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The Times

Thursday
February 5, 2015
Vol. 137 No. 48

www.waitsburgtimes.com

SERVING WAITSBURG, DAYTON AND THE TOUCHET VALLEY

One Dollar

THIS WEEK

DAYTON



DEPUTY P.A.

C. Dale Slack will join Culwell as Columbia County's Deputy Prosecutor in April.

(See Page 6)

WAITSBURG



LUNCH

Waitsburg seniors enjoy good food and good company at Senior Round Table lunches each Tuesday.

(See Page 7)

SPORTS



BASKETBALL

The Dayton girls won three games last week, to finish 17-3. They are #2 seed going into the league tournament.

(See Page 8)

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Cardinal's 12th Man



Photo by Nick Page

Waitsburg High grad Jim Mitchell (r) was named 2014 Booster of the Year at Saturday's Waitsburg vs. Dayton basketball games. Each November the Waitsburg Booster Club solicits nominations for Booster of the Year. Nominations are reviewed by the club officers in December when a selection is made. "Jim was a unanimous selection this year because he has been a long time loyal supporter of Waitsburg students. You will find Jim at almost every Cardinal sporting event no matter the distance or time of day. Whether it's \$5 or \$50, when the kids or a group have a fundraiser, Jim is one of the first customers. He is always positive and when things don't go well for the team, he always says 'We'll get 'em next time!' ...and he'll be there next time cheering them on!" said Booster Club President Ross Hamann (l) who awarded Mitchell with a commemorative plaque.

Dayton Man Faces Multiple Assault Charges

ANDREW CHURCHILL IS ACCUSED OF PULLING A GUN ON A MALE FAMILY MEMBER

By Dian Ver Valen | THE TIMES

DAYTON – Dayton resident Andrew J. Churchill, 43, was arrested last week and formally charged Monday with three counts of assault and threats to kill.

Witnesses called in the incident on Jan. 27, after Churchill allegedly pulled a gun on an adult male family member in the back parking lot of Blue Mountain Station. Churchill and his wife operate a business that sells items at the Port of Columbia facility.

Witnesses stated that Churchill did not fire the gun but did finally put it away; he then allegedly assaulted that same man before driving away.

Prior to the parking lot confrontation, Churchill is accused of physically assaulting his wife at their business.

Columbia County Sheriff's deputies arrested Churchill later in the evening, without incident, and booked him into the Columbia County Jail.

The Columbia County Prosecutor's office has filed three domestic violence charges against Churchill, including first-degree attempted assault, which is a Class A felony, second-degree assault for strangulation and fourth-degree assault, as well as threats to kill.

Churchill is being held on \$100,000 bail, pending a hearing.

GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT UNLIKELY TO CHANGE

Commissioners continue to seek ways to reduce subsidy of Touchet Valley Golf Course

By Dian Ver Valen | THE TIMES

DAYTON – How many people does it take to run a 9-hole golf course in Columbia County? The logistics and complications relative to this question have troubled county commissioners, public works employees, country club members and local golf aficionados for the last month or so.

This week, arrangements were made in a commissioners' workshop to appease the majority of interested parties for at least another season. Operations will not likely change

this year, and fees will increase by just over 8 percent to include sales tax, which wasn't charged previously. These arrangements are pending a final decision later this month.

The commissioners began considering changes in course management because Columbia County is now subsidizing

operation of the course by between \$25,000 and \$30,000 per year.

The Touchet Valley Golf Course, located next door to the county fairgrounds at 209 N. Pine St. in Dayton, was built in 1910. The course was owned partly by the City of Dayton and partly by Columbia County, but

in the 1970s the city gave up its portion of the course except for the small piece of property where one of the city's wells is located.

"Somehow between the city and the county, the change in ownership never actually got registered," said Columbia County Commissioner Mike Talbott, "but there are documents – minutes and other records – to show the change."

Since then, the county and the Touchet Valley Golf Board/Dayton Country Club have gone back and forth periodically about the best way to manage the course. This past week, difficulties arose when the county looked at increasing fees at the course and making changes to the memorandum of understanding.

History of Management

For many years, the Dayton Country Club managed the



Photo by Nick Page

Touchet Valley Golf Course, in summer.

GOLF COURSE - PAGE 6

Developers Question Plat Approval Process

WARRENS SAY UTILITY OWNERSHIP SHOULD BE SETTLED BEFORE MORE INFORMATION IS REQUESTED

By Dena Wood | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG – Warren Land Company owners Gene and Mary Warren, developers of the proposed Whoopemup Meadows subdivision, say they are confused by the

process Waitsburg's planning commission has taken in deciding to approve or disapprove their preliminary plat proposal to Waitsburg's city council.

"Their own ordinances say they can approve, disapprove or approve with conditions. Instead, I guess they're disapproving, but it's really not a disapproval," said Gene Warren. The developers are hopeful that the city council – the next stop on the preliminary plat's agenda – will provide clarification.

On Jan. 25 the Waitsburg Planning Commission voted to recommend that Waitsburg's city council disapprove the

Whoopemup Meadows preliminary plat application. That decision was initiated by planning commission member K.C. Kuykendall, who also sits on the city council.

Kuykendall told the commission that the disapproval was necessary to meet a 14-day recommendation deadline. However, he said that, during a Jan. 21 executive session, the city council stated its intent to reject the planning commission's disapproval. Kuykendall said the council would instead request that the commission gather further information before reaching a decision, which would benefit all parties involved.

DEVELOPMENT - PAGE 12



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

TOUCHET VALLEY LIFE

OBITUARY

John Delp Sr.

Sept. 8, 1934 – January 29, 2015

John David Delp, Sr. passed away Thursday, January 29, 2015 in Spokane, Washington. John was born to Charles Edgar and Mabel Delp on September 8, 1934 in Dayton, Washington, the last of ten children. He attended Dayton schools and graduated with the Dayton High School Class of 1953. Shortly after graduation, John joined the U.S. Army, serving from 1953-1955. As a young man, John worked for Green Giant moving pea viners. After his honorable discharge from the Army, John returned home where he also resumed the job of moving pea viners. This field job led to his forty-year career with Green Giant, mainly working in the warehouse. He was very proud of his years working at both the Dayton and Waitsburg Green Giant plants.

Other than the two years in the Army, John was a lifelong resident of Dayton. On March 14, 1958 he married Florence Scarbrough. Together, John and Florence spent many hours following their children's, grandchildren's and great-grandchildren's activities. John was an avid supporter of Bulldog athletics; he enjoyed taking in the State Basketball tournaments, especially when the Bulldogs participated. After John and Florence retired, they found time to travel and to volunteer with the Green Giant Golden Ambassadors.

His parents and eight of his siblings preceded John in death: Gene, Lois, Charlene, Alan, Sally, Kenneth, Sarah and Margaret; and his grandson, Andrew Groom. John is survived by his wife of fifty-six years; his sister, Mary Lee Wolfe; his children: Tim (Lana) Delp of Lake Stevens, Washington; Connie (Tom) Hutchens; Roseann (Bill) Groom; John Delp Jr. (Christine), all of Dayton; and Sara (Greg) Fletcher of Prescott. His grandchildren and great-grandchildren as well as many nieces and nephews also survive him.

A private family inurnment will be held Wednesday, February 4, 2015 at the Dayton Cemetery, followed by a celebration of life, led by Pastor David Bruce, at the Seneca Activities Center at 1 PM.

...don't be dejected and sad, for the JOY of the Lord is your strength. ~Nehemiah 8:10

WHS HONOR ROLL

Class of 2015*

4.0
Hannah Grant
Talen Larsen
Sofia Mercado
Emma Philbrook
Tyler Shafer

3.25 and above
Devin Acevedo
Nicole Fisher
Luke Gales-Alexenko
Michael Grant
Owen Lanning
Chance Leroue
Samantha Walker

Class of 2016*

3.25 and above
Zion Branson
Caitlyn Jones
Megan Morrison
Stuart Walsh

Class of 2017

4.0
Jacob Dunn
Taylor Hays

3.25 and above
Emily Adams
Jared Farley
Jasmine Foxe
Nocilas Kitselman
Joseph Leamy
Selina Mercado
Aislyne Pope
Taylor Spoonemore
Julia Taylor
Skylar Wood

Class of 2018

3.25 and above
Kitty Lambert
Kyle Martin
Samuel McGowen
Chloe Pearson

*SEATECH and Running Start students are not included

PIONEER PORTRAITS

Ten Years Ago February 10, 2005

The Waitsburg Lions Club wants to build a 40-foot by 60-foot building that will serve as both a clubhouse and community building at the Days of Real Sport grounds. A letter of intent was presented by Lions Club President Robbie Johnson, who also serves on the City Council, at a special meeting of the City Council held Monday, Feb. 7.

Jaimee Hulce, daughter of Tim and Tonya Hulce, was installed as Worthy Advisor of Waitsburg Assembly NO. 68, Rainbow Girls, Sunday afternoon, January 9, 2005.

Twenty-Five Years Ago February 8, 1990

Patrick McConnell spoke to Waitsburg Commercial Club Tuesday regarding some of the history of the McGregor Company, and plans for the cannery property which they have taken over in town. Pat said the genesis of the McGregor Family enterprise was begun in 1882 when three brothers landed at Wallula and hiked to Dayton that year.

Waitsburg Commercial Club held its annual election and named Don Wills, Rose Engelbrite and Don Helgeson to the board of directors for the upcoming year.

Bridget Lyons, a student at Prescott High School, served as a legislative page in the Washington State House of Representatives in January. Lyons was sponsored by Rep. Bill Grant, D-Walla Walla. She is the daughter of Juanita and Albert Statler of Prescott.

Fifty Years Ago February 4, 1965

The Touchet River reached flood stage again last weekend for the second time in as many months, and once again threatened Waitsburg. The rebuilt dike at the bridge on Preston Avenue was cut away to a depth of 6-8 feet in places, but the Army engineers working around the clock arrested the damage and saved the town from a second disaster.

Building a new power line between Waitsburg and Prescott to provide a four-fold increase in electric carrying capacity will be one of the major items in a \$1,111,000 construction program Pacific Power & Light company has scheduled for the Waitsburg-Walla Walla-Dayton-Pomeroy district this year. Jack Blessinger, PP&L district manager, said the new line will cost \$80,000 and will increase capacity for delivering electricity to users in the Touchet Valley as well as at Prescott.

Seventy-Five Years Ago February 9, 1940

Frederick J. Baird, a member of the high school faculty and during the present school year, coach of athletics, died suddenly last Thursday afternoon at about 12:30 o'clock.

At the finals in the cribbage tournament held in the Commercial Club, George Allman won first in the final flight with the champions and was presented a very handsome cribbage set of inlaid wood.

Dr. R. L. Bailey has decided to accept the position as a physician and surgeon at the State Hospital at Medical Lake.

H. D. Mills and Chester Keiser attended a planning council at the 99 Christian Brotherhood of Eastern Washington at Pasco Sunday. Mrs. H. D. Mills and daughter Evelyn accompanied them on the trip.

One Hundred Years Ago February 5, 1915

In honor of its fiftieth anniversary the Preston-Shaffer Milling Co of this city and Athena, Oregon, last week issued a neat little booklet with the front cover embossed in gold and bearing a sheaf of grain. "Fifty Years - 1865 - 1915 - Fifty Years of Continuous Grinding," also appears on the cover.

St. Mary's Hospital at Walla Walla, one of the oldest in this section of the West, was completely destroyed by fire Wednesday forenoon of last week at an estimated loss of from \$25,000 to \$50,000.

B. O. Porter, of Porter's Confectionary and E. R. Butter's Pressery have moved into new quarters in the Fender building. This big store room has been remodeled into two very neat rooms.

F. J. Aldrich was in town Wednesday from Walla Walla. This was Fred's first trip here since a recent operation for appendicitis. He is feeling fine.

One Hundred Twenty-Five Years Ago February 7, 1890

The wind of Monday was strongly in favor of the "no fence" proposition, and has carried its point by a large majority in many places.

The funeral of Miss Lillie Walker was one of the largest ever seen in this city. She has many friends, and the family have the sympathy of the entire community.

D. N. Smith, who has been quite sick for some time, is able to be out some, but he looks quite "pekid."

Our excellent blacksmith, MR. Monroe is talking of leaving us. We will miss him, for Dusty Point is a good and convenient place for a shop.

Isaac E. Wilson had a soft time to go to Walla Walla to prove up on his claim, Mud and water.

J. H. Morrow left a few days ago for a big hunt near Hayden Lake. How we would like to go but those mortgages stare us in the face and say emphatically "No".

NEWS BRIEFS

City Hall Hours and Council Date Changes

WAITSBURG – The Waitsburg City Hall will close at 1 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 6. City Clerk Randy Hinchliffe will be testifying at the Capital Budget Hearing in Olympia, related to the Main Street Bridge project and Deputy Clerk Kelly Steinhoff had previously scheduled time off.

Waitsburg's next City Council meeting will take place Thursday, Feb. 12, rather than on the regularly scheduled third-Wednesday in order to accommodate staff and council schedules.

Touchet Valley Weather

Feb. 4, 2015

Waitsburg's Seven Day Forecast

Wednesday Isolated Rain High: 44 Low: 38	Thursday Rain Likely High: 50 Low: 43	Friday Rain Likely High: 55 Low: 45	Saturday Cloudy High: 52 Low: 43	Sunday Rain Likely High: 52 Low: 48	Monday Rain Likely High: 57 Low: 51	Tuesday Mostly Cloudy High: 53 Low: 45

Weather Trivia

Why does salt keep snow from turning to ice?

 Answer: Salt water needs to be much colder to freeze.

Weather History

Feb. 4, 1887 - San Francisco experienced its greatest snowstorm of record. Nearly four inches of snow was reported in downtown San Francisco, and the western hills of the city received seven inches. Excited crowds went on a snowball-throwing rampage.

Local Almanac Last Week

Day	High	Low	Normals	Precip	Precipitation
Monday	39	33	42/30	0.00"	0.20"
Tuesday	46	32	42/30	0.00"	0.49"
Wednesday	46	33	42/30	0.00"	-0.29"
Thursday	37	36	43/30	0.00"	-37.7"
Friday	38	35	43/30	0.00"	-36.3"
Saturday	39	35	43/30	0.00"	+1.4"
Sunday	44	35	43/30	0.20"	

Data as reported from Walla Walla

Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Last	Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset	First
2/11	Wednesday	7:10 a.m.	5:02 p.m.	6:12 p.m.	7:14 a.m.	2/25
	Thursday	7:09 a.m.	5:04 p.m.	7:11 p.m.	7:42 a.m.	
	Friday	7:07 a.m.	5:05 p.m.	8:10 p.m.	8:09 a.m.	
	Saturday	7:06 a.m.	5:07 p.m.	9:09 p.m.	8:35 a.m.	
	Sunday	7:05 a.m.	5:08 p.m.	10:09 p.m.	9:01 a.m.	Full 3/5
New 2/18	Monday	7:03 a.m.	5:10 p.m.	11:09 p.m.	9:28 a.m.	
	Tuesday	7:02 a.m.	5:11 p.m.	No Rise	9:58 a.m.	

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TOUCHET VALLEY NEWS

WEEKLY CALENDAR

POLICE NOTES

7

Waitsburg Resource Center

106 Preston Avenue
9-11 a.m.
The Center provides food and resources to families in Waitsburg and Prescott School Districts.

Heart Run Flour Mill Park 10 a.m.

Columbia County Health System "powder" run for heart health.

Blue Mountain Station

Saturday Market
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Fresh produce, cheese, granola, coffee and more.

TVAC Casino Night Fundraiser

Seneca Community Building
6 p.m. to midnight
A 21 and over fundraising event for Touchet Valley Arts Council featuring gambling, food & refreshments, and live

entertainment.

8

Mood Disorder Group

Delaney Building (111 S. 3rd)
7 p.m.

Praise Singing

Waitsburg Christian Church
7 p.m.

9

Waitsburg Story Time (every Monday)

Weller Public Library, Waitsburg
10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Dayton City Council

Dayton City Hall
7 p.m.

10

Dayton Library Story Time

Dayton Memorial Library
Baby & Toddler storytime at 10 a.m. and Preschool storytime at 10:45. Storytime is free to the public and no library card is needed.

Story Time (every Tuesday)

Prescott Library
10:30 a.m.



Breakfast listed first. Fruits & vegetables, non-fat chocolate milk and 1% white milk are offered with every meal.

6: French Toast; Hot Ham & Cheese, BBQ Beans

9: Breakfast Sandwich; Chicken, Bacon & Swiss Roll, Sunchips

10: Biscuit & Gravy; Cheese Sticks, Marinara Sauce

11: Blackberry French Toast; Ham & Potato Casserole

12: Breakfast Enchilada; Pepperoni or Cheese Pizza

Brought to you courtesy of Lloyd's Insurance, Inc.

Crafts and stories geared to preschool children, but all ages are welcome.

Waitsburg Senior Round Table

Waitsburg Presbyterian Church
11:30 a.m.

Join local seniors every Tuesday for lunch. \$4 suggested donation for those over 60. \$7 charge for guests under 60. Meals on Wheels are available. Call 337-8541 for more info.

Dayton Senior Round Table

Senior Center (403 E. Patit St.)
12 p.m.

Tuesdays and Thursdays. Call 382-2836 to RSVP by the day prior.

Dayton Memorial Library

3 p.m.
LEGO Club

Come play LEGOs in the Delaney room after school on Tuesdays. LEGOs are provided.

Wii Night

Prescott Library
4 p.m.

Weight Loss Support

Waitsburg Clinic
5:30 p.m.

Optional weigh-in at 5:15 and an optional 30 minute group walk following the meeting at 6 p.m.

11

Christian Women's Connection

Columbia County Fairgrounds Youth Building
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

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Shearer

Judy Hoff of Marysville, Wash. will speak on empowering abused, broken and forgotten women. Leslie Woodfill of the "Make A Wish" Foundation will share about their grants. Call Judy Jackson at (509) 399-2005 by Feb. to make reservations.

Waitsburg School Board

Preston Hall Board Room
7 p.m.

12

Waitsburg Resource Center

106 Preston Avenue
2-4 p.m.

The Center provides food and resources to families in the Waitsburg and Prescott School Districts.

Dayton Senior Round Table

Senior Center (403 E. Patit St.)
12 p.m.

Tuesdays and Thursdays. Call 382-2836 to RSVP by the day prior.

Family Game Night

Prescott Library
5 p.m.

Waitsburg City Council

Lions Memorial Building
7 p.m.

Prescott Joint Parks & Recreation Board Meeting

Prescott Lion's Hall Activity Center (101 S. D. St. #A, Prescott)
7 p.m.

THE LIBERTY THEATER
344 E. Main St., Dayton, WA

Wild (R)
Fri, Feb. 6 - 7:30
Sat, Feb. 7 - 3 & 7:30
Sun, Feb. 8 - 3 & 7:30
Tues, Feb. 10 - 7:30

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Waitsburg

Jan. 27

Warrant service on Orchard Street; subject was arrested on outstanding warrant out of Dept. of Corrections.

Jan. 28

One-vehicle rollover collision on Middle Waitsburg Road at Clodius; driver was transported to hospital by ambulance.

Jan. 29

Residential burglary on Wilson Hollow Road; computer possibly taken.

Feb. 1

Domestic dispute on Coppei Avenue; no arrest made, report forwarded to prosecuting attorney's office.

Dayton

Jan. 26

Non-injury collision on E. Main Street; driver backed into another vehicle causing minor damage. Fraud reported on S. Touchet Road; numerous calls reportedly received from someone claiming to work for the IRS.

Jan. 27

Disabled vehicle blocking traffic at 4th and E. Main streets; vehicle removed.

Jan. 28

Deputies responded to a report of burglary at the Masonic Temple on S. 6th Street where they learned that someone may have been staying inside the building; items had been moved around inside but nothing appears to have been stolen at this time. Theft on Kellogg Hollow Road near milepost 6; hydraulic motor and auger stolen from a jobsite sometime during the night. Report of an intoxicated driver on Highway 12 near milepost 365; deputy located the vehicle but did not observe any suspicious driving behavior.

Jan. 29

Four reports of fraud taken: one was from someone claiming to be with the IRS calling a resident on S. 4th Street, and three were from someone claiming to work at the U.S. Treasury calling residents on E. Main Street and S. Touchet Road. Report of medication and alcohol stolen from a residence on E. Mustard Street.

Jan. 30

Two reports of fraud: one was a fraudulent credit card transaction reported by a resident on S. Touchet Road and the other was from someone claiming to work with the U.S. Treasury calling a resident on N. Front Street. Threats reported at Valley View Court; neighbor threatening a resident because of car headlights shining into the neighbor's trailer.

Jan. 31

Injury collision reported on Highway 12 near milepost 377; a dark blue 1970s model van was reported as being driven erratically on the highway. Then the van left the roadway and rolled; the driver was transported by ambulance to the hospital. State patrol is investigating.

Feb. 1

Report of vehicle prowling on S. 1st Street; items removed from vehicle. Report of Toyota pickup trucks being driven recklessly in the snow on the street on W. Dayton Avenue. Dayton man Dalton Bennett, 21, was arrested on outstanding warrants. Kennewick driver 53-year-old Adam Weinberger was cited and released for driving with a suspended license, no insurance, and speeding.

Feb. 2

Nothing to report.

BIRTHDAYS

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

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

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

February 9: Gabe Hofer, Thomas House.

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

February 11: Erika Heilbrun, Jeff Christensen, Jill Bickelhaupt, Micki Payne and Jean McCown.

February 12: Ken Cole, Jr., Benjamin Moser, Landis Potts and Lindsey Richardson.

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382-2311
Father Bob Turner
Mass - Sunday evening, 5 p.m.

Waitsburg Presbyterian Church
504 Main
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 11 a.m.
337-6589
Rev. Bret Moser

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.
Rev. Jimmie Daves
337-6235

The Times

STAFF DIRECTORY

KEN GRAHAM,
Editor & Publisher
ken@waitsburgtimes.com
(509) 540-2752

DENA WOOD,
Waitsburg Reporter
dena@waitsburgtimes.com
(509) 520-3183

DIAN VER VALEN,
Dayton Reporter
dian@waitsburgtimes.com
(509) 956-8312

KEVIN STEFFANSON,
Advertising Manager
kevin@waitsburgtimes.com
(509) 301-3637

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ANTIQUESALE

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COMMENTARY

**KEN GRAHAM:
FROM THE PUBLISHER**

It's Playoff Time

First of all, if I were coach of the Seattle Seahawks, I might very well have called for a pass on second and goal from the one, with 26 seconds left on the clock and only one timeout remaining. An incomplete pass would have stopped the clock, where a failed run would not. If the Hawks had had two timeouts left, they probably would have run the ball on that play.



So the lesson to be learned is this: timeouts are precious – like coconuts on a desert island. If you waste them you might die in agony. Like the Seahawks did.

(Of course, if I were coach of the Seahawks, y'all might as well root for the 49ers, because I've never coached anything in my life.)

Okay, now that that's out of the way, I'm actually here to talk about basketball.

This weekend (actually, Saturday and Monday), Waitsburg will host the Southeast District 9 2B league basketball tournament. That's eight highly motivated high school teams (four boys' and four girls' teams) playing four games each of those days.

The Dayton girls are seeded #2 in the tournament and have a great chance to avenge their two losses this year to #1 seed DeSales. The Lady Bulldogs take on Tri-Cities Prep Saturday at 2 p.m., in the tournament's first game. Unless DeSales chokes on Saturday, they will face the winner of the Dayton/TCP game Monday at 6 p.m.

The WP boys struggled early in the season, but came on strong at the end, overtaking Asotin and DeSales in the standings to finish third in the league, earning a number three seed in the tournament. They face the TCP boys at 3:30, in the second game of the tournament. The winner of that game will likely take on the league champion Walla Walla Valley Academy Knights.

Both of our local teams have a great chance to move on to the District 7/9 tournament the following weekend. (Three out of the four teams in each league move on.)

The Waitsburg gym will be hoppin' from the get-go on Saturday, and the more Dayton and WP fans show up, the bigger home court advantage they'll have.

The Super Bowl was exciting, but there's nothing quite like a high school basketball tournament.



EMMA PHILBROOK: STUDENT LIFE

Not Going Legit Yet

I got a bit of a bonus on my last case. For a minute, I fantasized about relocating to a part of town where one didn't have to look both ways before stepping onto the sidewalk, then about hiring an assistant to help out with my workload. Then I realized that what I'd thought were two zeroes was actually the sorriest excuse for an eight I've ever laid eyes on. From now on, I'm not accepting doctors as new clients.



Perhaps I should've hired an archaeologist to figure out whether there's actually still a desk underneath the pile of paper in front of my chair. I try to keep the place professional-looking, but lately "professional-looking" has meant making sure my name placard balances levelly on top of Mount Casefile. Of course, given that said placard cost \$1.99 at a Staples clearance sale, was hand-engraved by yours truly using a nail file and an oyster fork, and bears perhaps the tackiest business name in the history of private investigation, it's possible that it never quite looked professional in the first place.

I don't suppose you remember Alberta the Brain, do you? "No" is a fine answer. Sometimes even I have trouble remembering.

But there's a certain friend of mine who somehow managed.

He wore the same camel-haired coat he did the first time we met. In fact, I'm not even sure he'd washed it since then. He hung up his fedora (ninety-four percent of all my clients wear fedoras) and took a seat.

"What's that?" he muttered, pointing at an open folder.

"Nothing," I said, slamming it closed

and shoving it off the table. It landed smack on its spine and opened right up to a stack of college brochures, which I really hadn't wanted any potential clients to see. He regarded them curiously.

"Mulligan!" I yelled, diving out of my seat and picking it up. I swiped it off again. This time it landed open-end down in a puddle of coffee I'd been meaning to wipe up for a few days running.

"College?" He raised an eyebrow.

"You're leaving?"
"Figured it's about time I go legit," I said. "Make the investigative thing more of a hobby. But I'm taking cases all the way up through August."

"In that case," he said, "I have two more."

"Go ahead," I said.
"Second one's State. We've been over State before."

"Yes. And for the record, that double tiebreaker wasn't in my contract. You still owe me that check for emotional damages."

"In time. But we have another assignment for you of a more local nature. Next week's KB meet in the Tri-Cities – against the big schools. You've managed to hold your own with them in the past, and as this is the last time you'll be up against them..."

"You want me to remind them that the 2B league is not to be trifled with."

"Exactly. And as this will be your last meet of this nature, you understand the importance of making something of an impact."

I pulled my little pearl-handled pistol out of a drawer, blew imaginary smoke from the top, and smiled.

Going legit could wait until the fall term.

LETTER

Praise for Booker Rest Home

Dear Editor,

My sister passed away last week after residing at the Booker Rest Home for the past eight months. She had lived with my husband and me in our home for nearly three years until her physical and medical requirements simply became too great.

Over the years I have visited many nursing home and care facilities and I inspected many, many more in attempting to locate a suitable facility for my sister. I settled on Booker because it was clean, the staff were friendly, and most important was that there was **no smell**.

My sister had a considerable number of needs which required special care. In my nearly daily interactions with the many staff members during my sister's stay, I never had anything but positive, caring and helpful interactions with each one of them, regardless of their position or duties. In fact, their actions showed me that going the extra mile to provide the necessary care was the rule, not the exception.

The residents of Columbia County and the Touchet Valley are extremely fortunate to have such an excellent facility as the Booker Rest Home to provide the necessary care for our loved ones when the need arises.

Rachel Clark
Dayton

Letters Welcome

The Times invites readers to share their thoughts on our Opinion Page. Letters to the Editor can be emailed to us at 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.

Letters should 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.

GOVERNOR'S CLIMATE CONTROL PROPOSAL FACES BUSINESS OPPOSITION

By Cooper Inveen, Reporter
WNPA Olympia News Bureau

OLYMPIA - After two days of hearings that drew hundreds to the state capitol, Gov. Jay Inslee's carbon reduction proposal has the full attention of Washington lawmakers.

In an effort to curb climate change while raising money for transportation and education, Inslee is proposing a statewide cap on carbon emissions that would require polluters to buy credits to continue polluting at today's levels. Carbon prices would start at \$12 a ton and would bring in an estimated \$1 billion in the program's first year.

The main idea behind cap-and-trade markets is to create a financial disincentive to emit greenhouse gases.

The Democratic governor's proposal has quickly become controversial in a legislature with power divided between a Republican Senate and a divided Democratic House. The issue exploded this week during hearings in a House hearing that spanned two days and required the use of overflow rooms.

By the end of the first hearing on Tuesday, so many people had showed up that House Environment Committee Chair Joe Fitzgibbon <CQ>, D-Des Moines, had to give each speaker only two minutes of talk time. He still had to cut off multiple witnesses in order to make room for the many speakers who travelled long distances to testify.

Since the proposal's unveiling in December, Fitzgibbon and 36 other House Democrats have shaped the governor's cap-and-trade idea into House Bill 1314. A similar bill in the 49-member-Senate has 20 Democratic co-sponsors.

Neither bill has a single Republican backer signed on in support. In fact, the ranking Republican on Fitzgibbon's committee, Rep. Matt Shea of Spokane Valley, came out blazing at Thursday's hearing, objecting to the very premise of the bill and demanding that witnesses back up their assertions with peer-reviewed science.

At one point, an advocate of the bill said, "The truth is messy," and proceeded to outline the general effects of carbon emissions on the earth's temperature. Shea immediately fired back:

"You're right, the truth is messy. The polar icecap claims that have now been withdrawn by all credible scientists because the predictions have been proven to be untrue, that's messy, I agree. The idea of sea-level changes that has now been withdrawn by all credible scientists because their predictions have been proven to be untrue, that's indeed messy. My question to you is, the governor's office has made a claim relating to wildfires being caused by global warming. Do you have any peer-reviewed science to substantiate the governor's claims?"

The witness responded at length defending his position and refused to address the notion that scientists had "thrown out" theories of melting icecaps and rising oceans. When asked after the hearing about his own peer-reviewed science, Shea replied that he had read it in "lots of newspapers," including the New American Press, a poetry and literature magazine.

While supporters say the plan is needed to reduce carbon pollution while creating clean energy jobs and building up some much-needed revenue along the way, representatives from Washington's business sector expressed concerns that charging firms for carbon emissions could ultimately lead to economic disaster.

"At the end of the day this becomes a competitiveness issue," said Kristofer Johnson, president of the Association of Washington Businesses. "Our employers have deep concern of being at a competitive economic disadvantage in this state, especially as they compete across the country and across the

The Times

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The Times is published weekly at 139 Main Street, Waitsburg, Washington. Legal newspaper of Waitsburg and of Walla Walla County. Phone: (509) 337-6631 Fax: (509) 337-6045 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 97, Waitsburg, WA 99361

The Times publishes news and information about Walla Walla and Columbia counties and their communities. 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, Other in-state - \$45, Out-of-state - \$47. We take major credit cards

TOUCHET VALLEY NEWS

LETTERS

Editor's note: Several scouts from Boy Scout Troop #332 traveled to Kennewick on Saturday to take part in a Merit Badge Extravaganza where they worked to earn several badges each. The young men below chose to write a Letter to the Editor as a requirement for earning their Communication Merit Badge.

Phones at Basketball Games

Dear Editor,

I believe students should limit their cellphone use at the basketball games. I think this because when I look around, many of the high school and middle school students are not paying attention to the game. They are on their phones playing a game, SnapChatting or texting each other when they are only ten feet away. It is embarrassing and outrageous that they can be so oblivious to their surroundings. In fact, some would miss playing in the band if Mr. Green did not go get them. If constant use of their phones is so important then they should reconsider why they are even going to the basketball games. I'm not saying they should not have their phones at basketball games; I'm saying they should not be constantly on them and instead they should be paying attention to the games and supporting their classmates. That is where I stand on this particular situation.

Tom House
Waitsburg

Concessions Close at Halftime

Dear Editor,

Something that makes many of the band kids frustrated is that the concessions at the basketball games close after boy's varsity halftime. At the end of halftime, the band kids have to clean up

and put instruments away. By the time we are done with our instruments, the concessions are closed and we can't get anything for the last half of the game. I personally would like to get a hot dog or soda and I know other kids in the band would like to have a soda or something to eat as well because when I went to get a soda on Saturday after half time with ten other band kids who wanted something from the concessions too. What they could do is close the concessions stand but leave the door unlocked so that while they are counting the money and things left over, the band kids could buy something during the first two or three minutes of the third quarter.

Seamus House
Waitsburg

Combine Should Stay Together

Dear Editor,

This is what I think of the Waitsburg-Prescott Combine splitting up. Prescott may not be able to play some of the sports due to not having many players. Waitsburg will also face the same struggle. Gyms may not be available with all the different age groups in sports. Each school will need new sport uniforms and gear. It will be difficult to supply the money for the sports and transportation. The teams may not do as well as before because of the loss of good players. I think the two schools should stay together for sports.

Brayden Wood
Waitsburg

CLIMATE - FROM PAGE 4

globe."

Spokespersons for the fuel, manufacturing and agricultural sectors repeatedly warned the committee that putting a price on carbon emissions would only cause polluters to pass the additional costs onto consumers. When that isn't possible, they argued, businesses would eventually either cut staff or move their operations out of the state entirely.

Frank Pupo of Tacoma's Associated Petroleum Products warned legislators that his firm would ultimately have to pass down all additional costs, calling consumers the true polluters.

"Fuel distribution is not the polluter; it's the end use," he said. "So if this is going to start upstream with distribution, that cost is going to be pushed down to the end use: the customer."

Rep. Jake Fey, D-Tacoma, was skeptical.

"It seems to me like the king of Saudi Arabia has more to do with the price of oil than this bill does," he said. "It seems to me that [fuel distributors] don't have much say in that situation."

Pupo responded saying that a lot more factors and a lot more variables are in play when calculating oil costs.

Not everyone from the business sector presenting remarks at the hearings is opposed to the plan. Virinder Singh of EDF Renewable Energy testified that the wind industry has paid Washington construction workers nearly \$100 million during the past two years, and his firm has generated more than \$80 million in property and generation taxes.

"We want to make sure that affected business concerns are taken firmly into consideration with this legislation, but at the same time the strong upsides to the clean energy economy need be taken into consideration as well," he said.

While most business representa-

tives in attendance expressed either approval or disdain for the proposal as a whole, others only advocated for specific amendments to it.

Mark Berejka, REI's director of government affairs, worried about the impacts of pushing pro-environment legislation that doesn't include any significant financial support for environmental agencies.

"If the government is going to raise millions in the name of the environment, it should assure that some reasonable amount is reinvested," he said, citing the Department of Natural Resources, state parks and other programs that protect natural places and help Washingtonians connect to them as critical beneficiaries.

A representative from Airlines for America advocated for an amendment that would exempt jet and airline fuel from whatever legislation is passed. California's cap-and-trade law already provides such exceptions, he said.

The youngest person to testify at either hearing was Jessica Zimmerly, a recent graduate of Pacific Lutheran University and a second-year volunteer with the Lutheran Volunteer Corps. The program has participants live by as simple means as possible for one year while exploring their spirituality and working with organizations that promote social justice.

"If I can voluntarily live on 200 dollars a month, these large polluters can afford to cut a sliver of their profit to pay their fair share," she said. "The talk of trickle-down costs is infuriating. The point of cap-and-trade isn't for polluters to maintain the status quo by reallocating the financial burden elsewhere."

The Senate companion bill had its first reading on Jan. 19 and was referred to the Senate Energy, Environment and Telecommunications Committee. No hearing date has been set.

NEWS BRIEF

Mobile Dental Van to Visit

WAITSBURG – Waitsburg's First Presbyterian Church is sponsoring a visit of the Northwest Medical Teams International Mobile Dental Clinic on Friday, Feb. 20. The program provides free, urgent dental care to low-income children and adults who lack insurance or a realistic way to pay for treatment.

The van is staffed by local dentists, assistants and van drivers who volunteer their time. Area coordinator Roberta Skiles has been with the program since 2001 and will make appointments for the visit. Skiles says the van can serve up to eight patients but they will all need appointments prior to the visit. To make an appointment for the Feb. 20 visit, call Skiles at 337-8541.

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EVENTS-FESTIVALS

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ANTIQUÉ SALE Snohomish Citywide-Star Center Antique Mall & historic First Street, 400 antique dealers, up to 40% off February 6-8. www.myantiquemall.com or 360 568-2131

EVENTS-FESTIVALS

Early Bird Automobile, Antique and Collectible Swap Meet. Puyallup Fairgrounds, February 14 & 15, Saturday, 8-5. Sunday, 9-3, admission \$5.00. For information call 1 (253) 863-6211.

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Slack To Join Culwell as Deputy Prosecutor

CURRENT PUBLIC DEFENDER WILL REPLACE ABBIE MARSH, WHO HAS ACCEPTED U.S. ATTORNEY POSITION

By Dian Ver Valen | THE TIMES

DAYTON – Dayton criminal defense attorney C. Dale Slack will become Columbia County's new deputy prosecutor beginning April 1, according to Rea Culwell, the county's prosecuting attorney.

"I'm excited," Slack said. "I think I can do a lot of good there and continue to serve the county, just in a different role."

Current deputy prosecutor, Abbie Broughton-Marsh, is leaving the prosecuting attorney's office at the end of March to take a job in Phoenix, Ariz., as an assistant U.S. attorney for the District of Arizona.

Broughton-Marsh took the deputy prosecutor position in September after working as an associate attorney with Nealey-Marinella since 2012.

Although the federal prosecutor position in Arizona is exciting, Broughton-Marsh said she will be sad to leave

the community where she has so much family and so many friends. She spent her childhood in Columbia County, living here until she was 12. Her husband, Greg Marsh, has family in Arizona and is anxious to live closer to them, she said.

Slack, who opened his office in downtown Dayton in January 2011, has been practicing law in Columbia County since 2008. He was working with Carman Law Office, in Walla Walla, when that agency was awarded a contract to provide indigent defense here.

Now Slack and his associate, Rachel Cortez, provide half of the county's public defense; local attorney Julie Karl, formerly with the county prosecutor's office, provides the other half.

Slack said he will take a month off, beginning March 1, between working as a county defense attorney and starting at the prosecutor's office.

"I have about six open criminal cases right now," he said. "Some are settling, and some will have to go to another attorney." The court and each office involved will have to be very mindful of any conflicts of interest, he said.

Cortez, who has been with Slack's office a little over a year, will continue practicing law in their current offices, Slack said. She has been handling all of their district court cases for the county, he said. The Columbia County Commissioners will discuss how to handle the indigent defense contract later this week at their regular board meeting.



Times file photo

Dale Slack will become Columbia County's Deputy Prosecuting Attorney in April.

Cortez is unable, currently, to handle Class A felony cases, Slack said, "but that's about the only thing she can't do."

Slack was born in Pullman and attended law school at the University of Idaho College of Law. After graduating and passing the bar exam, he worked for four years as an associate attorney at Carman Law Office. He is licensed to practice in all Washington State Courts

and the U.S. Court for the Eastern District of Washington. He has served as secretary/treasurer and vice-president of the Hells Canyon Bar Association and is a member of the Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, the Washington Defender Association, and the Washington State Association for Justice (formerly Washington State Trial Lawyers' Association).

GOLF COURSE - FROM PAGE 1

course, according to Mike Himmelberger, club president.

"There was a point in time when the cash flow was such that it worked," he said. "We were able to keep things running."

Except that the equipment would deteriorate, he said, and it was expensive to keep it up. Then the numbers of players began decreasing. "And you can only increase dues and fees up to a certain point before you reach that point of diminishing returns," he said.

In the last four years, the number of golfers visiting the course has decreased about 30 percent, Himmelberger said. And while the club has between 80-100 members, that number has been declining as well. "Right now, the funds generated down there wouldn't cover operations completely," he said.

Some of the most avid and loyal local golfers are growing older, he said. "You lose some to attrition of course, and there have been a few disgruntled members, but many are just getting too old to play or are on fixed incomes," Himmelberger said.

County Picks Up the Bill

When it became obvious that player fees and membership dues would not be able to float the golf course, the county stepped in and began to subsidize the operation in earnest.

"It was definitely a win for us," Himmelberger said. The county began to help with expenses at the golf course, as well as the fairgrounds then, he said. "They were having similar problems over there; some very high costs we couldn't control, like insurance," he said. "It can just kill the situation."

But county commissioners are not thrilled about running a golf course, including managing the greens, the restaurant, and the club house, collection of fees, and all the other daily operations decisions and tasks that need to be completed.

"A year ago, we tried to change the golf course over to management by a private party," Commissioner Talbott said. The commissioners placed an ad in the paper and solicited bids from interested parties. They didn't receive any, Talbott said.

"We know we'll never be able to pull completely out of the course," he said. "But most things are better off if run privately rather than by a public agency."

Current Management Arrangement

At this point, Columbia County is in charge of the greens and maintenance at the course, Talbott said. The country club, under the Touchet Valley Golf Board, leases the club house and restaurant from the county and manages those facilities.

The county spends \$25,000 to \$30,000 annually subsidizing the course through the upkeep of greens and maintenance costs, including paying the county employees who do the work out there, according to County Engineer Drew Woods, who attended the workshop Monday. His county department, Public Works, is responsible for maintenance at the course.

Included in that cost is the amount the county returns to the country club, per the lease agreement, to help the club manage its facilities and complete special projects at the course that the county would not be able to use taxpayer dollars for, Himmelberger said.

Twenty-five percent of fees collected by the county are returned to the club, Talbott said.

The club has an arrangement with local mother-son partners Chase Hudson and Louann Truesdale to run the restaurant, LC on the Green. Hudson and Truesdale are also responsible for collecting fees and

making sure players register.

Although the county had considered making changes to management operations at the course, particularly in light of a potential need for more expensive insurance at the facility than the club could manage, county leaders have promised the club they will continue to investigate options. For now, Talbott said the course will continue to operate as normal, and the commissioners hope to continue contracting with Hudson and Truesdale as concessionaire.

Future Plans

Himmelberger said the club will focus this year on drawing in new players. "I think it's our responsibility as a golf club," he said. "This place is a jewel, and with the work that's gone into it lately, it's no longer really a jewel in the rough. It's a great place to play golf and get a great meal."

The course is open year round; the restaurant is open between mid-March until about the first of November, six days per week (closed Tuesdays). The cost

for a year of playing is about \$325, with an additional \$40 to be a member of the country club. This year the fee will increase by about 8 percent to include sales tax, which the county "ate" before, Talbott said.

The commissioners had planned to increase fees by \$40 this year but lowered it after Monday's workshop discussion indicated members were strongly against the increase. Removal of the additional \$40 cost won't be official until after a hearing Feb. 16, Talbott said.

"We haven't had an increase for a long time, and we're starting to have to put more money into the golf course," he said, indicating that the course is a great deal for a golfer (which Talbott is) when compared to a membership in Walla Walla that might cost \$1,200-\$2,500.

"We're hoping there will be a remarkable increase in usage of the golf course so that someone, with a little subsidization from the county, could run it," Talbott said.



HELP US CELEBRATE HEALTHY HEARTS THIS MONTH!

Join the Community and wear red on Friday, February 6.

Participate in the 5 K Heart Run/Walk on Saturday, February 7 at 10 am beginning at Flour Mill Park in Dayton.

Tell us which business in Waitsburg and Dayton should win the Heart of the Community Award for their hearty decorations.



Columbia County HEALTH SYSTEM



Seniors Enjoy Weekly Round Table

Site coordinator says social aspect is the highlight of the meals

By Dena Wood | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG – Each Tuesday, local seniors gather in the basement of the Waitsburg Presbyterian Church where they enjoy a hot meal and welcome fellowship. The meals are provided through the Walla Walla Senior Center's Senior Round Table program and have been taking place in Waitsburg for close to 30 years, according to the center's executive director Howard Ostby.

The center prepares the meals and delivers them to Waitsburg where local volunteers take over serving, collecting donations and delivering Meals on Wheels. "The congregate meals help get seniors out of the house and are a great way for them to connect with others, keep up on what's going on in town and ask for help if they need it," said Ostby.

If an individual is 60 or older, both they and their spouse (regardless of the spouse's age) qualify for Senior Round Table meals. Donations (\$4 suggested) are accepted, but not required and clients are asked to give only what they can

afford. Food stamp Quest cards are also accepted. Those under age 60 are also welcome but must pay the full price of \$7 per meal.

Ostby said the center is very thankful for the great volunteers in Waitsburg. Robbie Skiles has been the Waitsburg site coordinator for at least a decade and is assisted by co-coordinator Lavonne Bren and regular volunteers Doris Huffman, Pat Largent, Marianne Newell and Doris Hulce. She also has several substitutes and admits that husbands sometimes get "roped in" to help as well. Skiles credits Walter and Dorothy Harris with getting the program started in Waitsburg. "They decided we needed to have meals here and contacted the senior center and made it happen," she said.

Skiles says the meals are excellent but that she hears repeatedly that the social aspect is the biggest draw. "We have wonderful cooks and the food is delicious but people love getting together for fellowship and taking the time to visit," she said. Skiles said attendance varies from about 12 to 18 people each week.

In addition to the congregate meals, the Center provides Meals on Wheels to those with limited mobility. Clients must pass an assessment and can then receive both a hot meal and up to 13 frozen meals each week. The ser-



vice is intended for those who are homebound or unable to cook and prepare their own meals. "We are really trying to help people stay in their own homes as long as possible and to save taxpayers the cost of footing the bill for facility care for those who don't absolutely need it," said Ostby. "It's also a good way to make sure individuals are checked in on regularly," he said. Skiles said that five to ten Meals on Wheels are delivered in Waitsburg each week.

Volunteers begin serving at 11:30 a.m. each Tuesday in the basement of the Presbyterian Church (504 Main) but diners are welcome to show up early to visit. "I'd love to see more join us. There is always plenty of food so there's no need to make reservations!" said Skiles.



Photos by Dena Wood

The Walla Walla Senior Center (also known as The Center at the Park) operates in four counties and serves Waitsburg, Walla Walla, Burbank, Dayton, Pomeroy, Clarkston and Asotin. The center provides many services in addition to the Senior Round Table and Meals on Wheels programs. Below are a few:

***Ensure Plus**, a therapeutic nutrition drink, is available for \$25/case to those who are suffering from cancer or have a hard time swallowing. The drink must be prescribed by a doctor.

*The Center offers a **Voice Care Program** that allows seniors to get set up with a device they can push when they have fallen or are in need of help. A response facility operator will go down a list of pre-set phone numbers, calling neighbors or family until they reach someone who can check in on the senior. Plans start at \$15/mo.

*The Center provides **Adult Day Care** for caregivers who need respite in caring for seniors. Staff members play games and do activities with seniors while keeping them busy and safe so that family members can get a needed break. The cost is \$50/day.

To learn more about the Walla Walla Senior Center, its programs, or to volunteer, visit seniors.bmi.net online or call (509) 527-3775.

'BLUEGRASS AT THE PLAZA' FEB. 13

WAITSBURG YOUTH ENJOY TVAMP ACOUSTIC EDUCATION PROGRAM

By Dena Wood | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG – "Bluegrass at the Plaza!" a benefit concert for the Touchet Valley Acoustic Music Project will take place Friday, Feb. 13 at 7 p.m. at Waitsburg's historic Plaza Theater (208 Main St.). The concert will feature the bands Switchgrass; Rock, Salt & Nails; the Kuykendall Family and Kate & The Bluegrass Gentlemen.

Proceeds from the event go to support TVAMP, which is directed by Kate Hockersmith and operates under the umbrella of the nonprofit Rural Youth Enrichment Services. TVAMP is a music education program for children and teens with a focus on acoustic string music, bluegrass in particular.

The program is free, but students are required to provide their own instruments. Hockersmith works with children ages 4th grade through 12th grade, mentoring both the newest beginners and advanced students.

Hockersmith says the proceeds from the concert will allow her students to see talented musicians in concert. "Seeing live music can be a powerful inspiration for young musicians and many of the children involved in TVAMP have never been to a concert before," she said.

The Powerhouse Theater in Walla Walla is bringing the Lomax Project – a review of the songs collected by Alan Lomax in the hills of Appalachia – on Feb. 28. Hockersmith is hopeful that TVAMP will be able to provide tickets for the younger members of her group to attend that performance and possibly meet with the performers before the show for a short workshop.

The high school-age TVAMP members will once again attend the Wintergrass Music Festival in Bellevue, Wash. at the end of February. "Wintergrass has world-class bluegrass performers on stage, and after performing, those same professional musicians teach workshops," said Hockersmith. Last year, several TVAMP members attended the event and Hockersmith is hopeful that TVAMP will be able to provide tickets for the older students as well as providing some help in covering travel and hotel costs.

The group's main fundraising event is "Bluegrass at the Plaza," a bluegrass concert performed by TVAMP youth members and the local, adult musicians that mentor them.

"Many of the valley's local musicians attend the weekly bluegrass jams held in Dayton, Waitsburg and Walla Walla," said Hockersmith. "The jams have been a regular event in the valley for over eight years now and many of the seasoned musicians offer their help and talents in producing and performing in this fundraiser."

The historic Plaza Theater was built in 1929, and originally opened as The Neace Theater. It has been lovingly renovated by Robbie and Marilyn Johnson.

Tickets for "Bluegrass at the Plaza" are \$10 and may be purchased at Waitsburg Hardware Store or at the door. For more information call Hockersmith at (509) 337-8789.



Times File Photo

Switchgrass band members (l to r) Chris Philbrook, Robert Walsh and Emma Philbrook entertained the crowds at last year's Pioneer Fall Festival in Waitsburg.

Heat Relief for Preston Hall

MINI-SPLIT HEAT PUMP IS DONATED AND INSTALLED BY LOCAL VENDOR

By Dena Wood | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG – At least one Preston Hall classroom will stay cool once temperatures start to rise this spring, thanks in large part to a donation from Young's Heating and Cooling and their distributors.

Several months ago, the Waitsburg school district accepted an offer from Young's to install a ductless mini-split heat pump in one classroom at no cost to the district for equipment and labor. The only cost the district would incur would be supplying electrical service to the unit. The heat pump was installed over winter break and is reported to be working well, though the real test will come when the temps soar.

Waitsburg school district maintenance supervisor Colter Mohny said the district works frequently with Young's and that he and owner Erik Young often discuss ways to improve the HVAC and air quality in the classrooms. "Erik is really good about helping me crunch numbers and look at new stuff coming down the line," said Mohny. "He even helps with projects that are out of his range and will say so if something is more suited to a competitor."

The lack of air conditioning necessary to provide a comfortable learning environment in the elementary and middle school classrooms has been a major concern for the district for many years. Young suggested the ductless heat pump as a possible solution.

Young's performed a heat load calculation, used the numbers to design the system and installed the equipment. The district had to install a transformer in the Preston Hall attic to convert the three-phase electric power to the appropriate single-phase power, at a cost of about \$3,000.

"A mini-split is an efficient, cost-effective, affordable solution to an individual classroom repair," said Mohny. "Instead of doing a major overhaul, we can solve the problem on a room-by-room level. This lets us play with the options and see how the equipment works for us," he added.

"It was a pleasure to donate and install a ductless heat pump for the district," said Young. "The new unit will cut heating cost in that classroom by 2/3 and provide air conditioning in warmer weather. We are thankful the district partnered with us so we could do our part to give back to the community."



Photo by Nick Page

Dayton's Madison Mings prepared to shoot against WP on Friday. Mings scored 12 points Tuesday and 14 points Friday, and sank two three-pointers in each game.

Lady Bulldogs Finish Season with 3 Wins

DAYTON WILL TAKE SECOND SEED INTO LEAGUE TOURNAMENT SATURDAY

By Ken Graham | THE TIMES

DAYTON – The Dayton Girls basketball team won three games last week, beating Weston-McEwen, 50-26 on Tuesday, Walla Walla Valley Academy, 61-13 on Thursday and WP, 55-23, on Saturday. The Lady Bulldogs finished their regular season with an 17-3 record and a second place league finish.

On Saturday, Dayton will play Tri-Cities Prep in the league tournament in Waitsburg. With a win, they will have a chance to avenge two regular season losses to DeSales, if the Irish win their first-round game against either Asotin or WWVA.

Dayton 50, Weston-McEwen 26

On January 27, Dayton overwhelmed the visiting TigerScots, cruising to a 13-6 lead after the first quarter and 23-12 at the half.

For the game, three Lady Bulldogs scored in double figures, led by Jenna Phillips with 15. Sidney Andrews and Madison Mings each scored 12 points. Mings sank two three-pointers.

Dayton had a total of 41 rebounds,

including eight each for Phillips and Andrews. Lexie Ramirez and Kellie Moore each had three assists.

Dayton 61, WWVA 13

The Lady 'Dogs' defense rose to the occasion Thursday and snuffed WWVA, allowing only three points by the Knights in the second half. After leading 17-8 at the end of the first quarter, Dayton took a 38-10 lead into halftime.

Playing at home, the Lady Bulldogs shot 50 percent from the floor for the first time this year. With 19 and 14 points respectively, Sidney Andrews and Madison Mings each outscored the entire WWVA team. For the second straight game, Mings downed two treys. She was a perfect six-for-six from the floor. Andrews had eight rebounds and Lexie Ramirez had four assists.

Dayton 55, WP 23

The Lady Bulldogs pulled out to leads of 21-6 after one quarter and 33-10 at the half, as they cruised to an easy victory over WP in the final regular season game for both teams. For the winless Lady Cardinals, it was the season finale.

For Dayton, Ramirez led the scoring with 14 points, followed by Andrews with 13. For WP, Paige Wood had ten points, and Tayler Jones and Lexi Brannock had four points each. Jones also had six rebounds.

DAYTON GIRLS - PAGE 12

Cardinals Out-Duel Bulldogs, 66-32

WP ENDS SEASON WITH SEVEN STRAIGHT WINS AND THIRD-PLACE LEAGUE FINISH

By Dan D'Onofrio
THE TIMES

WAITSBURG – The WP boys cruised to a 66-32 victory over Dayton in the regular-season-ending game for both teams Saturday in Waitsburg. With the win, the Cardinals finished in third place, with a 6-4 Southeast 2B District 9 league record (12-6 overall). They enter the league tournament here this weekend with the #3 seed.

WP took advantage of 23 first-half turnovers by the Bulldogs to build a 33-13 halftime lead. The lone bright spot for Dayton was their aggressive play at the hoop, creating five more points from the line than the Cardinals. The team was 12 for 23 (52%) from the free throw line, getting points from Derek McCleary, Ian Smay, Matthew Warren, Zane Patton, Tanner Bren and Zach Waggoner.

WP was lead by Travis Crockett and Owen



Photo by Nick Page

Dayton's Zach Waggoner (l) puts tight D on WP's Owen Lanning during Saturday's game in Waitsburg. Lanning scored 16 points

Lanning who each had 16 points. Kaimen Sufia had 14 points off the bench. The Cardinals were hot from the outside, sinking seven three-point shots, including two each by Crockett and Lanning.

Dayton was lead by Zach Waggoner's and Derek McCleary's seven points and Ian Smay's

six points. McCleary and Waggoner each hit a trey.

In the second quarter, Dayton's Ben Kleck aggravated an injury to his right knee, halting play for more than 30 minutes. Kleck was carted off the floor and taken to an ambulance where he received treatment and later joined his team for food and refreshments.

Season Ends as it Began for Dayton Boys

BULLDOGS LOSE HEARTBREAKER TO WESTON-MCEWEN, 42-41, THEN FALL TO WWVA, WP

By Dan D'Onofrio | THE TIMES

DAYTON - The Dayton boys' basketball team ended their season Saturday night against WP on the road, suffering their 20th loss of the year, 66-32, and

concluding a winless season.

The Bulldogs played two of their last three games at home. The stretch run started against Weston McEwen Jan. 27 in Dayton. In that game, the Bulldogs trailed by eight at the half, but went on to one of their best quarters of the year, outscoring the TigerScots 16-9, closing out the third period trailing only by one, 31-32.

With 32 seconds left, the score was 39-38 TigerScots. Ben Kleck was fouled and hit both of his free throws to give the Bulldogs the lead. Linton McAllister of the TigerScots then hit a jump shot

DAYTON BOYS - PAGE 12



Waitsburg/Prescott

2014-2015



Abbey Farms / L&B Kitchens	Crothers Insurance/State Farm	Randy and Becky Pearson
Alpine Industries	Cummins Athletic Supply	Patton & Associates, PLLC/
Archer Aviation/Hogeye Ranch	Dayton Veterinary Clinic	Brad & Sandi Patton
Banner Bank	Jubilee Leadership Academy	Seven Porches Guest House
Blue Crystal Printing	Kyle's Custom Toys & Towing	The Times
Columbia County Public Transportation	McGregor Co.	Waitsburg Boosters Club
	Northwest Grain Growers	

2014~W/P SUPPORTERS~2015

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SPORTS

WAITSBURG HOSTS LEAGUE TOURNAMENT THIS WEEKEND

Dayton Girls and WP boys play Saturday, looking to move on to Districts

THE TIMES

WAITSBURG – This year's Southeast 2B District 9 league basketball tournament will be held Saturday and Monday at the Waitsburg High School Gym. The Dayton girls go into the tournament as the #2 seed and the WP boys are seeded #3. The WP girls and Dayton boys did not qualify for the tournament.

Play begins Saturday at 2 p.m., with the Lady Bulldogs facing #3 seed Tri-Cities Prep. At 5 p.m., the DeSales girls will play the winner of a play-in game Thursday, between #4 seed Asotin and #5 seed Walla Walla Valley Academy.

The winner of that game will play the winner of the Dayton/TCP game at 6 p.m. Monday, to determine the #1 and #2 seeds going into the District 7/9 tournament the following weekend. The two losing teams from Saturday will face off Monday at 3 p.m., with the winner gaining the #3 seed in Districts, and the loser eliminated.

On the boys' side, the WP Cardinals, who have now won seven straight games and finished third in the league (and thus are #3 seed), will take on #2 seed TCP on Saturday at 3:30 p.m. Number one seed WWVA plays the winner of the WWVA/Asotin play-in game, to be held Thursday. That game is Saturday at 6:30 p.m.

The two Saturday winners will play each other Monday at 7:30 p.m., to determine the #1 and #2 seeds. Saturday's losers will face off Monday at 4:30 p.m., with the winner taking the #3 seed to Districts.

Newman Goes 2-0 at Lind-Ritzville Meet

THE TIMES

RITZVILLE – WP wrestler Tristan Newman posted a 2-0 record at the Lind-Ritzville match on Tuesday, Jan. 27. The Cardinals competed against Lind-Ritzville, Pomeroy, Moses Lake JV, Royal City JV.

132 lb. Devin Newman dropped two matches by pin in 1:27 to Joseph Roberts and in :43 to Robert Hipolato, both of Moses Lake. 138 lb David Just lost by pin in 1:53 to Adri-

an Suarez of Moses Lake before pinning Mike Wheeler of L-R in :43. At 145 lbs. Dejay Lalka dropped two by pin, first to David Phillips of Moses Lake in :25 and then to Jose Galindo or Royal City in :30. 285 lb. Tyler Hoffman was pinned by Jacob Duvall in 1:04. WP senior Tristan Newman came out on top, pinning Grayson Whitaker of L-R in 2:13 and Alex Guitar, also of L-R, in 1:20.

"Tristan wrestled Grayson again and

came out working on new moves. He wrestled Alex for the first time tonight. Alex was quick on his feet, but not quick enough to get out from under Tristan," said WP Coach Lanny Adams. Adams said that Devin Newman is recovering from illness and that Hoffman is coming back from an elbow injury. WP wrestlers traveled to Reardon on Jan. 31 for the final league meet of the season.

WP Lady Cards Fall to Helix, 32-21, DeSales, 65-2

THE TIMES

WAITSBURG – The WP girl's basketball team faced Helix at a home match in Prescott on Jan. 27, ultimately losing what was their tightest game of the year, 32-21. The Lady Cards ended the first quarter with a 13-10 lead over the Grizzlies, stayed strong through half-time, but lost steam in the last half.

"We still struggle with making our shots, rebounding and turning over the ball," said coach J.T. Elsey. "We should have won that game!"

Stat leaders for the game were Kassy Kuykendall with 16 points and 6

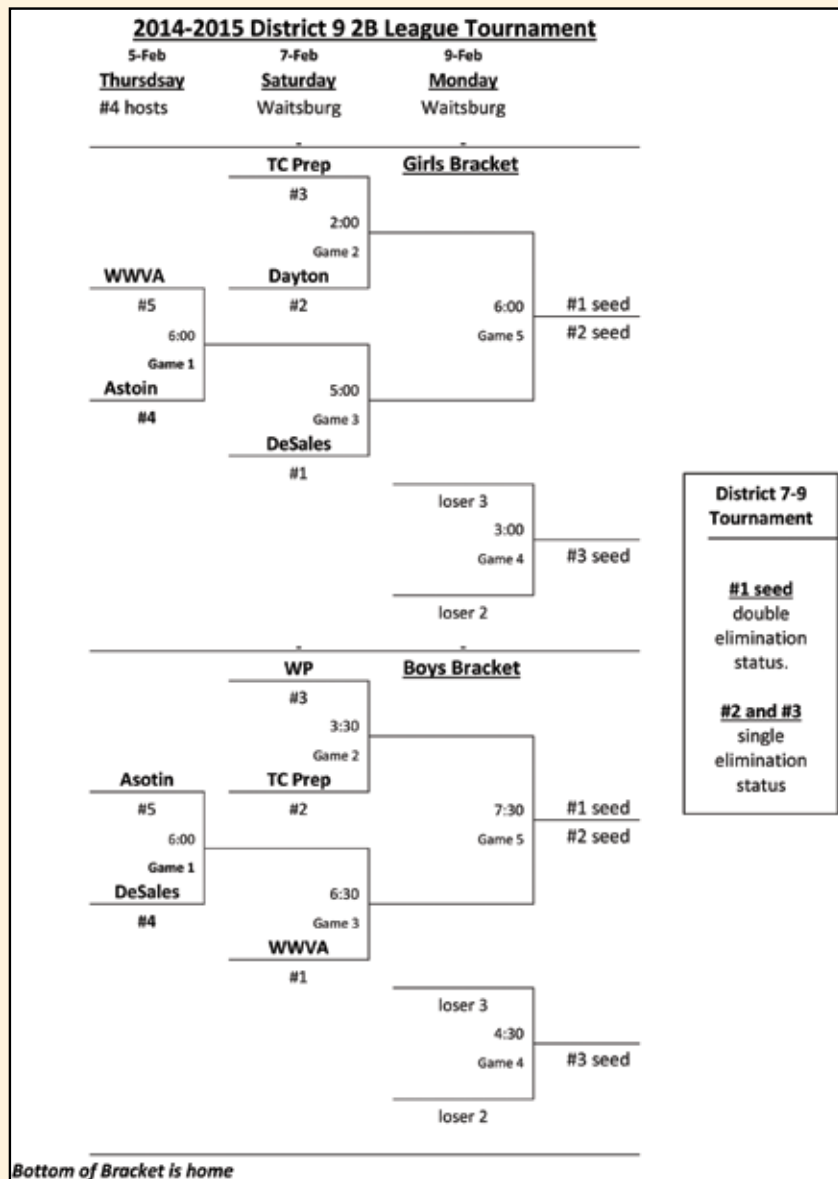
rebounds, Analise Salazar with 8 points and 7 rebounds and Paige Wood with 9 rebounds.

On Saturday, Jan. 30, the Cardinals traveled to Walla Walla where they had their worst game of the year, falling to the DeSales Irish, 65-2. The Irish took the lead early and maintained aggressive play throughout the game. The two points on the WP side of the scoreboard came from two free throws by Caitlyn Mohney. Stat leaders for WP were Taylor Jones and Caitlyn Mohney with four rebounds each. Paige Wood had one blocked shot.

SE 2B LEAGUE STANDINGS AS OF Feb. 1

SE 2B BOYS LEAGUE	LEAGUE		OVERALL	
	WON	LOST	WON	LOST
WWVA	8	1	15	4
TRI CITIES PREP	6	3	12	7
WAITSBURG-PRESCOTT	6	4	12	6
DESALES	5	5	10	9
ASOTIN	4	6	10	10
DAYTON	0	10	0	20

SE 2B GIRLS LEAGUE	LEAGUE		OVERALL	
	WON	LOST	WON	LOST
DESALES	9	1	14	5
DAYTON	8	2	17	3
TRI CITIES PREP	6	3	14	5
ASOTIN	4	6	8	12
WWVA	2	7	7	11
WAITSBURG-PRESCOTT	0	10	0	18



2B Regional & State Basketball Tournament Schedule

District 7/9 Sub-Regional Tournament

Monday, Feb. 16 - West Valley High, Spokane
Friday and Saturday, Feb. 20, 21 - Whitman College

State 2B Regional Tournament

Friday and Saturday, Feb. 27, 28 - Spokane

State 2B Championship Tournament

Thursday - Saturday, March 5, 6 and 7 - Spokane

Mings Garners Athlete of the Week

Dayton junior Madison Mings was named Washington State 2B Athlete of the Week for the week of January 11-17, by the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association. That week, Mings scored 11 points in the Lady Bulldogs' win over WP and 16 points as her team defeated Tri-Cities Prep.

Mings received a commemorative certificate and "Athlete of the Week" T-Shirt from WIAA Director Mike Colbrese.

Dayton

2014-2015

Banner Bank

Columbia County Public Transportation

Crothers Insurance/State Farm

Dayton General Store

Dayton Mercantile / Subway

Dayton Veterinary Clinic

Kyle's Custom Toys & Towing

McGregor Company

Northwest Grain Growers

Randy and Becky Pearson

Patton & Associates, PLLC/ Brad & Sandi Patton

The Times

2014~DAYTON SUPPORTERS~2015

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LEGAL NOTICES

the later of (1) thirty days after the Personal Representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(3); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in Section 11 of this act and RCW 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedents' probate and nonprobate assets.

DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: February 5, 2015

KATHY L. TAYLOR
Personal Representative
C/O LARRY SIEGEL LAW OFFICE
129 W. Main
Walla Walla, WA 99362

The Times
February 5, 12, 19, 2015
2-5-a

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF DAYTON
111 S. 1st St.
Dayton, WA 99328

The City is issuing this integrated GMA/SEPA notice for the proposed amendments and augmentations to City Comprehensive Plan, identifying the Dayton Register Washington Street (WSHD) & Dayton Register South Side Historic Districts (SSHD) as subarea plans, and

adopting "Design Guidelines" for the subareas. As provided under RCW 36.70A.035, NOTICE is hereby given: 60 Day Notice of Intent to adopt both subareas and design guidelines; Determination of Nonsignificance (DNS); Notice of Dayton Historic Preservation Hearing: 2/25/2015 - 6 pm at the above address; and Planning Commission Public Hearing: 4/22/2015 - 6:30 pm at the above address. The amendments and augmentations are in compliance with the Dayton Comprehensive Plan and RCW 36.70A (GMA). Subarea (historic district) maps and proposed design guidelines are available at City Hall and City Website -www.daytonwa.com.

Proponent & Lead agency: City of Dayton
Location: WSHD - North side of Washington Ave between N Front St and N 4th St.; SSHD - generally between S. Clay St. and north of S. Park St., between Touchet River and S 3rd St, Dayton, WA-Responsible official - Karen Scharer, Dayton Planning Director (T) 509-

540-6747 Email: kscharer@daytonwa.com. SEPA: After review of the environmental checklist and other information, the city has determined the proposal does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. SEPA information is available on request. DNS comments or appeals must be submitted before 4 pm, 2/20/2015.

The Times
February 5, 2015
2-5-b

Port of Columbia Landscaping & Weed/Pest Control Request for Requests for Proposals

The Port of Columbia is requesting Requests for Proposals (RFP) for professional services from qualified firms for the purpose of landscaping, irrigation maintenance & weed/pest control services at the Rockhill Industrial Park, Blue Mountain Station and other Port owned properties in Dayton, WA. It is the Port's intent to use the information to enter into contract(s) for services for 2015. Information submitted should include a list of qualifications, proof of WA State licensing, proof of insurance, hourly labor rate, and materials mark-up. The Port of Columbia encourages women and minority-owned businesses to

apply. RFPs must be received by 3:00p.m. Friday, February 13, 2015. Please mail your submission to:

Port of Columbia
Attn: Landscaping & Weed/Pest Control RFP
1 Port Way
Dayton, WA 99328

The Times
February 5, 2015
2-5-c

NOTICE

Walla Walla County, P.O. Box 813 Walla Walla, WA, is seeking coverage under the Washington State Department of Ecology's Construction Stormwater NPDES and State Waste Discharge General Permit.

The proposed project, Bussell Rd CRP 13-04, is located at Bussell Rd, From Mojonner to Old Milton Hwy near College Place, in Walla Walla County.

This project involves 8.8 acres of soil disturbance for highway construction activities.

(List all construction activities; for example, residential, commercial, industrial, highway, utility).

The receiving water(s) is/are Stone Creek (List all named and un-named surface waterbodies, or ground water if applicable, waters identified in section IX).

Any persons desiring to present their views to the department of Ecology regarding this application may do so in writing within thirty days of the last date of publication of this notice. Comments shall be submitted to the department of Ecology. Any person interested in the department's action on this application may notify the department of their interest within thirty days of the last date of publication of this notice. Ecology reviews public comments and considers whether discharges from this project would cause a measurable change in receiving water quality, and, if so, whether the project is necessary and in the overriding public interest according to Tier II antidegradation requirements under

WAC 173-201A-320.

Comments can be submitted to:
Department of Ecology
Attn: Water Quality Program, Construction Stormwater
PO Box 47696, Olympia, WA 98504-7696

The Times
February 5, 12, 2015
2-5-e

Call for Public Comments March 2015 Amendment to the 2015-2018 Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Improvement Program (M/RTIP)

A draft of the March 2015 amendment to the Walla Walla Valley Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Improvement Program (WVWV M/RTIP) will be available for public review beginning Tuesday, February 3, 2015 through February 17, 2015 at the Walla Walla Library, Waitsburg City Hall, the WVWV M/RTIP office and on the WVWV website at <http://www.vwvpo.org/public-participation.html>. All comments are due to WVWVPO by noon on February 17, 2015.

WVWVPO/SRTPO hereby gives public notice that it is the Organization's policy to assure

full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. Title VI requires that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any Federal Aid Highway program or other activity for which WVWVPO/SRTPO receives Federal financial assistance.

Any person who believes they have been aggrieved by an unlawful discriminatory practice under Title VI has a right to file a formal complaint with WVWVPO/SRTPO. Any such complaint must be in writing and filed with the WVWVPO/SRTPO Title VI Coordinator within one hundred, eighty (180) days following the date of the alleged discriminatory occurrence. Title VI Discrimination Complaint Forms may be obtained from the WVWVPO/SRTPO Office, on the website at <http://www.vwvpo.org/plans--programs.html> at no cost to the complainant, by calling Tom Glover at (509) 524-2621, or by faxing to (509) 876-8003.

The Times
February 5, 2015
2-5-f

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

WALLA WALLA COUNTY
NO. 14 2 00617 0

AMENDED CERTIFICATE OF DELINQUENCY PARCEL No. 350602410017

CERTIFICATE OF DELINQUENCY ISSUED TO WALLA WALLA COUNTY FOR 2010 - 2014 AND EARLIER YEARS TAXES

STATE OF WASHINGTON : SS.

WALLA WALLA COUNTY

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that I have this day, as Treasurer of Walla Walla County, State of Washington, issued to said County, this Amended Certificate of Delinquency for taxes, interest, and costs due and delinquent August 27, 2014, in the sum set opposite each description herein of the real property situate in Walla Walla County, State of Washington, and described herein, which several sums shall bear interest at the rate of twelve per cent (12%) per annum plus added costs as required by RCW Chapter 84.64, and amended on

January 30, 2015 to include additional fees and costs, and that special assessment levied by Walla Walla County on November 17, 2014 for abatement of nuisance and recorded on December 8, 2014 under Auditor's File no. 2014-08877.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Witness my hand and seal as Treasurer of said County, in said State, this 30th day of January, 2015.

s/
Gordon Heimbigner,
Treasurer
Walla Walla County, State of Washington

2014 Certificate of Delinquency Issued to:

Walla Walla County
Amended: January 30, 2015

PARCEL NUMBER
350602410017

TAXPAYER

Year	Tax	Interest	Total
2014	\$3,212.83	\$477.98	\$3,690.81
2013	\$3,203.06	\$860.87	\$4,063.93
2012	\$2,534.90	\$984.62	\$3,519.52
2011	\$2,890.86	\$1,470.38	\$4,361.24
Total	\$11,841.65	\$3,793.85	\$15,635.50

Total Of The Certificate \$11,841.65 \$3,793.85 \$15,635.50

Site Address

2344 Old Milton Hwy
Walla Walla, WA. 99362

CERTIFICATE INTEREST

DATE	% RATE	CERT INT
Jan-15	5.00%	\$592.08

COST:

CERTIFICATE INTEREST	\$592.08
CLERKS FILING FEE	
TITLE REPORT	\$245.03
TREASURER'S COST	\$750.00
SHERIFF'S SEVICE	
PUBLICATION COST	\$184.46
CERTIFIED MAIL	
TREASURER'S DEED	
REAL EXCISE TAX	
AUDITOR'S FEES	
SPECIAL ASSESSMENT	\$13,544.02

TOTAL COST \$15,315.59

TOTAL DUE \$30,951.09

PARCEL NUMBER
350602410017

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

Subject to Existing Declaration of Land Patent recorded at Volume 228, oage 1850, No. 9562770, recorded corrected No. 9512633. Beginning point in the South line of the Northeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 2 in Township 6 North of Range 35, East of the Willamette Meridian, which point is 5.74 feet, measured along said South line from the center of Southeast Quarter of said Section and running thence East, along said South line 100.00 feet; thence North 668.22 feet, more or less, to the North line of the Southwest Quarter of the Northeast quarter of the Southeast Quarter of said Section; thence East along said North line 100.00 feet; thence South 668.22 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning. Subject to the existing road on the South. Situated Walla Walla county, the state of Washington.

The Times
February 5, 2015
2-5-d

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*Source: 2013 National Newspaper Association Survey

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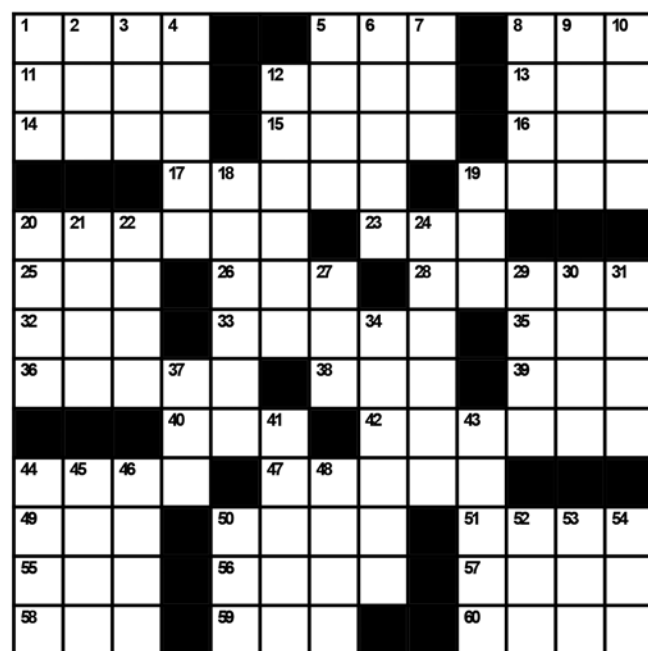
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38 East Main Street Walla Walla (509) 529-9963 www.BOOKANDGAME.com

Across

- Spirit
- Collagen target
- Years ____
- Nonchalance
- Scarce
- Took off
- Geometry calculation
- Apartment
- Apiece, in scores
- The Mayans and Ancient Greeks painted on them
- Observe
- Proposals
- Reporter's question
- "____ you sure?"
- Border
- Canvas shelters
- Hot drink
- Current location
- Cambrian, for one
- Thyme and sage
- This girl
- Bottom of a royal flush
- ____ too much
- Wiped out
- Radio ad
- Rainbow making glass
- Tout's offering
- 1967 musical
- "Render ____ Caesar"...
- Lunch hour
- Combines numbers
- Go bad
- Corral
- Consult
- Lip

Down

- Arctic for one
- Dinghy propeller
- Finish, with "up"
- Approved absence
- Pool division
- Galway native
- Dearest
- Intelligent horse



breed

9. Battering wind

10. "____ the lonely"

12. Part of CIS

18. Take into custody

19. Fall behind

20. Sworn declaration

21. Let go

22. North Carolina's Cape ____

24. Miscellany

27. "____ Robinson"

- Song from "The Graduate"

29. New Jersey hoopsters

30. Maple, for one

31. Hourglass contents

34. Belonging to them

37. Bridle part

41. One in a black suit

43. Tickle pink

44. "Cut it out!"

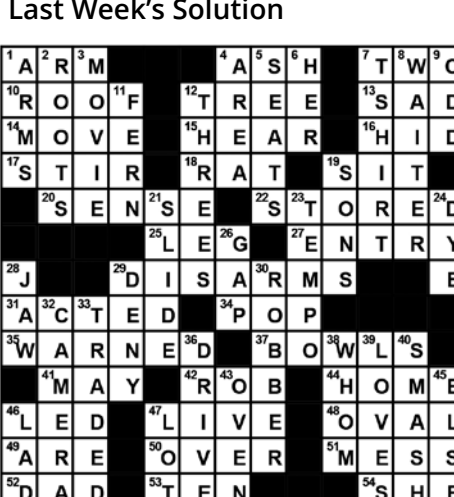
45. Durable wood

46. Uncover

48. Carnival attraction

50. Possesses

Last Week's Solution



Bates Trial Set for April 7

WAITSBURG MAN FACES MULTIPLE CHARGES RELATING TO RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES

THE TIMES

WAITSBURG – The Waitsburg man arrested at the end of December for a string of local burglaries is scheduled for trial in Walla Walla County Superior Court beginning April 7.

Mason J. Bates, 31, was charged in early January with two counts of residential burglary, theft in the third degree, malicious mischief in the third degree, and possession of burglary tools. His arrest on Dec. 28 came after a resident on West 6th Street filed a burglary report and other tips and burglary reports followed, coming from neighbors

on West 6th and West 7th streets.

Finally, a call into the Walla Walla County Sheriff's Office by Bates' concerned father led to a search of the home they shared in Waitsburg on West 7th Street, and subsequently Bates' incarceration.

Bates pleaded innocent last week to the original charges as well as the eleven others added before his hearing. He is now accused of four counts of residential burglary, four counts of theft of a firearm, one count of second-degree theft, two counts of third-degree theft and two counts of third-degree malicious mischief.

Items reported taken from neighboring homes, according to the Walla Walla Sheriff's Office, include jewelry, coins, and guns.

Bates was released three days following his arrest pending further investigation; he remains free, with conditions, to live at the Christian Aid Center in Walla Walla until his trial.

DEVELOPMENT - FROM PAGE 1

The Warrens confirmed that they received a letter from the City of Waitsburg stating that the planning commission was recommending that the preliminary plat be disapproved due to a "lack of vital information."

Waitsburg City Clerk Randy Hinchliffe said the commission requested four specific additional items: a traffic impact study pertaining to Taggart Road, a storm water analysis, possibilities for cost-sharing of a buffer between the development and the Port of Walla Walla's neighboring industrial park, and consideration of a pedestrian easement to Garden Street.

"This is all a case of putting the cart way in front of the horse," said Mary Warren who noted that the city still hasn't answered the question of who owns the utility lines leading up to the development – the City of Waitsburg or the Port of Walla Walla. "We're not going to do more when we still don't know the answer to the big questions of who owns the water lines," she said. "It may take a court action to determine that," she added.

Hinchliffe said that he, along with Mayor Walt Gobel and an additional council member are scheduled to meet with Port representatives next week in an attempt to negotiate that issue. He noted that the developers could still access utilities, even if it was determined that the lines belong to the Port, but that they would have to access the lines at Garden Street, which would be a much longer distance and at greater expense.

The Warrens also expressed concern that so much information is being requested, at potentially significant expense, during such an early stage in the process. The developers said they included all the information requested in the preliminary plat application and even provided additional colored plans

requested at the first, informal public hearing.

"These are conditions typical of a final plat. The key word here is 'preliminary,' this is conceptual," said Mary Warren.

"We're way out of the scope of where we thought we would be here," added Gene Warren.

Hinchliffe said that while the preliminary plat application only requires certain information, there is nothing that prevents the planning commission from asking for more before making a recommendation. "The commission's job is to make sure that city codes are met and that the public use and interest will be served," he said.

The recommendation to disapprove the preliminary plat will go, before Waitsburg's city council on, Feb. 12. (That date is a change from the regularly scheduled third-Wednesday monthly meeting.) Hinchliffe said he expects that the council will send the recommendation back to the planning commission for more information and that the council will readdress the matter at a future meeting once that requested information is received.

The developers say they are forced to try and determine if the expense of providing the requested information, when the city can still deny the application, is a financial risk they're willing to take.

"The flip side of this is that we have 10 5-acre lots that we can develop and that don't need city water/sewer/garbage or any of that. We do have that option, but is that what they really want?" asked Gene Warren. "Columbia Pulp is going to be breaking ground and four out of six of Waitsburg's city council members said that economic advancement is a priority in their bios on the city website. We're just hoping the mayor and the council can step in here and provide some strong leadership," he added.

DAYTON GIRLS - P. 8

Dayton coach Clayton Strong praised his team after three decisive wins. "We had a chance to get a lot of kids significant minutes over the course of the last few games," he said. "Which was nice, so we could have them work on some things and also it gave us a chance to rest some regulars. I thought other than rebounding we played pretty good defense especially contesting shots," Strong added. "We do still have areas to work on going into this week."

Saturday's playoff game in Waitsburg, between Dayton and TCP, will start at 2 p.m.

Program Addresses Dementia

DAYTON – Natasha Delano, the director of Parkview at Wheatland Village in Walla Walla, will speak at the Dayton Senior Center at 1 p.m. on Tuesday on the topic of "Understanding the Person with Dementia and Tips on Navigating Through Times of Change." Dayton resident Barbara Gibson encourages anyone interested to attend the presentation, "because dementia doesn't recognize boundaries and can affect all people regardless of age. And the caregiver is such an important part of the dementia patient's life. Come find out what to look for, what to expect, and what to do." This

one-hour program will address Alzheimer's disease as well as dementia and offer insights for greater understanding of the person behind the dementia as well as tips on helping them through times of change. For more information, contact Delano at NDelano@wheatlandvillage.com or (509) 876-4967 or Gibson at (509) 382-2836.

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to regain the lead 41-40 with less than 20 seconds remaining.

Dayton's Zach Waggoner worked his way to the basket and was fouled with 13.2 seconds remaining. He hit one of two free throws, tying the score at 41-41.

With 1.1 seconds remaining, The TigerScots got one free throw to win the game, the closest Dayton would get to victory all season.

Dayton was lead by Zach Waggoner's 15 points and Cal Martin's 9 points.

Dayton could not

muster the same intensity in Thursday's game against league-leading Walla Walla Valley Academy, a game they lost, 53-32. The team came out flat and trailed 21-3 after one quarter, having committed ten turnovers. They trailed 45-15 at the half.

Dayton was lead by Ben Kleck's aggressive and smart play that garnered 2 steals and 12 points. The Bulldogs also got 5 each from Zach Waggoner and Ian Smay.

Dayton travelled to Waitsburg-Prescott on Saturday night, losing 66-32 (see separate story), ending their season at 0-20.

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