Chest x rays, pulmonary function (breathing) tests, and/or CT scans may be used for diagnosis. A detailed histology will be necessary, so be prepared to answer questions about possible exposures, timelines, and your work history. Clinicians will ask about exposures to mold and dust.

According to Harvard Health Publishing, Pneumoconiosis causes permanent lung changes, but can almost always be prevented. Limit work-related exposure to mineral dusts by using approved safety



Mayo Clinic

measures, such as protective equipment and clothing. Protective equipment must fit properly and be used according to the manufacturer's directions.

#### CLASSIFIEDS

#### HELP WANTED

The Dayton Chamber of Commerce is seeking applications for the full-time Manager position. The Chamber promotes tourism, events, economic development and provides marketing for Dayton. Applicants should have good skills in public relations, collaboration, administration, management, public speaking, marketing, QuickBooks, social media and budgeting. Submit resume and cover letter to chamber@historicdayton.com by March 26. Compensation: \$40-50K, based on experience.

Blue Mountain Counseling has an opening for a full-time position as a Receptionist, will also be required to be part of the Crisis First Responder team. This position is at least 37 hours per week. Salary: DOE/DOQ. Application and job description may be picked up at Blue Mountain Counseling, 221 E. Washington Ave., Dayton, WA 99328. Applications may be faxed to: 509.382.1166 For questions and/or information call 509.382.1164. E.O.E.



#### Fun opportunity to join the Waitsburg Times team!

The Waitsburg Times is looking for a part-time journalist to cover Dayton and Columbia County. Must have basic computer skills, and access to your own computer. Ability to work from home and make your own schedule. Compensation DOE. Interested applicants please send a cover letter and resume to advertising@ waitsburgtimes.com or by mail to PO BOX 97, Waitsburg, WA

Questions? Call the office at (509) 337-6631 The Waitsburg Times is an Equal Opportunity Employer. JOB ANNOUNCEMENT TEMPORARY LABORER (Summer Help)

#### **COLUMBIA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS**

Columbia County Public Works is seeking Summer Help for 2021. The department is seeking individuals meeting the minimum qualifications of Temporary Laborer or Flagger to apply for the position within the Public Works department.

These positions will assist the County Road department road maintenance functions. Preference will be given to applicants with a valid flagging certification. On the job training is available. Wages begin at \$14.37 per hour for Temporary Laborers and \$15.09 for Temporary flaggers.

To apply, obtain an application packet at www.columbiaco.com or the Columbia County Public Works Department, P.O. Box 5, 415 N Guernsey Ave., Dayton, WA 99328 or call (509) 382-2534. Apply by March 19, 2021 for priority review (First Review, Open

Columbia County is an equal opportunity employer.

#### JOB ANNOUNCEMENT OFFICE ASSISTANT POSITION **COLUMBIA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS**

Columbia County Public Works is seeking a part-time Office Assistant to work with the administration department. The position works under the Business Manager performing a variety of clerical and accounting functions. The department is seeking individuals meeting the minimum qualifications to apply for the position within the department.

The administrative services division is responsible for the clerical, accounting, grant administration, permitting and reservations within parks and recreation. Duties include assisting with taking parks and recreation reservations, web site management, accounts receivable and payable, customer service and general

This position works 24 hours a week. Wages range from \$16.74 per hour to \$18.45 per hour depending on qualifications. To apply, obtain an application packet at www.columbiaco.com or the Columbia County Public Works Department, P.O. Box 5, 415 N Guernsey Ave., Dayton, WA 99328 or call (509) 382-2534. Apply by March 19, 2021 for priority review (First Review, Open

Columbia County is an equal opportunity employer.

#### **Resource Technician Position**

Columbia Conservation District is seeking to hire a Resource Technician. This position requires working closely with local landowners, coworkers, conservation partners and others to develop and implement voluntary conservation plans specific to each landowner's resource needs. Applicants should have knowledge/experience in working with conservation district issues, production agriculture, project management, government agency operations and procedures, computer operations, and the public. Detailed job description and application can be obtained at the district office, 202 South 2nd St., Dayton, Washington, 509-382-4273

ad-ccd@daytonwa.net or dn-ccd@daytonwa.net .

#### LOST

Mini Pincher/Chihuahua mix named Bella. Jumped a fence during

Please call (509) 520-9092 if you find her.



# **NEWS & LEGALS**

#### BMLT HOSTING WILD & SCENIC FILM FESTIVAL | WA STATE'S PUBLIC ART COLLECTION GROWS **EVENT APRIL 1**

THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA—On Thursday, April 1, join the Blue Mountain Land Trust for the Wild & Scenic Film Festival.

Held each year in January in Nevada City, California, The Wild & Scenic Film Festival celebrates the beauty and wonder of the natural world, and inspires audiences to take action. This year, the festival will feature Here We Stand, a film by Theresa Baker and Save the Redwoods League about improving inclusivity in the outdoors, and Common Ground, a film that explores how tribes, ranchers, and government work together to work toward a common goal. Message From the Future of Paradise reflects on the potential rebuilding process of a community destroyed by fire, providing a model for others.

The festival is a natural extension of the Land Trust's work to inspire people to act on behalf of the environment. Our work at Blue Mountain Land Trust is more than just conserving land; it connects people to the land. Building a stewardship ethic in the communities we serve is vital to ensuring the long-term success of land conservation. Natural resources education opportunities like the Wild & Scenic Film Festival help build this connection," said Tim Copeland, BMLT Executive Director.

This year, the festival will be online. The premier presentation will be live streamed, starting at 6:30 p.m. During the live event, guests can enjoy films, local food options, chat with audience members, and vie to win door prizes, all from the comfort of home. Ticket prices start at \$20, and dining packages start at \$80. To purchase tickets, visit www.bmlt.org/wild2021.

### **DESPITE PANDEMIC**

#### THE TIMES

Ric Gendron's paintings show various elements of the Native American spiritual journey. Across the Universe (Detail), by Ric Gendron, located at Washington State University, Pullman.

Since July 1, 2020, the Art in Public Places (AIPP) program has added thirty-four new artworks to the collection. These public art projects are located across Washington State, from Mount Vernon and Blaine in the far northwest, to Quincy and Moses Lake in Central Washington, to Spokane and Pullman in the east, and several places in between. The artworks include paintings, sculpture, and glass.



#### LEGAL NOTICES

#### IN THE SUPERIOR **COURT OF THE STATE OF**

**WASHINGTON** IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA NO. 21-4-00035-36 PROBATE NOTICE TO **CREDITORS** In re the Estate of

JAMES WALTER WEINGART,

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 later of:

(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 again: both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

Date of first publication: February 18, 2021

Personal Representative: Estate of James Walter Weingart

C/O Michael E. de Grasse 59 S. Palouse Street P. O. Box 494 Walla Walla, WA 99362 Walla Walla County Superior Court

Cause No.: 21-4-00035-36 /s/ Michael E. de Grasse Personal Representative The Times

February 18, 25, March 4, 2021 2-18-c

IN THE SUPERIOR **COURT OF THE STATE OF** WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE **COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA** No.: 21-4-00034-36

PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030) IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: WADE CURTIS ROBBINS, Deceased.

The Co-Personal Representatives named below have been appointed as copersonal representatives of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the co-personal representatives or the copersonal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the co-personal representatives 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

DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: February 25,

assets

Co-Personal Representatives: James G. Robbins and Maryann E. Robbins

Jared N. Hawkins, WSBA #35426

Of Attorneys for Co-Personal Representatives Address for Mailing or

2225 Isaacs, Suite A, Walla Walla, WA 99362

Court of probate proceedings and cause

number:

Walla Walla County Superior Court Cause No. 21-4-00034-36

The Times February 25, March 4, 11, 2021 2-25-a

#### **CALL FOR BIDS**

Walla Walla Fire Protection District No. 3 is calling for

sealed bids for the opportunity to purchase one surplus 2000 Diesel 4X4 Automatic

transmission F550 Cab &

Send bids: WWFPD # 3 PO Box 8 Prescott, WA 99348 by March 8. Please

indicate on the outside of the envelope that this is a sealed bid. Bids

are scheduled to be opened at a regular district meeting. Open to the public, March 10th at 8 AM

at 778 Hoffman Road Prescott, WA. Email: wwfpd3@pocketinet.com

for more information. The Times February 25, March 4,

2-25-e

#### **WAITSBURG JOINT SCHOOL DIST. 401 & 100** WALLA WALLA COUNTY. WASHINGTON

NOTICE OF HEARING -PROPOSED SALE OF REAL

(VACANT PROPERTIES) NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Waitsburg School District, Walla Walla County. Washington (the "District") proposes to sell two adjacent parcels of certain vacant real property located off of E Third Street and Coppei Ave., in the City of Waitsburg, WA 99361 (the "Vacant Properties") which are no longer required for school district purposes. The Vacant Properties have the following legal descriptions: (a) abbreviated legal description 11-9-37 TAX 40, Tax Parcel No. 37-09-11-34-0012; and (b)

abbreviated legal description 11-9-37 TAX 145, Tax Parcel No. 37-09-11-34-0025, both in Walla Walla County, Washington. The Board shall hold a public meeting on the proposal to sell the Property at the District Administration offices at the location of \_\_\_ Waitsburg Elementary School Library on March 18, 2021 at \_6\_ p.m. At the meeting, the Board shall receive evidence and comments for and against the propriety of the proposed sale. For further information, please contact Mark Pickel. Superintendent, at Tel. 509-337-6301

WAITSBURG JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 401 & 100, WALLA WALLA COUNTY, WASHINGTON

/s/ Mark Pickel Superintendent and Secretary of the Board The Times March 4, 11, 2021

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS** 

FRONT STREET BRIDGE **RAILING** 

City of Dayton 111 South 1st Street Dayton, Washington 99328

City of Dayton, Washington (herein called the "Owner"), invites bids for the construction of the Front Street Bridge Railing project. The work includes the replacement of the traffic barrier and pedestrian bridge on the east as well as a bid alternate to replace the traffic barrier on the west side of the Front Street Bridge.

Sealed bids for the described project will be received by the office of the City Clerk at City Hall, 111 South 1st Street, Dayton, Washington, 99328 until 2:30 p.m., local time, March 25, 2021, and then publicly opened and read aloud.

The Contractor is subject to all requirements related to Prevailing Wage Rates, EEO, and Washington State Contracting Laws, etc.

The contract time for all work shall be 40 working days

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: Anderson Perry & Associates, Inc., 214 East Birch Street. Walla Walla, Washington 99362, (509) 529-9260, Adam Schmidtgall, P.E. aschmidtgall@andersonperry. com. Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Mondays through Fridays between the hours of

8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., or at the other locations listed below City of Dayton, 111

South 1st Street, Dayton, Washington Anderson Perry &

Associates, Inc., 1901 North Fir Street, La Grande, Oregon

Bidding Documents are available at http://www. andersonperry.com under the Bid Docs link. The digital **Bidding Documents may** be downloaded for a nonrefundable payment of \$25.00 by inputting QuestCDN eBidDoc Number 7629239 on the website. Assistance with free QuestCDN membership registration, document downloading, and working with the digital Project information may be obtained at www. QuestCDN.com, at (952) 233-1632, or via e-mail at info@ questcdn.com. No paper sets will be provided for bidding purposes.

Each bid on the project must be submitted on the prescribed form and accompanied by a certified check or bid bond payable to the Owner in an amount not less than 5 percent of the amount bid. The successful bidder will be required to furnish the necessary additional bonds for the faithful performance of the contract as prescribed in the contract

The Owner may reject any bid not in compliance with all prescribed requirements and may reject for good cause any and all bids upon finding that it is in the public interest to

documents.

The Owner is an equal opportunity employer. Minority and women-owned businesses are encouraged to bid. Each minority and womenowned business requesting plans should indicate that they are a minority firm at the time they request plans so they may be listed on the Planholders List as a minority.

Owner: City of Dayton, Washington Zac Weatherford Title: Mayor The Times March 4, 11, 2021 3-4-b

**ORDINANCE SUMMARIES** BY TITLE ONLY FOR **PUBLICATION PURPOSES ORDINANCE 2021-1068** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WAITSBURG, **WASHINGTON, REPEALING** AND REPLACING THE **ELECTION PROCEDURES OUTLINED IN TITLE 3** OF THE WAITSBURG **MUNICIPAL CODE** 

The full text of Ordinance 1068 is available for examination on the City's website www.cityofwaitsburg. com or at the City Clerk's Office, 147 Main St., Waitsburg, WA, during normal business hours.

Adopted the 17th Day of February 2021

Marty Dunn, Mayor

**ORDINANCE 2021-1069** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WAITSBURG **WASHINGTON, AMENDING CHAPTER 6 OF THE WAITSBURG MUNICIPAL** CODE

The full text of Ordinance 1069 is available for examination on the City's website www.cityofwaitsburg. com or at the City Clerk's Office, 147 Main St., Waitsburg, WA, during normal business hours

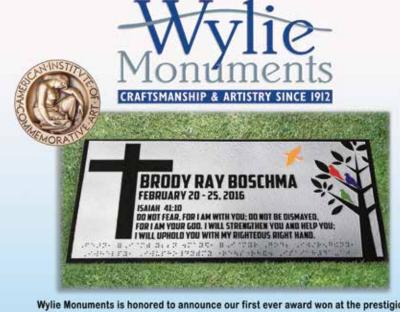
Adopted the 17th Day of February 2021

Marty Dunn, Mayor

**ORDINANCE 2021-1070** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WAITSBURG, **CHAPTERS 1 AND 2 OF TITLE 7 AND CHAPTER** IV OF TITLE 10 OF THE **WAITSBURG MUNICIPAL** 

The full text of Ordinance 1070 is available for examination on the City's website www.cityofwaitsburg. com or at the City Clerk's Office, 147 Main St., Waitsburg, WA, during normal business hours.

Adopted the 17th Day of February 2021 Marty Dunn, Mayor The Times March 4, 2021



Wylie Monuments is honored to announce our first ever award won at the prestigious 2019 American institute of Commemorative Art Design contest. Placing 3rd in the flat marker category is this beautiful marker full of symbolism representing

faith and family, with a duplication of the inscription in braille at the bottom. Thank you to the Boschma family for placing your trust in us.

When it comes to creating a unique and special memorial for your loved one, look no further than Wylie Monuments. Our family serving yours since 1912.

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



publications is noon on Tuesday prior to publication. Send notices to:

legals@waitsburgtimes.com



### **Short-eared Owls of the Plains**



Short-eared owl: Roused by the fleet feet of a pointing dog, a short-eared owl takes flight over the central Washington scablands.

#### By Brad Trumbo | THE TIMES

limpses of white flashed through the heavy sagebrush as Finn dashed across the scablands. Hungarian partridge and valley quail hunkered somewhere among the sage sea, and she was working her best to locate them. A carpet of spent grasses and forbs provided ample food sources for upland birds, which were inexplicably absent from the flood-scared landscape.

Circling a small basalt butte, I recalled the last flash of white being off to the left about 30-yards. Starting in that direction, my handheld locator alerted me that Finn was on point, simultaneous with my catching another glimpse of white between the waist-high brush. Rushing on for a flush, a single bird levitated silently, catching the wind and flapping lazily to perch on a lichen-encrusted fence post and peer judgingly back at us. Its round head and exaggerated wingbeats gave it away instantly. A short-eared owl, I would come to learn. Over the years, my setters and I have flushed short-ears a number of times on the Palouse. Occasionally pairs emerge. When hunting covey birds, there is no concern over drawing a bead on one of these peculiar raptors that can be downright startling, but when chasing something like sharp-tailed grouse, expecting a brown and white bird of similar size can be momentarily confusing. Short-eared owls are brown spotted with a buff, streaked chest, and white under the wings, resembling dried grasses. Their pale face is clearly defined with large golden eyes, outlined in black as if they are wearing eyeliner. And if you really want to dive into the minutia of detail, a dark comma-shape is prominent on the white underwing. An owl's "ears" are the lateral feather tufts on the head. The great horned owl boasts magnificent "ears" but they are far less conspicuous on the short-eared owl. Only when on the defensive are the short-ear's tufts erect and visible, hence, its namesake.

Aside from their unique, exaggerated flapping and flight that the Audubon Society describes as "buoyant" and appearing like a "giant moth", I've come to read the dog in the instances they point before the owl appears. They must possess a unique odor as the dogs know it's a bird, but it just doesn't smell right. Their points are tentative rather than rigid and confident, and when the bird levitates, the dogs peel off with no desire to pursue it.

Our numerous encounters with short-ears on the grasslands come from them

being the most widespread owl species in the world, occurring on every continent. Their North American range spans the entire continent nearly to the Arctic with year-round residency and breeding approximately across the northern band of the contiguous 48 U.S. states.

While most owls prefer some form of dark cover and timber, short-eared owls inhabit the open plains, shrub-steppe, tundra, and marshlands, where they roost and nest on the ground like upland gamebirds or waterfowl. When nesting, the female selects a high spot and scratches out a bowl-shaped depression similar to what you might find a pheasant using as a dusting bowl. She fills the bowl with down feathers and grasses for soft, warm brood rearing. Nesting and breeding occur March through June and peaks in April in the northern hemisphere.

Short-eared owls hunt mainly by sound, listening for rodents scurrying and scuffling in the prairie or wetland duff. While they hunt at night like other owls, one of the most unique traits of short-eared owls is their common daytime activity. Short-eared owls are very active in the crepuscular periods of the day and can be seen most any other time of day.

Although these medium-sized owls are common locally and worldwide, my encounters with them have always been on large tracts of shrub-steppe. The patchwork of draw-bottom habitats dappling our local wheat farms typically supports species of alder, cottonwood, and black locust, more enticing to great horned owls who would whoop the shorts off the short-eared owl if it desired the shade.

Short-ears are easy to photograph and easily approachable. Finding them is the real challenge. A hike through public lands west of Dayton or the central Washington scablands near Odessa are areas where I commonly see these pale-faced fowl. A canine companion can increase your odds of discovery, but the camera must be at the ready.

Once spooked, Short-ears typically remain close, perching quickly, but the slightest additional human movement can put prompt distance between you. Select a fast shutter speed for the moving target. Upon the flush, train your focus on the bird and try for that perfect in-flight shot, then wait for the owl to settle and capture that wide-eyed glance of incredulous judgment born only of a meal or midday snooze disrupted.

### **Movie Briefs**

Michele's Picks

#### By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

The African Doctor (Bienvenue à Marly-Gomont,

Inspired by true events, *The African Doctor* is about a doctor from Zaire, who moves with his family to a small provincial village in France, in the mid-1970s. For Seyolo Zantoko, serving the villagers as their doctor provides an avenue to gain French nationality, and better opportunities for his family.

The story was written by Zantoko's son, the Hip Hop artist Kamini. It is about how the family overcame obstacles to being accepted by the villagers.

When Zantoko asked one farmer how to overcome the villagers' reluctance to being treated by him, he was told to simply get to know them.

Zantoko took that first step at a bar with the local men, where he downed his first ever glass of Calvados, and took up his first game of darts to win them over.

Over time, the villagers came to accept and respect them, and to champion Zantoko as their doctor.

In a warm and witty way, The African Doctor shows how hearts and minds can be changed.

The 2016 film, The African Doctor runs 96 minutes. It is directed by Julien Rambaldi, and stars Aissa Maiga and Marc Zinga. FYI: It is subtitled, as many of the best

News of the World (Universal Studios, 2020)

If you love a good western, you will like the 2020 film News of the World starring Tom Hanks.

Hanks plays Captain Jefferson Kyle Kidd, a Civil War veteran, who earns his money travelling from place to



**Universal Studios** 

Tom Hanks and his youthful costar Helena Zengel in News of the World.

place, reading the news of the world to eager townspeople.

The story follows his quest to find the blood relatives of Johanna Leonberger, a 10-year-old white girl, who was captured and raised by the Kiowa people.

Johanna and Kidd have been traumatized by events from their respective pasts, but the 400-mile journey they take over the harsh and unforgiving landscape of the Texas plains provides ample time for each to begin

True to the western genre, this film has its share of villains and heroes, a shoot-out with the bad guys, and a happy ending.

Think True Grit, but without the snappy dialogue. The News of the World runs 1 hr. 59 min. and is rated PG-13. It is directed by Paul Green. Produced and distributed by Universal Studios it is available On Demand and Netflix, Prime Video, YouTube.



## **SPORTS & LIFESTYLES**

Is James Paxton enough to make Mariners

competitive?

By Eric Umphrey | THE TIMES

The Mariners have signed free agent pitcher James Paxton to a one-year \$8.5 million contract with bonuses that could push that up to a total of \$10 million. The incentives are based on the number of starts that James Paxton makes in the upcoming season. He could receive up to an additional \$750,000 should he start in a total of ten games and add up to another \$750,000 should he start twenty-two games.

Paxton slots into the top spot in the rotation and gives the Mariners something they haven't had since he left, an ace. That is if he can stay healthy for the entire season. Paxton's fastball velocity was down last year to 92 mph, but he has already been clocked at 94 mph last December during a throwing session for scouts. There were scouts from up to twenty teams in attendance for the throwing session. Can Paxton rebound this season and turn back into "The Big Maple," or will injuries plague him again this season, making him firewood?

Paxton's last fully healthy year was in 2013, which was the season he was called up from the Tacoma Rainers. He started four games for the Mariners that

season starting in September and won three of them. Since then, he has had a litany of injuries. Being traded to the Yankees in November of 2018 didn't end his injury issues. During his two years with the Yankees, he had a knee injury in 2019, followed by off-season back surgery and an arm injury last season, causing him to make only five starts. You can safely say that the Mariners won the trade with New York as they have Paxton back and picked up Justus Sheffield in the process.

Projection systems think Paxton will start somewhere around twenty-three games next season, which may be doable since the Mariners will have a six-man rotation this year. Even a partial season from Paxton is likely worth an extra two wins to the Mariners in the standings for 2021. An entire season from Paxton is probably worth four wins. Unfortunately, adding even four additional wins probably puts this teams' win total into the 77-79 range. That will keep Seattle out of last place in the American League West but won't be good enough for a playoff spot.

Don't be surprised if the Mariners turn around and trade Paxton again depending on his health and where the team is in the standings during the trade deadline.



Keith Allison from Hanover, MD, USA

James Paxton pitching for the New York Yankees during a game against the Baltimore Orioles on April 4, 2019

# Dayton-Waitsburg Volleyball falls short, makes improvements with each match

THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—Dayton-Waitsburg Volleyball hit the court for the first match of the 2020-21 season against Mabton, on February 23.

Coach Tracy Barron shared that the 2020-21 DW Volleyball team is a young team that has not had much opportunity to practice together, but they have lots of potential. Senior Teagen Larsen led the charge for DW ladies with three aces, 23 assists, and one kill. Senior Sadie Seney was close behind with one ace and ten kills. Freshman Makenna Barron earned recognition after completing four kills.

Match scores: 11-25, 16-25, 18-25.

Dayton-Waitsburg fell short against Mabton High School, with Barron saying that she is proud of the way that the team came together and battled throughout the entire game.

In a second scheduled match against Kittitas High School, Katherine Houchin led the team with three blocks, one kill, one assist, and two aces. Sadie Seneny completed six blocks, one assist, one kill, and two aces. Claudia Benavides brought two



Beka Compton

Teagen Larsen and Sadie Seney.

kills, two digs and two aces to the DW scorebooks.

DW lost to Kittitas, 18-25, 17-25, and 21-25. Barron said that she saw improvement between the two games, as the ladies on the team are starting to come together as a team.

"They are becoming more comfortable as a team," Barron said.

In the third game of the season, DW fell short against Tri Cities Prep, with Barron saying that the TCP ladies are the hardest hitting team that DW has faced to date, after the February 26 game.

"I'm really proud of how we adjusted and fought back," Barron said, after the game.

Sadie Seney led the team through the TCP game, racking in four digs, five blocks, and four kills. Clau-

dia Benavides brought sic digs, three kills, and two aces in for the team, with Makenna Barron close behind with five digs and three blocks. Katherine Houchin had yet another noteworthy game, completing two digs and one kill.

Dayton-Waitsburg volleyball games are currently limited to pre-registered spectators, however, games are being live streamed via Facebook. Be sure to follow the Waitsburg School District to watch.

# Prescott Tigers win first match against Liberty Christian, fall short against Touchet

THE TIMES

PRESCOTT—Prescott Tigers Volleyball is off to a strong start for the 2020-21 season.

High school sports have been stalled since the initial school shutdown triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic. Attempts to plan for school sports to return were held back until counties reached Phase 2 in the Roadmap to Recovery. Some volleyball, football, and cross-country teams have been able to hold practices and games in Walla Walla County finally got the go-ahead in mid-February after the Southcentral Region moved to Phase 2.

The Tigers had their first match on February 24 against Liberty Christian, winning in straight sets (25-17, 25-15, and 27-25).

Coach Bob Young shared that Prescott had 12 service aces, led by senior Adelita Benito, defensive specialist, with five. Senior Jena Rowlette, middle blocker, brought five blocks and two kills, attacks that the opposition cannot return; Junior Angeles, middle blocker, had four kills and three blocks; senior

Frida Gonzalez came in with four kills.

"That was Tiger volleyball. We won the serve, serve-receive, and scramble points. Our best effort yet. I'm very proud of the girls. They displayed a high level of confidence and hustle throughout the match. In the second set, we limited them to only short spurts," Young shared.

"I really like how we rallied in the third set, coming from behind and finishing strong in a tight fight. Credit our Senior DS, Adelita Benito, for pulling us into the lead with five straight aces," said Young.

The Tigers fell short against their second opponent, Touchet High School, on February 27. Couch Young said that the team opened with a strong lead before they succumbed to a long run of serves by the Indians without notching a side out where the receiving team earns the right to serve.

Prescott rallied from two down to win the third set but could not get the tie in the fourth set.

Junior Angeles Ayala and senior Jena Rowlette each had six kills and three blocks. Rowlette excelled against Touchet, ending the team's winning set with ten straight service points. Sophomore Naomi Virgen gave the Tigers a needed spark in the third set, adding three digs and a kill to the playbook.

"Hats off to Touchet. They were down early but came roaring back to take that first set. We just couldn't manage to get a side out to turn the tide. In retrospect, that set turned the day. We struggled in the second set to create any momentum, "Young said. "I'm glad the girls kept competing to take the third set and fight throughout the fourth. I was hoping we could push it to five and see what would happen."

Tigers Volleyball plays in Prescott, against Desales, on Tuesday, March 2nd. Games are being live-streamed via the Prescott School District Facebook page.



Prescott Tigers played Desales High School on Tuesday, March 2. Volleyball games are being live streamed on the Prescott School District Facebook page.





## **LIFESTYLES**

### The Royal Block sees new owners, lots of history, bright future

*Ioe Roberts and Tiina Jaatinen* are committed to uncovering, sharing the Main Street building's history

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG-218 Main Street has contributed its fair share to Waitsburg's history. Built in 1888 by G.W Loundagin, the Royal Block has housed many businesses including a hotel, multiple pharmacies, apartments, restaurants, a craft store. According to a souvenir booklet printed by the Oregonian in 1904, the building was known as the Loundagin Block & Hotel Royal. In 1977, Sid's Pharmacy, Treasures in Tole, and 'apartments' were listed on a Historical Registration application that encompassed the entire Main Street.

In 2020, Tiina Jaatinen and Joe Roberts purchased the historical building, and have since been working to restore the historical storefront with visions of a wine bar and convertible gathering space on the main floor. Upstairs there will be lodging and a permanent living space for the new owners who plan on keeping the Royal Block name.

"We want it to be a space for events, big and small. We are designing in a way that it can be convertible, so we can accommodate bigger events," Jaatinen said.

Jaatinen, grew up in a village of roughly 500 in eastern Finland, and Roberts, grew up ranching near Odessa Washington. Both appreciate the small, rural town life, and have enjoyed friendly folks stopping by and asking questions about the work being done on the building.

"The excitement is contagious," Roberts shared, talking about the curious residents he has spoken with so far. "Without question, people have stopped, introduced themselves, asked 'what are you doing?" Roberts shared that they have already had a couple of people stop by and share stories about the Royal Block. Phil Monfort, of Waitsburg, and Susie Stonecipher have both stopped in to share valuable tidbits of information and fun memories. As they continue to work on the building, hoping to open later this spring, they are asking for memories and stories from folks who may have visited one of the previous businesses, to help decode the building's past.

"We know that G.W Loundagin called the building the Royal Block, we don't yet know why, and we'd like to figure that out," Roberts said. "To bring that history back, to preserve it, and to continue that story, is where we want to be involved. We want to keep the history lights on."

During the remodel, the couple has found fun little glimpses into the building's past, like a wood-fired pizza oven, with charred wood left in it, and a coal shoot with a pile of coal still waiting to be burned. An old Carpenter & Sons Pharmacy sign sits on an aging chest in the front of the space, and two peculiar chairs were found in the basement. A locked safe in the basement is, perhaps, the most intriguing find yet, with Roberts and Jaatinen saying they hope to find someone who can help them open it.

"We are using a lot of care with the renovation," Roberts said, explaining that they are taking mea-



Beka Compton





sures to stabilize the brick walls, installing energy-efficient windows, and are planning on cleaning the old timber floors, preserving many of the stains and scars. "All of these scars are evidence of history. The last thing we want to do with old growth timber is paint it and make it go away."

Roberts and Jaantinen have started an Instagram page to document the work on the Royal Block and share the history as they uncover it, @theroyalblock. Give them a follow and stay up to date with new findings, opening dates, and more about the oldest-new building on Main Street!

Top: Joe Roberts and Tiina Jaatinen, the new owners of the Royal Block are using the building's history to breathe life back into the Main Street building, and they hope to have the business up and running in May of this year.

Left: A newspaper clipping from *The Times*, from the late 1970's, shows what one of the former businesses had to offer the people of Waitsburg.

Right: The Royal Block is a familiar face on Main Street in Waitsburg.

### "March Magic" to Play March 26

A virtual variety show from the Liberty Theater

By Mike Ferrians | THE TIMES

Liberty Theater in Dayton will be streaming a live production of this year's community variety show. The free show is scheduled for Saturday, March 26, and will be available on YouTube. This year's show will be directed by Liberty Theater production veteran Meghan Bromley of Starbuck.

For many years, the Liberty Theater has presented delightful and entertaining variety shows produced, directed, and featuring talented Touchet Valley residents. The Spring 2020 show was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but the tradition will be revived with this year's virtual show.

Of course, it would be logical to refer to this year's show as "March Madness," playing off the moniker given to basketball playoff seasons, but Bromley had an-

"I decided to call it 'March Magic' because we've already had enough madness," said Bromley. "The show is meant to allow people to have a creative outlet and form bonds, even if at a distance."

This year, Bromley will produce the show using video submissions from talented local performers who want to share their songs, dances, or something else! Anyone interested in being part of the show can go to www.libertytheater.org/ special-events for more information on submitting a video by March 12 of your performance. Use your phone, laptop, or another digital device to create your vid-

"As hard as Covid has been on the arts, I think we've seen how powerful they can be to get us through tough times," said Bromley. She will select and curate individual submissions, editing and arranging them for the final product. Although individual acts will be pre-recorded, the show will stream live on YouTube on March 26 at 5 pm so that viewers can comment in real-time. The show will be free of charge: however, donations supporting the Liberty Theater will be welcome.

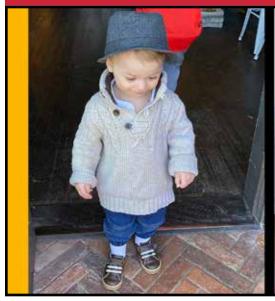
Stay tuned to the "March Magic - a virtual variety show" Facebook page in the coming weeks. Instructions on viewing the virtual variety show will be updated at a later date. The show will have a run-time of an hour and a half.



Mike Ferrians

Meghan Bromley directed the May, 2019 melodrama, "Peril On the High Seas" at the Liberty Theater, with Melany Lane in the role of Merry Ann Sweet.

### **FUN & GAMES**





#### Who wore it best? Levi or Daniel

The season for sweaters, do accessories make the difference?

Waitsburg visitor Levi right) spotted leaving Ter Ton Coffee in a collared sweater, accessarized with a stylish hat . Local chef Daniel (left) was seen wearing the same cozy sweater before his morning coffee.

### GRIME & BIAR IT TO



"The time has come to put aside party differences and do what's right for the country. ... What am I saying?"

#### Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



R.F.D.









### **Amber Waves**









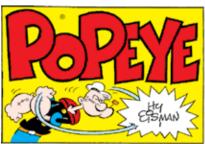
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

by Dave T. Phipps



LOTSA T'INGS!

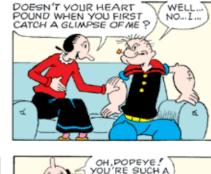














#### PIONEER PORTRAITS

#### **Ten Years Ago** March 3, 2011

In the predawn hours on a Thursday morning two weeks ago, Derek Katsel woke to the sound of his dog barking. "I got up and went outside to see what was going on," he said. "When I came around the corner, there was a cougar five feet from my porch, looking at my Jack Russell at the door."

High school students from Dayton, DeSales in Walla Walla, and Waitsburg middle school competed in Tuesday's Knowledge Bowl at the WHS auditorium.

Michael and Rebecca Townsend of Moses Lake are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Lorin Townsend to Bryan Harris of San Diego, Calif. Lorin is a graduate of Whitworth University. Her grandparents are Frank and Hazel Brown of Waitsburg.

Former Cardinal basketball star Jeff Hofer shows he can still spin the ball, but how will he do against other Touchet Valley alumni during the March 18-19 tourney of Waitsburg? Tourney organizers Fred Hamann and his brother Ross, president of the Cardinals Booster Club, wonder.

#### **Twenty-Five Years Ago** March 7, 1996

Waitsburg Ambulance Service has been restricted from transporting severely ill patients-even a woman in labor—to the hospital in most cases.

Lewis and Clark Trail State Park sustained \$1.5 million in flood damage last month and, a state park official said this week that "the entire park" may have to be "rebuilt."

Jordan Kirk, a junior at Whitman College is participating in the foreign study program during the spring semester and is studying in Watford, England. She is the daughter of Wendy Kirk of Waitsburg.

Don and Giselle Hepker are the parents of a 6 pound, 1 ounce son, Didier Poirot, born Feb. 23,

Anna Newbury, formerly of Waitsburg is a member of the Sumner, Wash. High School Spartan basketball team, which made it to the state AAA tournament.

#### Fifty Years Ago March 18, 1971

Meet Anne Hubbard, 16, is the blue-eyed, blonde Queen candidate daughter of Rep. and Mrs. Vaughn Hubbard. She started her riding career at the age of four and has been a member of the 4-H horse club for seven years, and participated in many horse shows.

Cliff Peters, self-styled metal worker and gunsmith, has manufactured some replicas of old guns—manufacturing each part by himself. His collector's items, he notes, are not for sale.

Daisy Rea Wale was honored on her 90th birthday with a reception held at the home of Dr. and Mrs. S.R. Hevel. Daisy shares a moment of fun with a former student, Kermit Jones.

Mr. and Mrs. Orval Hagerman are the proud parents of a 7-pound, 7-ounce son, Scott Howard, born March 13, in the Dayton General Hospital. Mr. Hagerman teaches in junior high in Waitsburg.

Charles "Bernie" Shook, one time manager of the Oakdale Grain Growers has been specializing in dry peas and lentils. He will work out of the Columbia Marketing Area Grain office in Colfax.

#### Sixty Years Ago

#### March 31, 1961\*\*\*(1921 was not printed)

Waitsburg Progressive Club, the oldest one of Federated Women's Clubs in Waitsburg has installed signs on Highway 410 at the two entrances of the city. They read "Welcome to Waitsburg, on the Lewis and Clark Trail, Governed by Original Charter, Settled in 1859."

Kay Witt, member of the Waitsburg Chapter of FFA was selected for the degree of State Farmer, the highest degree on the state level.

Jerry Baker, senior student Western Washington College of Education, has been named to Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities.

Bruce Brunton returned home Monday from an eight-month tour of Europe.

#### **Seventy-Five Years Ago** March 22, 1946

Marsh Flying Service of Phoenix, Az. will demonstrate the dusting of pea fields for weevil control Friday at the Dave Kibler place near Walla Walla. If dusting by place proves a success, it will mean much to the farmers of this valley.

Construction of a Class 1 Airport and training field will begin next week on the valley land belonging to Kenneth Bickelhaupt. Mr. Bickelhaupt has leased the land to the City of Waitsburg in order that the airport can be launched as a civil project. The City Council agreed to invest \$5,000 for construction purposes.

The Days of Real Sport will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday May 24, 25, and 26 following a three-year postponement being listed as a "war casualty."

#### One Hundred Twenty-Five Years Ago March 27, 1896

Frank Callahan has purchased 8 acres of land from Wm. Bruce and will put it out in peach plums. Verily the fruit proposition is receiving ample attention in this part of the country.

A road bicycle race is under contemplation for Saturday, April 4. Davies and Wilson will offer an allwool sweater for the winner.

The City Council met on Thursday night and awarded the contract for putting in a pumping system to E. U. Cummings for \$1,200.

# **PUZZLES & LIFESTYLES**

**SITUATIONS** 

80 Big name

in beer

82 "Alley -

83 Condé

84 Mall lure

85 Spill clumsily

89 Guitar's kin

91 Con artists

93 Took cover

94 Patchy horse

92 Abridge

95 Vague

96 Plague 97 Fit as a fiddle

98 Sound of

99 F-J link

falling hail

100 One of two in

"crocodile"

104 Wading birds

Mahmoud

Godfather

score composer

Nino

116 Some med.

scans

118 All-night bash

119 Comic Laurel

requests

26

60

91 92

101

107

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68

73

99

123 124 125

100

117 118

129

105 R&B singer

**106** — Mahal

107 Accuses

110 Brimless

brewing

### **Super** Crossword

#### 48 Bone: Prefix 1 Plates, e.g. 6 "Star Wars" 50 Insult. informally villain — the Hutt 51 YWCA part 54 Yule, briefly 57 Small Vlasic

offering

'Explorer

Ericson

surface

mavbe

distraught

86 1/16 ounce

**88** "— aboard!"

90 Baker's unit

94 Pec-building

exercises

98 Tilling tools.

to Brits

101 King, in Caen

102 Old Peruvian

103 Connections

82

109 110

127

103 | 104 | 105 | 106

87 Perfectly

with feelings

in a footnote

11 Longtime fashion mag 16 "Got it!" 63 Domestic 19 Muslim god

ACROSS

20 Has left the office, say 21 Bilbao locale **68** Glossy 22 "Whether nobler

69 "As above," 23 Sudden-70 Morning joe, death extra in a golf 75 Tear to bits tournament 25 Supermodel 76 Gambols

Klum 78 Inventory 26 Hi-fi platters 79 Board, as a 27 Cook gently 81 One who's 28 Behave obsequiously 31 Secretive

U.S. org. 32 Redding of **36** Opp. of horizontal

37 Film preview 38 Sort who's at hand whenever needed 42 Part of

a hunting outfit 43 Lucy of "Kung Fu Panda'

23

43

48

69

76

81

102

108

114

120

126

64

95 96

making people feel 108 Big name 44 French in hygiene painter Rosa

45 Narcissists 111 "QED" part 112 Beneficiary 113 Certain PC readout

114 Purplish fruit spread 117 Male ducks 120 — Lingus 121 Rivulet 122 What the last word

of 23-, 28-38-, 57-, 70-81-, 103- or 114-Across is a synonym of 126 Hang behind

127 Giant in life insurance 128 Televised 129 "... and vice 130 Hip-hop "Dr."

131 Hide, as loot 132 Old Russian dynasts city

**DOWN** 1 Does a fist bump. colloquially 2 Chicago's

home 3 Close loudly Caribbean's 5 Slipper, e.g. 6 Peanut butter

brand

7 Volcano stuff 8 Startling cry 9 Light source

in a socket 10 Had dinner at a friend's house, e.g. equivalent to

**12** Not

66-Down necessarily against 13 Spoke

14 In the (during) 15 In readiness 16 Map-filled color references 17 Most with it 18 Alleges 62 Lead-in to

24 Ice-cream alternative. "Scream" director Lamar Craven 65 Office letter

Shankar 33 Weight unit **34** With a sharp picture, briefly 35 Shrek creator William

30 Sitarist

38 "Gigli" co-star, familiarly nuclear weapon, for

88

128

38 East Main Street Walla Walla (509) 529-9963 www.BOOKANDG

12

40 "Be silent!" 41 Adolescent 46 Country's econ. measure

47 Suffix of medical

conditions 49 Free (from) 51 Plump bird Muskogee' (1969 hit) 53 Annoys

55 Circle part 56 Ionian, e.g. 58 Upper crust 59 Purity of a 60 Razor-sharp 61 Advanced

skeleton 63 Give a job 64 Former Laker 109 PLO head

66 Note equivalent to 115 "The 11-Down 71 Do a tax task 72 J.D. Salinger title girl

– be my pleasure' **74** Baby of a boomer

123 Eon subunit 124 Bonn article (as first 125 TSA found) 14

MY RECIPES Luke Chavez

### Pollo Alla Cacciatora

#### Hunting for a classic

Researching recipes often feels like traveling to me, and one of my favorite destinations to explore is Italy. Rich in history, this relatively small country is made up of 107 provinces within 20 political regions, each with distinct culinary traditions. While there is much diversity in Italian cuisine, one commonality is the practice of showcasing a few quality ingredients using simple straightforward preparations.

In Italian, this dish translates to Hunter's Style Chicken, and is one found across Italy, with hundreds of regionally specific variations. This version, with its abundance of fresh



rosemary simmered in tomatoes, comes from Tuscany, a region as famous for its cuisine as it is for its wine. The resulting chicken is tender and aromatic, punctuated by the brightness of the tomatoes.

#### **Ingredients:**

6-8 bone-in skinless chicken thighs

1 ½ teaspoons sea salt or kosher salt

½ cup extra virgin olive oil 8 garlic cloves, peeled and sliced in half lengthwise

2-3 stems fresh rosemary ½ teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes

1 28-ounce can chopped tomatoes with juice

1/4 cup pitted green olives, halved

Chopped flat leaf parsley and grated Parmesan for serving

Rinse the chicken pieces and pat dry. Season with half the salt. Pour olive oil in a heavy bottomed sauté pan or Dutch oven and set over medium-high heat. Lay chicken pieces in oil and brown for 2-3 minutes. Flip, and brown for another 2-3 minutes. Next, scatter the sliced garlic, rosemary, and red chili flakes into the oil between the

Keep moving the chicken and garlic around the pan until nicely browned for another 4-6 minutes. Browning should take a total of ten minutes. Don't let the garlic burn. Pour the tomatoes with all their juices into the pan. Add one cup of water to the can, slosh around and then pour that into the pan as well. Stir in the rest of the salt and bring to a boil.

Cover pan, leaving it cracked ajar, and reduce heat to maintain a steady but gentle simmer. Cook for 20 minutes, occasionally stirring and flipping the chicken. Remove the lid, add the olives, and cook for another 20 minutes or more, until chicken is fork tender with sauce slightly reduced. Check seasoning, add more salt and red pepper to

Serve immediately, or if you have the time, let the chicken rest and cool in pan for an hour, then reheat when ready to serve. Garnish with chopped parsley and have a bowl of grated Parmesan for passing around the table.

For an earthy variation try using mushrooms instead of the olives. Use about a half pound of cremini or wild mushrooms. Sauté the mushrooms in the pan, before the chicken, for 15-20 minutes until golden. Transfer mushrooms to a plate, season to taste with salt and set aside as you continue with the recipe. You will probably need to add more oil to the pan before browning the chicken. Add mushrooms to the browned chicken, with any accumulated juices, at the same time as the tomatoes. Finish recipe as above.

My favorite way to serve this is over creamy polenta, but it is also lovely with a tubular pasta, such as rigatoni. Crusty bread for sopping up the sauce could also be a simple accompaniment.

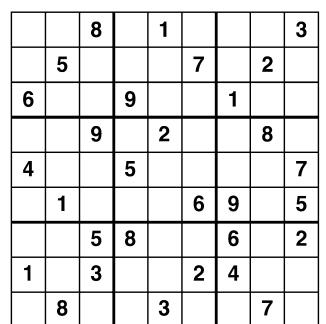
In Italy, this dish is often made with rabbit, while other variations use wild fowl such as pheasant, a true hunter's delight!

For this understated Tuscan version of pollo alla cacciatora, I wanted a medium bodied dry red wine with bright fruit and a delicate nose for a balanced pairing. I ended up traveling a little farther north, to my favorite Italian wine region, Piedmont, and chose a 2019 Barbera D'Asti by Franco Serra.

Buon appetito!

# Weekly SUDOKU

#### by Linda Thistle

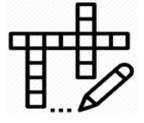


Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

#### **DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!

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H|O|R|S|E

### **LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS:**

### **Super** Crossword -

ST

1 | A | M

ARAB

| S | N | A | P | T | O |

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AERIE

 $P \mid R \mid I \mid M \mid P$ 

SSE

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		Answer								
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		7	4	8	3	2	6	5	1	9
М		2	1	5	9	7	3	6	4	8
E		4	6	3	1	8	2	7	9	5
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Weekly SUDOKU —

# THE LAST PAGE

### Remodeling the Remodel or - our plumbing isn't plumb

#### By Vicki Sternfeld-Rossi | THE TIMES

I am mortified, as the daughter of a plumber, that it didn't occur to me that watching the toilet in our newly remodeled bathroom slowly sinking to one side, was an obvious sign that it was out of plumb. The first clue that we had a problem should have been when I put a box of tissues on top of the tank and it ceremoniously slid off. The second clue was noticing the floor felt spongy as I reached to retrieve the tissues. Tilting toilet and a spongy floor, any observant person would have recognized these obvious signs of a disaster much sooner than

I recognize that my lack of patience may have set this mini disaster in motion. I was in a rush to have the bathroom completed during the first remodel and I subscribed to the "ignorance is bliss" system; I laid the new floor over the old floor, ignoring any potential problems with the old floor. I had the toilet installed, along with a new sink and vanity, then the bathtub and surrounding walls were covered with new fiber glass wrapping, in my defense, it looked great.

Now it's time to deal with the consequences of my impatience. First is to determine why the toilet currently resembles the leaning tower of Pisa. Is it the old floor, did the toilet installation go awry, or possibly a cracked toilet? Worst-case, a foundation issue? Hopefully, we will soon have a solution, but timing is everything, and the snow is impeding progress.

This is the sole bathroom in our house; so, while it undergoes (re) construction it will mean midnight bladder calls will have us running downstairs, through



the house, across the ice-covered deck, the snowy rocky path to the studio facilities. Considering my lack of grace, I can see myself planted in the snow outside, clawing my way to the studio bathroom, while suffering from hypothermia. Option one, I may just find a sleeping bag and camp on the floor in the studio. Option two, (more to my liking) a few nights at an inexpensive hotel in Walla Walla. A mini vacation to have access to indoor plumbing, and now that we can, enjoy some indoor restaurant dining.

Meanwhile, we're waiting for the weather to cooperate so we can begin the remodel of the remodeled bathroom. Until then, I just cross my fingers every time I use the bathroom and hope that I don't fall into a sink hole. It's pretty sad when I'm jealous of

Mugsy, who has the whole outdoors in which "to take care of business."

I may have to reassess my liquid intake, less water, but no chance I'll reduce my coffee, diet coke or wine intake. There are limits to my sacrifices. In fact, just the idea of going to Home Depot to pick out new flooring is sacrifice enough for me. I'm hopeful we don't also have to replace the two-year-old toilet as well.

Being an inveterate multi-tasker, as I am writing this, the TV is playing in the background which is giving me a good dose of "putting things into perspective." While watching an old western, I'm reminded that I'm just lucky to live in the era of indoor plumbing. Then watching the current situation in Texas, not only puts life with one bathroom into perspective but makes me grateful to live in Waitsburg with its true sense of community. I know that in emergencies, everyone here is so generous and giving.

And yes, that is unabashedly a hint: if you see me walking around Waitsburg looking desperate, "May I use your bathroom, please?"

### **Product Review:** Ninja Coffee Bar

After months of an agonizing search for a new

#### By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

coffee system, I finally decided to purchase the Ninja

It arrived at my house last week, and we have already gotten our money's worth out of it. I had a latte in bed on Sunday before heading out to help make 220 gallons of beer. It was wonderful! No one had to witness my 'going to play with milled grains and hot

The Coffee Bar has multiple settings: A classic option for the drip lovers, a rich option for those of us who need a real wake-up call, an option for iced coffee, and a specialty option, which brews a concentrated shot for specialty drinks.

There are also multiple brew size settings; you can brew an entire carafe, half carafe, travel mug, XL coffee mug, small mug, and a shot. It's almost as good as coffee from Ten Ton Coffee (but I doubt any at-home machine will ever beat baristas who have my drink ready before I turn my car off).

The coffee bar comes with a two-sided scoop, with suggested measurements for each mug size and a fold-out stand to place smaller mugs under the drip to reduce splash. One of my favorite parts, which I did not realize it had when I purchased it, is the milk



Ninjakitchen.com

Top: The Ninja Coffee Bar with glass carafe. Right: One of the many recipes offered on the Ninja Kitchen website for the Coffee Bar. Thai Coffee is a cold, sweet coffee perfect for a hot summer day,

My only complaint is that this system is huge! It has been over a year since I have used anything other than a French Press or a pour-over system, so I was a little shocked when I saw the box. I did, however, happily give up the counter space. Aside from that, I haven't found anything to knock.

I purchased the Ninja coffee system on Amazon for \$139.99, a much more affordable option than the De'Longhi equivalent I was also considering. The system is widely available at major retailers, including Walmart, Best Buy, and Kohls, as well as on www.nin-



#### Thai Iced Coffee

#### **Ingredients:**

- 3 Ninja® Small Scoops (or 3 tablespoons) ground coffee
- 1/3 cup sweetened condensed milk
- 1/3 cup milk
  - 2 cups ice

#### **Instructions:**

- Place the ground coffee into the brew basket.
- Combine the milks in a large plastic cup and
- Add the ice to the cup; set cup in place to brew.
- Select XL Cup size and Over Ice brew.
- When brew is complete, stir to combine.

# DW Football clinches first season victory against Highland Scotties

#### THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—The much-anticipated DW Football season kicked off over the weekend, playing against the Highland Scotties.

The 2020-21 season was delayed due to pandemic concerns, shutdowns, and restrictions. The football team got the go-ahead to begin practices in early February, and were cleared to begin playing a couple of weeks later, when the Southcentral Region moved to Phase 2 of the Roadmap to Recovery plan, which went into effect

Coach Troy Larsen said that the Dayton-Waitsburg Football had a great start to the 2021 COVID-19 season.

"After practicing in the gym for the first week, we were only able to get to our field for four days before our game against Highland," he said in an email. "To summarize the game. our defense did a fantastic job shutting down Highland to only four first downs and only six yards of rushing."

Coach Gabe Kiefel did a great job getting the student athletes in the right posi-

tions and having them in the right place throughout the game, according to Larsen. Brayden Mohney led the defensive backs with multiple tackles and two intercep-

tions while Mason Finney led the team with 10 tackles from his LB position. Mohney stepped up in his first Varsity start, making DW's first touchdown (TD) catch of the 2021 COVID season and ending the day with two catches for 67 yards and a TD.

Offensively, Monte Pettichord led the offense like a veteran, even though he is a sophomore. Pettichord completed nine of his 18 passes for 205 yards and three TD's, while rushing nine times for 39 yards and two TD's making the correct reads in the DW zone and option plays.

'Pettichord read the field well, hitting five different receivers, with Shawn Evans leading the receiving squad with two catches for 72 yards before leaving the game in the second quarter with bruised ribs," said Larsen.

The DW Football team landed a hard-earned victory, defeating the Scotties 38-0. The coaching staff is looking forward to the progress the students athletes will make from week one to week two. DW only dressed 17 student athletes for the game against Highland and will only dress 17 for TCP this Friday night. They look forward to having all 23 student athletes active in the next two weeks.

### **SCORE**

Dayton-Waitsburg 38 – Highland 0

	<u>Q1</u>	<b>Q2</b>	Q3	<b>Q4</b>	<u>Final</u>
Highland (HHS)	0	0	0	0	0
Dayton-Waitsburg (DW)	7	12	19	0	38

### **TEAM HIGHLIGHTS**

Mohney, 20 yd pass from Pettichord, (Berg Kick).

Pettichord, 1 yd run, (Kick Failed).

DW VanBlaricom, 4 yd pass from Pettichord, (Kicked Blocked). Pettichord, 4 yd run, (Kick Failed). DW

DW Finney, 30 yd pass from Pettichord, (Berg Kick). Finney, 1 yd run, (Kick Failed).

### **TEAM STATISTICS**

First Downs: 4-10 Rushes-Yards: 16-6, 30-183 Passing Yards: 75, 205 Passing (att-completion-int.): 21-10-2, 18-9-0

Punts: 6-20, 3-27 Fumbles-Lost: 3-1, 3-1 Penalties: 2-10, 2-25

#### **INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS**

Rushing - HHS: M. Ramirez 4-5, R. Ayala 6-(-12), F. Pacheco 4-13. DW: Pettichord 9-39-2, Van-

Blaricom 4-10, Evans 1-7, Reser, 12-79, Finney 4-48-1. Receiving - HHS: N. Mumby 2-12, J. Silva 4-26, J. Villafan 1-3, L. Alcaia 3-34. DW: Finney 2-62-

1, Evans 2-73, Mohney 2-67-1, Boudrieau 1-5, VanBlaricom 2-23. Passing – HHS: I. Escamilla 10-21-2, 75 yds. DW: Pettichord 9-18-0, 205 yds, 3 TD's.