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The Times

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SERVING WAITSBURG, DAYTON AND THE TOUCHET VALLEY

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ONE DOLLAR



Lane Gwinn

CWWFD2 recently acquired a 2003 International fire truck, which will replace the 40 year old engine that was in service. The firetruck will be easier for most engineers to maneuver, and the closed, five-man cab will provide comfort and safety while on the job.

CWWFD2 welcomes new fire rig, discusses upcoming elections

The district received a 2003 International truck as part of a DNR surplus program.

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—The Columbia-Walla Walla Fire District 2 met Wednesday, May 12, for a regularly scheduled meeting. Fire commissioners discussed the upcoming elections in each county and a new vehicle that Commissioner Jake Long was able to secure.

District Clerk Anne Higgins provided a financial report following the approval of minutes. She noted that the report was missing several Columbia County expenditures because the county had not yet processed them.

Commissioner Deb Fortner reported that Station 2 was scheduled for a final walk-through with the contractor to go over finishing projects on May 18. She has been in touch with the insurance company to arrange payment methods that align with the district's budget process. Fortner also wanted to note that the contracting company changed its name to First Onsite from Interstate Restoration.

Interim Chief Colter Mohny reported that one potential volunteer had contacted him about necessary paperwork for the district. Higgins reiterated that volunteers may not participate in district functions, including training, until the paperwork is completed.

Commissioner Long reported that he received a letter from the Walla Walla County Elections Department informing the district of upcoming election information, including voter's pamphlet requirements. Voter pamphlet costs are shared between entrants; Long said the county was not able to provide an estimated cost.

Higgins shared that the district had the option to write to the county commissioners, requesting that they not be included in the pamphlet because it would cause financial hardship. Requests need to be submitted at least 60 days before publication, which leaves only a few days. The fire commissioners voted to write a letter and submit it to the county commissioners in Columbia and Walla Walla counties.

The district has two commissioner seats, one four-year term, and one six-year term up for election this year in Walla Walla County.

The Fire Chief Hiring Committee reported meeting three times since forming at the April meeting. Ashley Strickland said they had explored all options, including contracting a chief and looking for help from neighboring departments. He said the best option is to revamp the job description, modify the job listing, and send the listing out to as many places as possible.

Strickland said the committee decided on a basic set of qualifications for a future chief and basic qualifications for officers and volunteers. All committee decisions will be sent to the commissioners for consideration. Strickland said that he would be formally presenting the committee's suggestions at a later date.

Commissioner Fortner said she is researching signage options for Station 2, including permit requirements with Waitsburg's City Administrator. One Dayton FFA member has permission from the school to help with laser cutting the district's logo, according to Fortner. She also said that she was exploring solar lighting options for the station on Preston Avenue.

Port of Columbia Commissioners meeting update

New businesses in town, TVT comments and questions, and broadband infrastructure discussed at May 12 meeting.

By Lane Gwinn | THE TIMES

DAYTON—Chair of the Board of Commissioners, Earle Marvin, opened the May 12 meeting with public comment. Betty Longren spoke, urging the commissioners to respect all community members and get behind local businesses. She wanted the Port to listen to businesses and those in the community who are against the trail project.

Dayton Chronicle reporter, Melissa Gemmell, asked if the commissioners had any comments they would like to make to those protesting the trail.

Commissioner Sean Milligan answered by saying the port had released numerous formal statements addressing many topics raised by the protestors.

Port Executive Director, Jennie Dickinson presented the Budget report. Income for the month was good, with private revenue from tenants.

Expenditures for the month were low. There was a nonrecurring item for advertising in the three local newspapers to announce the TVT public hearing.

In response to the Letter from the Auditor, Dickinson said the state now requires a voter's pamphlet for elections which will incur an unspecified cost above the \$5,000 currently budgeted for the upcoming election.

Discussing the leases, Dickinson said there is a proposed addendum. Jay's Garage would like to take over the secured parking now available after another tenant vacated.

The commissioners discussed the location for the June meeting, originally planned to be held at Lyon's Ferry. Marvin stated that the meeting would most likely be on Zoom due to the state's COVID-19 restrictions.

Reporting on port assets, Dickinson updated the commissioners on the clean-up at a vacated space at the Rock Hill Industrial Park. The tenant did a reasonable job cleaning, though there was still residue from the powder-coating process on the ceiling and walls.

At Lyon's Ferry, the concessionaire business was sold in 2020, and the lease continues to be held by 7 K's Enterprises which Dickinson said is allowable under their terms.

Dickinson said there were no new projects at Blue Mountain Station. The weekend had been busy for Mother's Day, and all the tasting rooms were open for spring release weekend.

The railroad received a grant from the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission for signal crossings on Highways 12 and 124.

Commissioner Sean Milligan asked about used railroad ties the railway operator is storing next to the track. He was told by a resident that there is legislation in the RCW covering the storage and removal of old ties. The concern is that the ties are hazardous waste material, and the RCW may limit the length of time they can be stored in that manner.

Dickinson asked if the person had cited a specific RCW number or knew how long the ties could be stored beside the track. If there are regulations under the RCW, the port could make the operator comply. Milligan and Dickinson said they would look into the matter.

Reporting on Economic Development, Dickinson said many were in attendance at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the recently upgraded and improved

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TOUCHET VALLEY LIFE

AT THE LIBERTY:

The Father

THE TIMES

DAYTON—Anthony (played by two-time Academy Award winner, Anthony Hopkins) refuses all assistance from his daughter (Academy Award and Golden Globe winner, Olivia Coleman) as he ages with progressing memory loss. As he tries to make sense of his changing circumstances, he begins to doubt his loved ones, his mind and even the fabric of his reality. The film gives the viewer Anthony's changing and unreliable perspective and the perspective of his caregivers and family.

Many critics have stated this is some of Anthony Hopkins' best work. At 83, Anthony Hopkins is now the oldest actor in a leading role to win an Oscar (last month). Writer/director Florian Zeller and Christopher Hampton also won the Oscar for the screenplay adapted from Zeller's 2012 award-winning French play. *The Father* also was nominated for academy awards in four other categories (Olivia Coleman, Best Actress in supporting role, best motion picture of the year, Film editing, and production design).

Rotten Tomatoes rates this movie with a whopping 98% critics favorable review and 91% from the audience scores.

It is rated PG-13 for some strong language and thematic material. The runtime is 97 minutes.


It shows May 21-25, on Fri. & Sat. at 7:30 pm, Sunday at 3 pm and Tuesday at 6:30 pm.

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Anthony Hopkins, Imogen Poots
THE FATHER

PG-13

PORT MEETING - FROM PAGE 1

Main Street Marketplace.

She said Table Rock Meat Co. is doing well since its grand opening. Commissioner Shawn Brown asked if there had been a ribbon-cutting ceremony for that business. Dickinson said they had not, most likely because they were unaware of the possibility. She reminded the commissioners that both businesses received private grants through the port before opening.

Brown commented that he has had several business owners approach him to say how thankful they were to receive grants to help them stay in business through the last year.

Dickinson said \$400,000 of grants were approved and distributed to businesses through the port. She noted that while agencies processing these funds were allowed to take a percentage, the Port of Columbia did not, ensuring the businesses received the maximum amount available.

Dickinson reported on an application for a \$50,000 grant from the WA State Department of Commerce for marketing efforts to bring visitors back to downtown and the Blue Mountain Station.

Dickinson also reported on the Washington State CERB program application. The program offers low-interest loans and grants to build broadband infrastructure in rural underserved communities linked to community and economic development.

Dickinson said the Port would not be an internet provider or compete with local providers. The project is to provide broadband infrastructure to the area offered for lease to local internet service providers (ISP), including Touchet Valley TV and Pocketnet, to increase the service they offer. The port would receive \$20 per user as part of the cost to providers to be used for maintenance and future expansion of the fiber cable. The local ISPs would not have to provide maintenance on the line.

One requirement of the CERB grant is participation by local providers, with at least one ISP who signed on. Dickinson said three of the five local companies have expressed interest in the project.

Dickinson said there were potential savings of \$800,000 using the Port of Whitman County's model over model used for the current bid with NoaNet.

The CERB program requires a 20% matching contribution. The Port is applying for the maximum amount of \$2 million and would have to come up with 20% of the total project costs. Dickinson said they are working on raising \$500,000 for the matching contribution.

Marvin asked if broadband coverage would be extended with these funds. The original study estimates coverage for the city of Dayton and a bit of the outlying area. Starbucks and other rural areas are not covered in this study.

Dickinson described a scenario where fiber cable

could be brought to an area and then linked to a wireless router accessible to the homes in the area. This would be more cost-effective than trying to run the cable to individual rural properties.

Dickinson gave an example of bringing broadband to a rural area in the county. Using Turner as the example, she described bringing the fiber cable to a central location in the area, like an elevator, and connecting to a wireless router. This would allow the neighboring homes access to a relatively fast internet connection.

Chairman Marvin asked if there was anything the commissioners could do to help with the CERB application. Dickinson said she would distribute the completed application to the commissioners for comment before it is submitted on May 24.

The commissioners approved Resolution 2021-01, allowing the CERB application to be submitted.

The Working Washington 4.0 grant program has closed, and recipients will be contacted in mid-May and receive their awards by June 30, 2021. Dickinson said 15 local businesses applied. She did not know who is receiving awards yet.

The port is also working with one business on a Restaurant Revitalization Fund grant.

Milligan noted that the Weinhart Café had recently been purchased.

Dickinson said this was an example of the port successfully encouraging new business in the area. Waitsburg chef Daniel Rossi opened CounterFeat, a take-and-bake business using the commercial kitchen at BMS. After a positive reception, the port approached Rossi about the opportunity to purchase the Weinhart Café building and business.

The last agenda item was a review of the April 26, Touchet Valley Trail (TVT) public meeting. Dickinson said there had been many comments and some questions received during the comment period, which was now closed, having been offered from April 26 to May 12. The comments were overwhelmingly positive, and she felt the Port answered most of the questions and concerns.

Milligan asked about the protest held outside the Port building during the TVT public meeting. Dickinson and the commissioners could not see the demonstration since the meeting was held on Zoom and not in person. The sheriff's office notified her about the protest, and one tenant at the industrial park complained the protest negatively impacted their business.

There was information that two demonstrations were planned for before and during the May 12 regular meeting. A group showing support for the trail gathered at the Depot at 2:30 and walked a route through town carrying signs of support for the trail. The other demonstration by those opposed to the trail was planned for 3:30 in front of the port building.

Dickinson voiced the frustration of how she has been personally attacked on social media regarding the trail. She said people opposed to the project don't come to her directly to talk about their issues.

Commissioner Sean Brown said he has met with opponents to the trail; he has listened and encouraged them to submit their comments to the port during the four-week comment period.

Commissioner Milligan said "ditto," and he has also encouraged people to use the public forum.

Dickinson said the concerns of those opposed had been heard by the port.

The meeting went into an executive session before adjourning.

Touchet Valley Weather

May 19, 2021

Waitsburg's Seven Day Forecast

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Partly Cloudy	Few Showers	Few Showers	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy
High: 63 Low: 39	High: 62 Low: 42	High: 67 Low: 46	High: 71 Low: 47	High: 74 Low: 49	High: 76 Low: 52	High: 72 Low: 46

Weather Trivia

What causes thunder?
?
Answer: Rapidly expanding gases along the lightning bolt.

Weather History

May 19, 1780 - This is the infamous "dark day" in New England tradition. At noon, it was nearly as dark as night. Chickens went to roost, and many people were fearful of divine wrath. Forest fires to the west of New England were responsible for the phenomenon.

Local Almanac Last Week

Day	High	Low	Normals	Precip	Precipitation
Tuesday	75	44	69/47	0.00"	0.00"
Wednesday	79	48	69/47	0.00"	0.47"
Thursday	77	51	70/48	0.00"	-0.47"
Friday	82	53	70/48	0.00"	66.1°
Saturday	83	54	70/48	0.00"	58.9°
Sunday	86	52	71/48	0.00"	+7.2°
Monday	82	59	71/49	0.00"	

Data as reported from Walla Walla

Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
First 5/19	5:15 a.m.	8:24 p.m.	12:02 p.m.	2:14 a.m.
Wednesday	5:14 a.m.	8:25 p.m.	1:15 p.m.	2:41 a.m.
Thursday	5:13 a.m.	8:26 p.m.	2:30 p.m.	3:05 a.m.
Friday	5:12 a.m.	8:27 p.m.	3:48 p.m.	3:27 a.m.
Saturday	5:12 a.m.	8:28 p.m.	5:08 p.m.	3:50 a.m.
Full 5/26	5:11 a.m.	8:29 p.m.	6:31 p.m.	4:15 a.m.
Sunday	5:10 a.m.	8:30 p.m.	7:56 p.m.	4:43 a.m.
Monday				
Tuesday				



Beka Compton
Three trail protestors standing just below the Port of Columbia's office during the May 12 meeting

FIRE - FROM PAGE 1

Commissioner Long said that the Department of Natural Resources recently contacted him about availability of a surplus 2003 International 5-man cab fire pickup previously used at the Naval Base Kitsap in Bremerton, WA. He said that the engine had been out of use for roughly a year, but it passed water testing and presented no major problems. The vehicle will replace a 40-year-old engine currently used by the district. The newer vehicle is being stored at a local barn until the district decides the future of the current fire rig. According to Long, there are minimal costs associated with the vehicle for the first year. After a one year trial, ownership of the vehicle can be transferred to the district at minimal cost. Long did not specify what the cost would be at that time.

The Times

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TOUCHET VALLEY LIFE

Yes! Touchet Valley Trail supporters hit the streets

More than a dozen people walked through Dayton to express support of the TVT

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

DAYTON—More than a dozen Touchet Valley residents hit the streets of Dayton with “YES Touchet Valley Trail” signs on Wednesday, May 12, to show their support for the project and the Port of Columbia.

“The mission is a positive opportunity for the community and expanding the valley for everybody,” said Joanne Goldsmith of Dayton. Goldsmith was one of the organizers of the event.

One Dayton resident and avid cyclist, Genie Crowe, said she has two friends who have been struck by vehicles while riding alongside a highway. Both cyclists, Crowe shared, have suffered grave injuries.

“One is a quadriplegic now, and the other had a concussion that led to depression, that led to two years of being totally nonfunctional,” Crowe said. “I have done a tour from LA to Seattle, and I have been on some roads that have no bike lanes at all, and it was scary. I tried to wear as bright of clothing as I could, and we were safe, thankfully, but it was scary.”

Increased traffic has made the scenic ride between Dayton and Waitsburg unsafe for many cyclists, limiting where they can ride. Crowe shared that her husband often rides with her, but he refuses to ride along the highways. The proposed Touchet Valley Trail would play a crucial part in creating a safer route for cyclists, runners, horseback riders, and pedestrians.

Crowe plans to ride a rails and trails route in Prosser, WA, similar to the proposed TVT trail. She looks forward to ‘seeing how that looks’ and comparing it to how the TVT trail could look.

“The Port of Columbia did a great job with their presentation last month,” Crowe said. “I have zero concerns with the trail.”

During the online presentation on April 26, the Port presented speakers to address the current status of the project, hear from the trail designers and landscapers, and address public comments and concerns submitted to the Port. The meeting is available to view on the Port’s website, www.portofcolumbia.org. The website also features the 30% plans, preliminary maintenance plans, the executive summary, and a preliminary economic impact study that will be updated in October 2021.

Another supporter at the walk, Cathy Lee-Haight of Dayton, said she was a part of the original idea formation while serving on the Community Council roughly six years ago.

“Our conclusion was ‘trail development should be a priority,’ and then it went and worked its way through the process,” Lee-Haight said. “This particular trail, because the Port owned most of the land and had right-of-away, looked like the easiest one to start within the region.”



Times photos

More than a dozen Touchet Valley Trail supporters made their stance known before the May 12 Port of Columbia meeting.

Anne Strode, of Dayton, says “Yes!” to the growing local in every direction.

Lee-Haight said the Port agreed to take the lead on development, and she has attended all of the trail meetings and forums.

“We stayed kind of quiet, because we thought we had expressed our opinions, many times,” she said. “The ‘no’ side started to be more obvious. We have a group who meets once a week, to discuss local issues, and we decided that it was time to have a ‘yes’ group. At this point it’s the ‘no’ group versus the Port, but it was not the Port who came up with this idea. Hundreds of other people were involved.”

Lee-Haight said the group chose this particular Wednesday to begin expressing their support because it was the day the Port closed the public comment period offered during the April 26 informational meeting and extended through May 12. The time and location was chosen to avoid any conflict with those who might show up in opposition of the project.

of the Port facility during the Port’s regular commissioners meeting which was held on Zoom. As they did during the April 26 meeting, demonstrators chose not to attend or participate in the Zoom meeting.

When asked about any concerns with the planning and development of the trail so far, Lee-Haight said that she had none.

She acknowledged work the Port of Columbia has done with other projects in the area, noting they have been well managed, maintained and economically beneficial to Dayton.

The majority response from passersby to the dozen or more walking in support of the trail was positive and included waving, honking and the occasional “woo hoo.”

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/waitsburg-school-district/page/school-board--272>

Waitsburg Gun Club:
Monday May 24 – General Membership / Board Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

Walla Walla County Commissioners
Every Monday and Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m.
Call-in information is available at https://www.co.walla-walla.wa.us/government/commissioners/2020_agendas.php

Dayton & Columbia County Meetings

Board of Columbia County Commissioners
First and second Monday of each month at 9 a.m.
Call-in information available at <https://www.columbiaco.com/114/County-Commissioners>

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

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

Columbia County Public Hospital District Board of Commissioners
Fourth Wednesday of every month at 1:30 p.m. Call (509) 382-2531 for information.

Coalition for Youth & Families
Fourth Wednesday monthly at 3 p.m.
<https://coalitionforyouthandfamilies.org/get-involved>

Dayton Memorial Library Board of Trustees Meeting
Every month on the Third Monday at 7:00 PM
Zoom Meeting ID: 852 3836 3787
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85238363787>

Dayton Kiwanis Club Meeting - Online
Second and Fourth Thursday at Noon
Zoom Meeting ID: 559 815 3650
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5598153650>

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

DAYTON SENIOR ROUND TABLE LUNCH

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

Thursday, May 20
Roast beef & gravy
Mashed potatoes
Broccoli salad
Roll
Gelatin
Milk

Tuesday, May 25
Fried chicken
Mac salad
Carrots
Salad
Roll
Peach cobbler
Milk

WAITSBURG SENIOR CENTER

504 Main Street
11 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, May 25
Chicken & dumplings
Vegetable
Coleslaw
Garlic bread
Fruit

WAITSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

Thursday, May 20
B: Breakfast pizza
L: Pk-5: Uncrustable
6-12: Shrimp stir fry bowl
Lychee

Friday, May 21
B: Yogurt parfait
L: Chicken strips
Baked beans
Apples
Cookie

Monday, May 24
B: Scram. eggs & bacon
L: Hamburger
Stuffed tots
Pepino melon
Oranges

Tuesday, May 25
B: Biscuit & gravy
L: Mozzarella cheese sticks
Marinara sauce
Snap peas
Peaches

Wed., April 26
B: Brkfast round & yogurt
L: Chicken cordon bleu
Baby bakers
Asparagus
Strawberries



Church Directory

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

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

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337-8898
Rev. Matthew Wyatt

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: PICTURE OF LOVE

Every community should like the picture of Bill Rodger's iris garden. Everyone growing up together and looking their best indicates being created for a great purpose by a Great God.

With every glance, my eyes catch the beauty which illuminates my attitude with a feeling such as having been forgiven of sin. Only God can make a flower. Pictures are taken by photographers: no fooling around. Bill Rodgers has an eye for what's been created for the created.

Enjoyed by a sinner like me.

Phillip Monfort
Waitsburg



ANNUAL DHS ALUMNI WEEKEND CANCELLED FOR 2021

THE TIMES

DAYTON—Due to COVID-19 related reasons, the Dayton Alumni Association will not be holding their Annual Alumni Weekend this July 2021! There will not be a Parade or Meeting at the Depot. The association says that they do, however, encourage DHS Classes to get together and celebrate privately. The DHS Alumni Association hopes to proceed as normal next year, July 2022.

BIRTHDAYS

May 20:

Nektarios Reese, Wanda E. Johnson, Brandee Wheeler, Don Glover, Greg Reser, Judy Largent, Lyndsey Huwe and Vickie Hamann.

May 21:

Paul Powers, Johnathan Quigg and Jr. Eastwood.

May 22:

Nancy Startin, Victor Langdon, Kathryn Kirk and Reed Olsen.

May 23:

Cash Grende, Allen Ford, Greg Bichsel, Kathy Maioli, Elizabeth Hermanns and Bill Box.

May 24:

Bob Patton, Guy McCaw, Amanda Short, Amanda Higgins and Alexander LeClerc.

May 25:

Bill Hinchliffe, Holly Foster, Jason Payne, Wes Leid, George J. Robinson, Greg Leid, Abby Grende and Iris Reed.

May 26:

Hannah Perry, Pam Hermanns, Rob John and Pamela Gluck.



BOCC amends equine fees, discuss Extension agent position

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

DAYTON—The Board of Columbia County Commissioners met Monday, May 17, via Zoom. The commissioners were joined by WSU Extension Whitman County Director Janet Schmidt to discuss a long-standing memorandum of understanding.

Commissioner Chuck Amerein said that the County Commissioners have concerns with the push towards a regionalized extension agent, explaining that the agreement between the county and the university, initially signed in 1986, was not designed for a regionalized agent.

"The concern is, looking at the agreement, it's not really designed for anything like that," Amerein said. "It does have here, in the memorandum of understanding, that we get a chance to concur with the person that they want to hire. Obviously, there wasn't really any concurrence."

Schmidt said that a few items in the 1986 agreement would likely be changed to reflect current needs.

"I know that WSU tries to work very closely with the counties for the hiring of new people," Schmidt said. "I know with Paul's (Carter) retirement, and as you're probably aware, there have been budget challenges with WSU, there haven't been funds to hire new people across the board. Not only with Extension, but throughout the university, as well. I know, given the funds, there are a lot of openings within Extension, and I know it would be great to fill a lot of the positions. I'm pushing, and others are pushing, too, that we really need an extension educator in Columbia County, so we are pushing forward that message."

Schmidt said that budget issues are the most considerable hesitation right now. She said she would like to bring forward a new agreement, with updated language, that the Commissioners could review.

Commissioner Marty Hall expressed that farmers and commissioners need an Extension agent with an agronomy-type background to keep up with the diverse, demanding agriculture sector in Columbia County.

"We are familiar with the budget process," Hall said. "We know that they don't have any issues finding money for the football team or for an AD (athletic director), but it's horribly frustrating that they don't dance with the one that brought them. They are still a land grant college."

Schmidt suggested that the Commissioners communicate those frustrations with the Dean of Education, and the Agriculture and Natural Resources program leader, saying that she agrees with the frustrations presented by the Commissioners. Hall clarified that the Commissioners were not frustrated with Schmidt personally, but rather the situation as a whole.

Jim Moyer, a local landowner, and farmer, said that

he was concerned with the lack of county involvement in the selection process. Schmidt explained that once the university has figured out budget standing and how to proceed with the Extension agent, the county will be as involved as years past. The university is not prepared to move forward, at this time, according to Schmidt.

Schmidt assured the Commissioners that she would relay the concerns to the appropriate individuals at WSU and said that she recognized the need to meet with new program directors, whether it be via Zoom or in-person.

Once the meeting with Schmidt was concluded, the Commissioners heard from Sean Thurston and Bette Lou Crothers, requesting Hotel/Motel funds for the upcoming Stay and Play, a local economy incentive program that encourages visitors to explore all of Dayton, not just single venues. The Commissioners approved the request.

The Commissioners exited the meeting at 11:30 a.m. for an executive session to discuss personnel matters, and resumed at 1:15 p.m.

The commissioners heard from Chuck Eaton, Public Works director, about proposed fee changes for stalls and other equine rental facilities at the Columbia County Fairgrounds.

Eaton said the golf course has added golf cart rentals to their fee structure, which will be collected on the restaurant's pointpay system.

Eaton said that when the county began online programming for the Park and Recreation facilities, they ran into issues with some of the existing fee schedules, and how they aligned with the online fee schedules. The proposed changes were being made in an effort to 'clean up' the online facilitation process.

Event fees for fairgrounds facilities, according to Eaton, were generating fees that were significantly larger than anticipated in the county's budget. The fee structure that was proposed reduced the fees to match what the budget had anticipated receiving from event rentals. The fee reduction would not affect the budget, according to Eaton.

Other fee adjustments were proposed for RV spaces, cleaning deposit adjustments, and equine stall rentals. Stall rentals would be reduced by five dollars per month for renters with more than two stalls, and the fee schedule has been simplified in order to program the fees for the online rental portal. Renters still have the option to pay their rental fees in person.

Eaton said that one advantage to the updated fee schedule is that it allows people to sign up for a waiting list. Currently, all available stalls are rented.

The commissioners approved Resolution 2021-22: Kellogg Hollow RATA Funding amendment, as well as Resolution 2021-23: Supply Contracts for the Pavilion Restroom Remodel Project, awarded to Keller Supply, Ferguson Supply, and Walla Walla Electric.

CCSO

May 10

Burglary. Payne Hollow

Injury accident reported. HWY 126

Animal call. Texas Rapids Park

May 11

Suspicious activity reported at Hubbard Building. Main Street

9-1-1 Call. Touchet Road

Threats reported at PFI Mart. Main Street

May 12

Citizen contact at Minnie Moe House. 6th Street

Harassment reported. Ronan Street

Malicious Mischief reported at Dayton Depot. 2nd Street

May 13

Unwanted person at PDQ Food Mart. Main Street

Animal call. Dayton Avenue

Citizen contact. Country Village

May 14

9-1-1 call. Little Goose Dam

Suspicious activity reported. Smith Hollow

Non-injury accident. Eckler Mountain

May 15

Domestic, physical. Texas Rapids Park

Unknown injury accident at Lewis & Clark State Park. HWY 12

Welfare Check. Main Street

May 16

Threats at Dr. WW Day House. 2nd Street

Assist. Maloney Mountain

Malicious mischief reported. 5th Street

The Times

A PROUD TRADITION

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

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

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

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Reader's Forum

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

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

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

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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In Loving Memory Melvern Ellis Laidlaw, Jr., M. D.

December 26, 1924 – May 6, 2021

On May 6, 2021, Dr. Laidlaw passed away peacefully at the age of 96 at Park Manor Rehabilitation Center. He was a well-known physician and a longtime resident in Walla Walla.

Dr Laidlaw or “Mel”, as many respectfully referred to him as, lived a full and productive life. He was born in College Place in 1924 and was raised on his father’s wheat farm in Dixie, Washington. He attended Dixie High School and graduated from Walla Walla High School in 1943.

He served in World War II in the USNR SV V6 and was trained to be a Hospital Corpsman at the Naval Training Station in Farragut, Idaho. Later he served on the U.S.S. Bollinger, APA 234, a troop transport in the “Magic Carpet” operation in the South Pacific. He was discharged as a Pharmacist’s Mate 2nd Class in 1946.

In 1950 he graduated from Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington with a B A degree with a major in Biology. Four years later, he graduated from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland. He fulfilled his internship and medical residency at Virginia Mason Hospital in Seattle, Washington and at the Portland VA Medical Center in Portland, Oregon. In 1958 with a group of other physicians, he began his practice in Internal Medi-



Melvorn Ellis Laidlaw, Jr., M. D.

cine. Two years later, this evolved into the Catherine Street Clinic. From 1958 to 1960 he also taught Microbiology and Parasitology at Whitman College. He was also Director of Health at Whitman College for eleven years.

In 1973 internist Robert Caudill, cardiologist Ralph Rampton, and Dr Laidlaw headed up the WWV Medical Society Committee and trained ten EMTs to be paramedics. He served as the Director of Advanced Life Support in Walla Walla for ten years. This paramedic program brought early care to patients and also saved lives of patients with heart attacks. Walla Walla was the third city in Washington State to have a paramedic program.

After he retired from the CSC in 1978, he became Chief of the Outpatient Department at the Walla Walla VA Medical Center. In 1994 he stepped down to do part-time disability workups. And in 2006 he retired from practicing medicine.

He was also an active member at Christ Lutheran Church and served as a lay reader and also created beautiful banners that were displayed in the church. During his spare time he enjoyed calligraphy, creative writing, stamp collecting, and genealogy.

He is preceded in death by his wife Carolyn Rose Laidlaw, his son David Laidlaw, his mother Elvira Ellen Southard, his father Melvern Ellis Laidlaw, Sr., and an infant sister Bonnie Belle Laidlaw. He is survived by his two daughters Julie Laidlaw and Lisa Zigweid.

A viewing will be offered at Mountain View-Colonial DeWitt from 12 to 5 p.m. on Friday, May 21st. And a graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 22nd at the Waitsburg Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the following in his honor: Christ Lutheran Church, 1420 South 2nd Ave., Walla Walla, WA 99362; Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, 600 N. Wolfe St., Nelson 134, Baltimore, MD 21287; Whitman College, 345 Boyer Ave, Walla Walla, WA 99362.

Celebration of Life



Walt Gobel

February 20, 1944 – March 19, 2020

Celebration of Life for Walt Gobel

Service will be held
Saturday, May 22, 2021,
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Waitsburg Town Hall,
121 Main St., Waitsburg, WA 99361.
State Patrol Honor Guard will march
in tribute.

Please join us for dessert after the
service.

Please, RSVP to (509) 337-9177 or
email waltandgwen@charter.net.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be
made to the Waitsburg Lions
Scholarship Fund.



Prescott School District

JOIN OUR SCHOOL BOARD

The Prescott School District No.402-37 is now receiving applications for the position of School Board Director District 2. Only individuals who reside within the boundaries of Prescott School District may apply.

Please submit a Letter of Intent to board@prescott.k12.wa.us

APPLICATION DEADLINE - JULY 22, 2021

Need to confirm whether or not you reside within the boundaries of the school district? Please call one of the following for assistance:

Walla Walla County Auditor's Office (509) 524-5249
Prescott School District Business Office (509) 849-2217

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

NORTHWEST GRAIN GROWERS IS EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE OPEN POSITIONS FOR 2021 HARVEST.

We provide a rewarding work environment where individuals play an integral role in helping us supply a growing world with a safe and healthy food supply. This unique summer job comes with amazing earning potential that's rarely matched in Dayton/Waitsburg Area. Candidates must be 18 years old as of July 15th and must be able to work extended hours, be available 7 days per week, and handle physical work in hot dusty environments. The harvest season begins early July and last until early September. If you're interested in becoming part of our team this summer, please download an application from our website at www.nwgrgr.com and email to jforsman@nwgrgr.com or jcranor@nwgrgr.com or drop your application off at the Dayton office. You may also mail applications to PO Box 90, Dayton WA, 99328. If you'd like more information, feel free to call 509-382-2571. Don't delay! Positions can fill quickly! Best wishes & warm regards, Jacob Forsmann East Division Manager Northwest Grain Growers

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR:

Food Service Assistant – The Waitsburg School District is accepting applications for a food service assistant for the 2021-2022 school year. Preferred: Experience working in a school setting, experience with customer service, experience with food prep for large groups; experience with commercial food service equipment, and ability to be dependable, including good habits in attendance and punctuality. This is an 8 hour per day/181 days per year position. Waitsburg School District has immediate openings for substitute teachers, substitute classroom para-educators, substitute custodians, substitute school bus drivers and substitute food service assistants. Application materials are available online @ www.waitsburgsd.org or by calling the District Office at (509) 337-6301. For additional information please contact Susan Wildey at 509-337-6301 ext. 1312 or swildey@waitsburgsd.org. Position is open until filled. Waitsburg School District is an E.O.E.

PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEE

The City of Waitsburg, and equal opportunity employer, is currently taking applications for a full-time public works employee. **Nature of Work:** Under the guidance from the Public Works Director, this is a non-skilled, primarily out-of-doors position in the maintenance of City-owned utilities, streets, facilities and vehicles, and mowing grass or doing grounds maintenance if needed. Applicant should be knowledgeable of material and equipment commonly used in construction, maintenance and repair activities as related to assigned areas. Work requires some physical exertion such as long periods of standing; walking over rough, uneven surfaces; recurring bending, crouching, stooping and reaching; and occasional lifting of moderately heavy items. Work requires average physical agility and dexterity. **Qualifications Required:** Minimum of 18 years of age with a valid state issued driver's license. High school diploma or equivalent. **Position closes at 4 pm on Friday, May 28, 2021.** Depending on availability, anticipated starting date is Wednesday June 16, 2021.

Applications are available M-F 8 am – 4 pm at Waitsburg City Hall, 147 Main Street, Waitsburg Washington or on the City's website www.cityofwaitsburg.com.

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR:

Certificated Middle School Teacher – The Waitsburg School District is accepting applications for middle level teacher for the 2021-2022 school year; applicant must hold an 'Elementary Education' endorsement or 'Middle Level – Primary' endorsement. The teacher will be expected to teach primarily middle school level mathematics as well as one elective course during the 2021-2022 school year with the understanding that schedule changes may occur as the needs of our students evolve. Application materials are available online @ www.waitsburgsd.org or by calling the District Office at (509) 337-6301. Please direct questions and inquiries to Mark Pickel, Superintendent. E-mail mpickel@waitsburgsd.org. Position is open until filled. Waitsburg School District is an E.O.E.

Lifeguards Needed at The Prescott Pool

Part-time job for any level of experience with a lifeguard certification. We are looking to fill some leadership positions as well as entry level guard spots. If you are interested in teaching swim lessons as well this is the spot for you! Contact Aquatic Director, Kyra Hartley @ khartley.pjprd@gmail.com or call (509)849-2314.

Seeking Housing and Employment Father of 2/ Veteran/ Handyman/ "Jack of All Trades"

A live-in caretaker situation would be ideal. I can repair, improve, clean up, or restore, any problem you might have. Structures and landscaping. I have training in Tech, Health, Engineering, Construction and more through Military Service. My children and I need a safe and happy place to call home for a short-term. Nathaniel K. Williams, (971) 286-8167

FOR SALE

DON'T MISS THIS ONE! Huge, huge, huge Estate Sale on Saturday, May 29th. 601 E. Washington Ave, Dayton WA. From 8 am to 4 pm. Furniture, Artwork, over 100 professionally framed movie posters, LARGE rooster collection, and 17 tables of VERY nice things. Cash only, please.



May in the Garden

By Alexandra Fitzgerald | THE TIMES

Well, it's officially go-time! Those of you in Waitsburg proper should probably be a week or two ahead of me in terms of planting. Living a bit north of town and in a slightly colder spot, we managed to get one very light frost the night of May 7 and still have a slight risk of it tonight (May 10). As such, I held off on planting most of my frost-sensitive crops like tomatoes, peppers, and melons to be safe. Good thing too, as the few plants I rushed into the garden without season extenders had a bit of damage.

If you still haven't planted anything yet, there is still plenty of time. Focus efforts on those warm-weather crops and skip the cold weather crops as they're likely just to bolt and go to seed. I recommend visiting Nancy's Dream Garden in Waitsburg or checking out the local nursery in your area to get starts for any peppers, tomatoes, or eggplant as it's too late to start them from seed.

If you're looking to grow beans, melons, or squash, I generally recommend direct sowing in the garden as they're very cost-effective to grow from seed and a bit finicky to transplant. You can also get away with starts for your squash and melons, but it's essential to look for small plants. There will be less transplant shock if you get a smaller plant that isn't root-bound in its pot. Don't worry; they grow so quickly, so it won't set you back at all.

Here's an age-old zucchini plant buying guide: One plant for the average household, two for the brave, three if you're crazy like me.

For something different, look for "grey" zucchini, also known as Lebanese, Kousa, or Mexican Grey. I very highly recommend them.

Another quick tip: Avoid buying corn starts. Corn should always be planted in a big block to ensure adequate pollination. Getting a six-pack of starts won't get you remotely close to what you'll need for decent wind pollination, unfortunately. Just go ahead and grow your corn directly from seed. One other tip for corn: Do not be tempted to grow a bunch of different vari-



Above: "Don't mess with me, mom is watching!"
Below: Mexican Grey Zucchini

eties simultaneously. Because they are wind-pollinated, you will be disappointed by the muddled genes and resultant ears of corn (read: they will be mushy, bland, and won't keep well). There are ways to separate corn varieties through spacing or by staggering planting times. However, it's probably best for those of you who are growing in town to just try one type if you're new to corn.

Now on to this year's experiment: Growing strawberries in rain gutters. Our traditional strawberry beds became an overgrown mess as I could not keep up with all the runners each plant sent out. The resulting patch was dense, full of slugs, and hard to manage. The gutter-growing technique is said to increase production by allowing more sunlight to reach the plants. It also makes it easier to prune off runners that take energy away from berry production and reduce pest pressure



Alexandra Fitzgerald

Our 2021 garden experiment: growing strawberries in a vertical trellis system.

by getting the berries high off the ground. I anticipate that my slug problem may be replaced with birds, but that remains to be seen. Switching to the gutter technique should generally allow for easier management of my strawberry patch. Brad ran irrigation to the gutters. So, for the time being, they require zero maintenance. At least initially, I like the setup. I'll report back once the flowers turn to fruit!

It is spring, so don't forget to keep your eye out for new fledglings. I almost stepped on a young robin while searching for a rogue chicken this morning! While fledglings look far too young to be out of the nest, resist the urge to scoop them up or move them (unless they're in the middle of the road or otherwise immediate danger). Momma bird has her eye on them and will be bringing them food throughout the day. They'll be grown and flying in no time.

I'll leave you with a humble quote from Michael P. Garofalo: "Despite the gardener's best intentions, Nature will improvise." No matter how many years you've been gardening, how many books you've read on the topic, or how detailed your garden plans are, you're bound to learn something new every season. That's what makes it fun.

Winter and Spring Wheat crops threatened by drought

By Terry Lawhead | THE TIMES

If you are feeling a bit uneasy about our intense sunshine and high temperatures, you are not alone. Plant communities are struggling as well. And while we can water lawns, gardens and orchards with hoses and sprinklers, dry land soft white wheat growers in our region rely on rain.

With less than normal rainfall, the local soil is dry from low levels of precipitation last year and this past winter. The roots of wheat on the surrounding hills are getting stressed. That stress goes straight up into the lush green growth we see and into the hearts and minds of farmers and their families.

Dr. Drew Lyon, Professor, WSU's Endowed Chair Small Grains Extension and Research, said climate indicators for the area are breaking records. "This March and April were historically the driest since we have kept records."

"I'm not sure what is more stressed by lack of rain, the farmers or the wheat," said WSU Regional Extension Agronomist, Aaron Esser. "And the constant wind is causing us to lose even more moisture."

The weather could and will change as it always does. However, the use of global satellites and precise computer modeling that looks to the past to predict the most minute indications of future trends can enable scientists to make extremely accurate predictions. According to a May 2021 report from the Office of the Washington State Climatologist (OWSC), La Niña conditions remain in the equatorial Pacific Ocean and the three-month outlook for May through July has increased chances of above normal temperatures for eastern WA.

"Extremes are more common now, we hit both of them more often," said Lyon. "We've had the five wettest years since 2000 and the driest ones since 2012. Dry land growers have always dealt with variability and adapt accordingly but these conditions are what the future holds."

Michelle Hennings, Executive Director of the Washington Association of Wheat Growers based in Ritzville, said there are excellent new drought resis-

tant wheat varieties developed by WSU with more to come.

Dr. Mike Pumphrey, WSU's O.A. Vogel Endowed Chair of Spring Wheat Breeding and Genetics released a new premium noodle soft wheat named Ryan in 2014. Since then, he said Ryan has become the number one most widely planted spring wheat in Washington.

"We are always looking for new lines that can tolerate dry years," he said. "Those were relatively hot dry years and trials with Ryan were selected for diverse environments."



An image of WSU's new premium noodle soft wheat. This will help Washington wheat farmers provide premium noodle wheat that is drought resistant.

"Whether we have an early, dry hot year or a late, wet, cool year, Ryan has been at the absolute top of the line for spring wheat yields," Pumphrey said. "It's high yielding in a lot of different conditions."

But heat nevertheless takes a toll on crops. After too many consecutive days of high temperature growing, wheat can develop a blue hue and "head out", producing kernels too early resulting in lower yields.

Drought is the most significant stress factor limiting plant life. A reduction in soil moisture ultimately affects how roots transport biochemical processes and nutrients affecting the growth rate and development of the economically important portions of plants such as fruits, grains and leaves. In all agricultural eco-systems, drought has a detrimental effect on crop production.

There is rarely an ideal soil moisture in any year

and dry land growers work with what the sun and rain provide. Winter wheat got a better start months ago having more moisture in the soil but both winter and spring wheat are facing challenges if acutely dry conditions continue.

"Wheat is resilient," said Mark Welter, Blue Mt. Business Unit Manager at The McGregor Company in Waitsburg. "We say 'get in fertilizer in the fall so the plant can get a good root system going'. Those roots can dig deep to find the moisture that is available." He acknowledges that it was not a great winter to reload the soil profile but feels the winter wheat has dug deep.

Waitsburg farmer Neal Carpenter believes the local wheat is a week ahead of normal. He isn't seeing the blue hue around the area indicating plant stress but if conditions stay dry that may change.

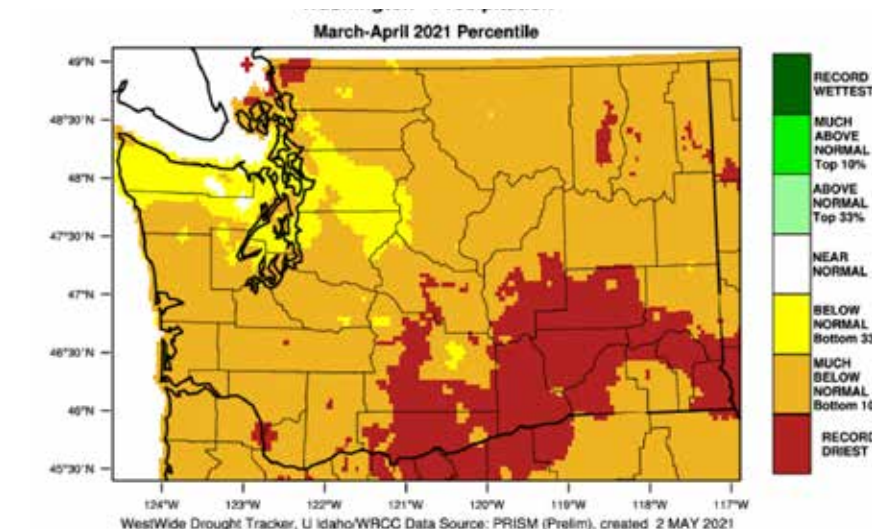
"Rain and cooler temperatures definitely would help," he said. "And the way we're farming now, no till and minimum till leaving residue, keeps more moisture in the soil. It has also taken my erosion to zero."

Some good news, Carpenter is reading that the jet stream may be dropping southward and modifying the larger weather systems of the Pacific Ocean leading to cooler temperatures for a spell.

Unlike the Waitsburg area crops, Esser said he is already seeing the blue-tinged wheat in Adams and Lincoln counties. He said wheat is bred to produce grain and is in survival mode by heading out early. "It's like watching a car wreck in slow motion," he said, monitoring the soil and forecasts.

During harvest, wheat is examined for weight, grain quality, density and protein levels to provide data for pricing. Warehouse and export specifications can downgrade drought affected wheat since it negatively affects performance for domestic and international millers and bakers. It may still be too early to predict the outcome to our current dry weather.

"People think the crop looks good and are staying positive," said Welter. "Different varieties do want to shut down in this heat, plants have defense mechanisms. We are hoping a little rain carries us. We still have a long way to go."



An example of up-to-date information about local conditions available on the at www.drought.gov.

Avren Childers
State Farm Agent
201 E Main St.
Dayton, WA 99328
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Mariners drop into third place

By Eric Umphrey | THE TIMES

Seattle began the week by dropping both games in the Dodgers series and losing the first game of the Cleveland series. This put their losing streak at five games and made it their longest of the season. The first game in Los Angeles was particularly disappointing as the Mariners led 4-3 going into the eight-inning only to lose the game when Gavin Lux hit a three-run home run. It was Lux's first home run of the season. Rafael Montero, the Mariners closer, got the loss in the game for giving up the home run. He also recorded his fifth blown save of the season, which leads all of baseball. Montero's ERA is now at 5.71 and will likely be replaced at closer going forward by Kendall Graveman, who has quickly produced five saves and allowed no earned runs in 16.2 innings pitched so far this season.

Seattle managed to win the series against Cleveland, winning the last three games of the series after dropping the first game. Chris Flexen improved to 4-1 on the season and led the pitching staff in wins. More impressive was the Mariners handed Aaron Civale his first loss of the season. Civale went into the game with a 5-0 record. They also beat Shane Bieber, who leads the majors in strikeouts with 92 in just 59.2 innings pitched.

Not only did the Mariners bring up top prospect Jarred Kelenic this week, but they also brought up Logan Gilbert. Gilbert, a 6'6" 225-pound right-handed pitcher, was taken as the fourteenth pick in the first round of the 2018 draft. Gilbert is projected to be part of the new core of Mariners starting pitchers. He throws a fastball in the mid-nineties and has had high strikeout rates of 30%+ in the minors with a walk rate around six percent. With Kelenic starting in centerfield Taylor Trammell has been demoted to Tacoma. In ninety-five plate appearances, he had struck out forty-one times. Another outfielder Braden Bishop was designated for assignment and picked up by the San Francisco Giants off of waivers.

Usually, after about forty games into the year, you can get an idea of how good or bad a season a team is going to have. With this season, we won't know until the Mariners finish a stretch of fourteen games from May 24th to June 6th. All fourteen of these games will be against teams in their division, and six of them will be against the Oakland A's, who they haven't faced yet this season. The A's, who are currently in first place in the West, have only played seven games in the division. All of them have been against the Houston Astros, who they are 2-5 against. On the other side of the scale, the Astros are 19-8 inside the division and are the only team with a winning record in division play. Seattle is 6-7 against the West, so it is challenging to judge where they will finish in the standings.

Bluewood announces \$4.5 million development, expansion plan

THE TIMES

DAYTON—New and enhanced lifts, a snowmaking system at the base, and a more robust power generation system are among improvements happening at Bluewood in a \$4.5 million development and expansion plan slated for the next three years.

"This is the most exciting set of upgrades at Bluewood since we opened more than 40 years ago," says Kim Clark, Bluewood's General Manager. "The development plan, which is already underway, will keep our familiar hometown vibe on the mountain while providing even more features and fun for everyone. For months now, we've been working on planning, engineering, permitting, and other steps for the projects ahead of this summer.

"We're thankful to the Bluewood ownership group for being fully committed to the expansion plan, which will bring greater enjoyment to skiers and riders for years to come," Clark says.

Highlights of the three-phase development and expansion plan include:

Phase 1 (2018-2021)

Total: \$1.3 million

- A snowmaking system to help build up the base

area and extend the ski season (installation planned for fall 2021).

- Additional parking lot with shuttle service to the lodge to handle overflow parking on the busiest days (contingent on agreement with landowners).

- The Hub, a building that houses the rentals and lessons departments (completed in 2020).

- Base Yurt by the lodge for pre-purchased ticket pick up (completed in 2020).

- The Yurt at Sun Spot, located at the summit, for snacks, drinks, and breaks (completed in 2018).

- Two Prinoth snowcat machines for optimized trail grooming (added in 2018 and 2021).

- Two Easy Rider conveyor/surface lifts in the beginner area (installed in 2018).

Phase 2 (pending review and approval by the U.S. Forest Service)

Total: \$2.1 million

- New or modified Skyline Express lift to the summit.

- Autoloader on the Skyline Express lift for easier, more consistent loading.

- New power generation system that is more efficient, quieter, and supplies electricity for all lifts, the lodge, and outbuildings.

Phase 3 (pending review and approval by the U.S. Forest Service)

Total: \$1.1 million

- A new lift to Vintner's Ridge, a 200-acre section of the mountain that is currently accessed by hiking or snowcat service only.

Starting this summer, as part of a forest health program in the Blue Mountains, the US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service will assess the types and health of trees in certain areas of Bluewood, thin out dense sections, and remove diseased trees. This work will continue during off-season months for several years.

"We really appreciate our partnership with Bluewood," says Aaron Gagnon, Walla Walla District Ranger of the Umatilla National Forest. "Their continued commitment and collaboration has been key to providing enhanced recreation opportunities for our communities, while also working with us to improve forest health surrounding this area."

Clark adds: "U.S. Forest Service expertise and management will greatly improve tree and glade skiing at Bluewood. We're grateful to the U.S. Forest Service for their partnership in making outdoor recreation and the mountain experience even better for everyone."



Luke Chavez

Tuesday's mood was sponsored by strawberry and vanilla Italian sodas, after Deanna Coulston treated the Waitsburg Elementary 4th grade class to a sweet treat at Ten Ton Coffee on Tuesday.



Mark your calendars!

Waitsburg Town Hall will be open on Friday, May 21, to debut the brand new kitchen after more than a year of renovations. The open house starts at 4:30 p.m. and will end at 6:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be available.



Photos by Beka Compton

Breaking Point, Boiling Point, What's the Point?

By Vicki Sternfeld-Rossi | THE TIMES

My sister and I are good friends when she's not trying to run my life. Being petite and the middle child, she's decided it's the reason (excuse) for her bossiness. Luckily, we agree on politics and most social issues, one of which is the environment. I proudly give her kudos because she does put her money where her mouth is. She has driven an electric vehicle for years (starting with a Volt and recently upgrading to a Tesla), updated her yard many years ago to be drought-tolerant, and she has installed solar panels eliminating electricity costs. Recently, she and her husband embarked on a guest bathroom remodeling project, and I discovered her breaking point; it's the showerhead.

California has stringent water usage rules, mandating low-flow toilets and water-saving showerheads, both of which are annoying. She rationalized that she deserved a non-California compliant showerhead since she is so conscientious in all her other choices. She called me to see if I would assist in her flagrant defiance of the rules. The plan was for her to order an unacceptable shower head from a vendor in Washington, have it shipped to me, and then I would forward it to her in California. I agreed because although it is not my breaking point, it is nice to have a decent shower when I'm visiting her.

After completing the showerhead scheme, we moved on to our normally non-confrontational topics of conversation; books we've read and TV shows or movies we're watching. She mentioned that she recently re-watched (probably for the 100th time), *My Fair Lady*, starring Audrey Hepburn and Rex Harrison. Now she says that although the music is wonderful, the story is unforgivably misogynistic and objectifies women.

She found my breaking point! I have always been a strong supporter of wom-



Graphic by Lane Gwinn

en's rights. I marched in the first Women's March after staying up all night knitting those crazy pink hats for my friends and me. But jeez, cut the movie a little slack; it came from another era and is based on the story of Pygmalion from Greek mythology. Women's rights be damned when it comes to Rex Harrison, who, along with Cary Grant, I think are the two sexiest men ever: they could've objectified me any day!

Daniel and I are now up to our eyeballs as we open the Weinhard Café. And here I find Daniel's breaking point, which starts at boiling and implodes from there. Dealing with vendors, setting up propane, completing credit applications, rearranging the kitchen, planning menus, answering phone calls, answering my questions while killing weeds, and

running to the

dump keep him at a steady boil.

But the real point is that there are benefits too. Late Tuesday afternoon, we had a visit from Pete Thorson of Dumas Station Wines, with wine in hand. Someone must taste, sample, and decide which wines to serve, and yay, it's us! We have met with Jeff Von Barga of Walla Walla Vintners to taste their wines as well. So, while we will surmount the hurdles of the opening, we have tasted some good wine in the process! Maybe that's the point of owning a restaurant?

The secret colors of Waitsburg

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

A low maintenance, yet highly rewarding secret iris garden, created and maintained by local photographer Bill Rodgers, is in its third year of bloom in Waitsburg, and it is impressive.

The sprawling garden has rhizomes that stretch their roots across the state to Mercer Island, where Rodgers originally began growing them in a community garden. He brought starts with him when he moved to College Place, where a friend let him start a garden in a private horse pasture. After moving to Waitsburg three years ago, he found the daily weeding and care needs were getting difficult to meet, so when the opportunity to grow closer to home arose, he took it.

"They are a lot happier here," Rodgers said. "Especially since they removed that tree. It put a lot of shade on the plot, and it's made an amazing difference this year."

Iris are a very easy-going plant, and, as Rodgers put it, you don't have to do much most of the year.

"They are very easy to take care of," he said. "They are drought-resistant and freeze-resistant."

Around March, a lot of the leaves die back, so you have to go out and pull everything out because you don't want stuff on top of the roots because they will rot. The new leaves come up, and the flowers follow."

Iris require well-draining soil, as the roots are susceptible to rot if they stay too wet, and they grow best with at least six hours of sunlight per day. Rodgers said he has to dig up and separate clumps of roots to keep the plants from fighting each other for nutrients. He keeps what he needs to continue expanding his garden and gives the extra roots or divisions away.

"When I first moved up here, I was leaving boxes of divisions in front of the hardware store, and Ten Ton and people were coming in and getting boxes to give away," he said. "They are now all over the place!"

Though the garden is a well-kept secret, Bill takes bouquets to local businesses, including Ten Ton Coffee, to share the beauty of the garden and brighten the day.



Photo by Lane Gwinn



Photo by Beka Compton



Photo by Lane Gwinn

ELEMENTARY STUDENTS TO RELEASE CLASSROOM-RAISED SALMON

THE TIMES

Students from four local schools will release juvenile coho salmon into various streams in the coming weeks.

The schools received salmon eggs last October as part of Tri-State Steelheaders Salmon in School program. Since then, the kids have learned first-hand about the salmon lifecycle and environmental science as the fish have grown in their school's tank.

"It's fulfilling to see the students make the connection between the science of salmon, and their roles in making a healthy river environment," noted Steelheaders' Education Coordinator Alex Lau.

For each Salmon in School classroom, the Steelheaders provide a tank and equipment, and salmon eggs. This year, 12 tanks were in operation, from Touchet to Pomeroy. Teachers interested in joining Salmon in School are encouraged to contact the

Steelheaders.

Tri-State Steelheaders are a Walla Walla based nonprofit organization. Their mission is to restore sustainable populations of native salmon by enhancing habitat, providing public education, and promoting recreational angling.

Thursday, May 20
-Dixie Elementary @ Dry Creek 12:15 pm

Friday, May 21
-Davis Elementary @ Mill Creek (WWCC Softball Field Tausick Way) 9:30 am

Tuesday, May 25
-Rogers Adventist Elementary @ Yellowhawk Creek (First Assembly of God Church) 12:15 pm

Friday, May 28th
-Waitsburg Elementary @ Touchet River 10:30am



Courtesy of TriState Steelheaders

Alex Lau, TriState Steelheaders education coordinator.

FUN & GAMES

GRIN and BEAR IT



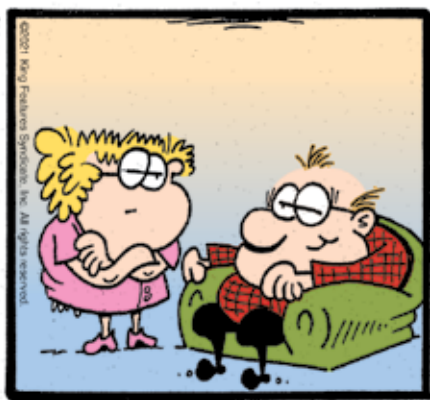
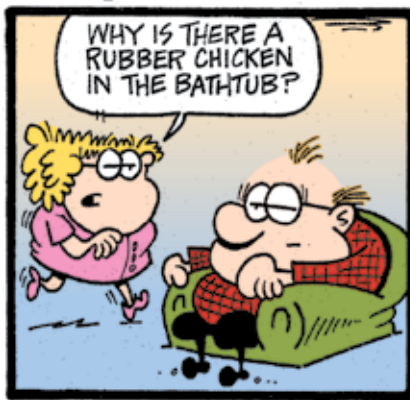
"We can have the union labels made cheaper in China."

LAFF-A-DAY



"Remember how depressed I was this morning?"

The Spats



by Jeff Pickering

Out on a Limb



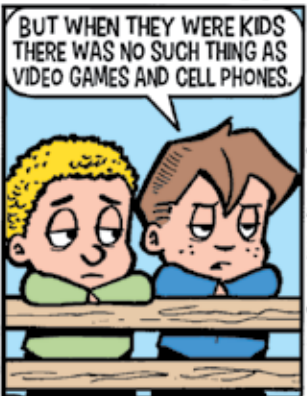
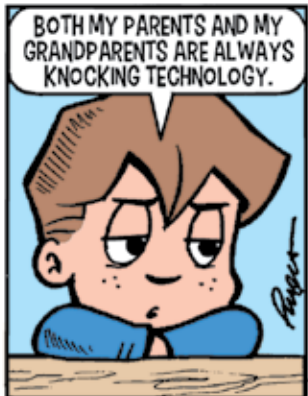
by Gary Kopervas

R.F.D.

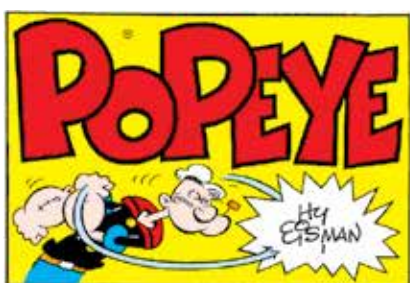


by Mike Marland

Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps



PIONEER PORTRAITS

Ten Years Ago

May 19, 2011

City Clerk Randy Hinchliffe has the approvals in place and now it's up to the City Council to decide at their regular monthly meeting Wednesday night whether to allow Fire District No. 2 to use the old apple warehouse or "bunk house" east of the McGregor plant for a training exercise—a firefighting exercise. That would mean the 90-year-old building, which was deemed by a Portland-based engineer several years ago to have good "bones," to be burned to the ground, its remains to be shoved into its own basement and filled.

Long-time Waitsburg resident, Eugene "Red" Mohny died at Booker Rest Home in Dayton on May 11.

Tiernan and Sarah (Henze) Pearson are the proud parents of a seven pound, 10-ounce daughter, Stella Lucille Pearson, born Monday, May 9, 2011 at Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane, Washington.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

May 23, 1996

Both parade participants and the crowd were drenched in a downpour that later turned to hail during the Days of Real Sport parade. There were over 70 entries of all shapes and sizes. Rain on Saturday caused cancelations of some races at the fairgrounds.

Amanda Crawford of Waitsburg Elementary School was recently among the top five finishers in a spelling bee held in Walla Walla.

Stacy Thomas, class of 1996 of Waitsburg High School is the valedictorian of the class and Toni Jones is salutatorian. They will speak at the graduation commencement Friday, May 31, at 8 p.m.

Byron and Florence (Lackey) Gusse of Olympia, Wash. will observe their 67th wedding anniversary on May 29. They were married in Walla Walla on May 29, 1929. In 1940 they moved to Tacoma where Byron worked the shipyards. In 1944 they moved to Waitsburg and Byron became viner foreman for the cannery then retired after 27 years.

Fifty Years Ago

June 3, 1971

Terry Hofer, Bill Trump and Neil Powers represented the Waitsburg community in the cow milking contest held between races at Dayton Days. We hate to reveal this, but we think that the milk faucets are located on the opposite end of the cow than what they are holding. This was not what you would call a cooperative bovine.

Miss Sally Mantz, grand-daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Mantz, Sr., has been hired by the City Council to act as lifeguard and pool supervisor for the coming summer. Tentative opening date has been set at June 8.

Gary Pierson and Terry Bloor were chosen to the SEW class A All-Star baseball first team, while Guy McCaw and Pat Davis made the second nine. Pierson, a senior, was named to the team for the third time. Bloor, also a senior, was named for a third base spot.

Seventy-Five Years Ago

June 14, 1946

A fascinating new sight in the Touchet Valley is the dusting of pea fields for weevils by use of airplanes. The work requires clever flying to cover the crops that are sown on hillsides and in the valleys.

Mrs. Earle Butler was elected State President of P.E.O. at the state conclave in Wenatchee last Wednesday and Mrs. E.C. Wilson was named corresponding secretary.

At the 40-acre apple orchard of Ralph Danielson, several high school and upper grade students are at work thinning apples. There are also a number of Mexican nationals at work in the orchard.

One Hundred Years Ago

June 17, 1921

A party of young ladies who have been spending the past week camping on Jasper Mountain near the John Seagraves place, were Valeria Schmidt, Mabel Groom, Aletha Harsh, Blanche Stonecipher, and Arvilla Grigsby.

A.G. Loundagin, Emory McCown, Joe Walker, and N. B. Jackson have returned home from a business trip down into southwestern Oregon.

H.P. Bruch and H.V. Grubbe drove to Pendleton, Ore. Tuesday to attend the annual encampment of the Oregon State G. A. R. veterans. They were gone a couple of days.

One Hundred Twenty-Five Years Ago

June 19, 1896

Another newspaper is to be launched on the turbulent sea of Journalism. It will start from Starbuck wharf on or about June 26, with E. C. Mills as captain and S. A. Esry first mate.

The crackling of whips and the rattling of outfits moving mountain-ward at early dawn, proclaim that the wood-hauling season has arrived.

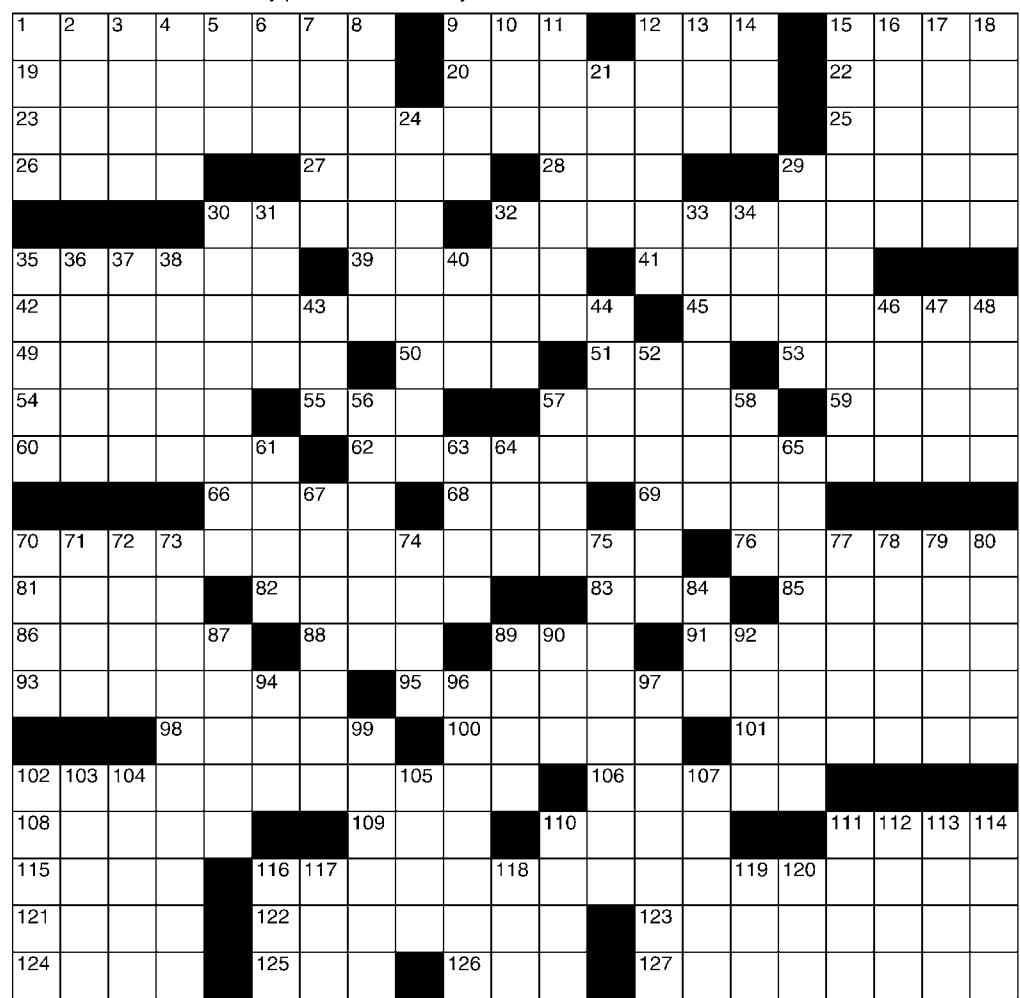
A party of young people surprised James and Peter Loundagin at their Bachelor's Hall on Thursday evening. They report a fine time and lots of strawberries.

PUZZLES & LIFESTYLES

Super Crossword

BOTH SIDES

- ACROSS**
- 1 Having lasting import
 - 9 Enzyme name ending
 - 12 Directory no.
 - 15 Toasty
 - 19 In a busy way
 - 20 Wacky
 - 22 86-Across star Nastase
 - 23 * Earth's layers of rock strata
 - 25 Met VIP
 - 26 Reaping mo.
 - 27 Partner
 - 28 "Keystone" officer
 - 29 Revolting one
 - 30 Sit in on, as a class
 - 32 * Top-end
 - 35 Accompany
 - 39 — -um (gnat)
 - 41 Delicious
 - 42 * Taking baby steps, perhaps
 - 45 Cause to take notice
 - 49 Touch-related
 - 50 Away from home
 - 51 — -en-Provence
 - 53 Altercation
 - 54 Spanish for "these"
 - 55 Bank account amt.
 - 57 Tick off
 - 59 Indigo dye
 - 60 Japanese religion
 - 62 * Criterion applied
 - 66 Brainchild
 - 68 Boosting drink
 - 69 Prefix with dynamics
 - 70 * Football receiver's success
 - 76 Swab
 - 81 Everyone, to Germans
 - 82 Dust specks
 - 83 See 124-Across
 - 85 Ballplayer
 - 86 Tennis site
 - 88 Org. for an air marshal
 - 89 August hrs.
 - 91 13th-century king of England
 - 93 Final stops
 - 95 * Classic coaster at Disney parks
 - 98 Muscat native
 - 100 Driving around in a Winnebago, e.g.
 - 101 Mourned loudly
 - 102 * Not on a leash
 - 106 Dying fire feature
 - 108 Go wide of
 - 109 Apple apps use it
 - 110 Norwegian port
 - 111 Kin of -trix
 - 115 Axel relative
 - 116 Repeatedly (or a hint to both halves of the answers to the starred clues)
 - 121 Ballet dip
 - 122 Hauled
 - 123 Rendered unnecessary
 - 124 With 83-Across, gave spoonfuls to directly
 - 125 Plane domain
 - 126 Paper crew, for short
 - 127 Proximity
- DOWN**
- 1 Witchy types
 - 2 Frozen drink treat
 - 3 "Uncle!"
 - 4 Arcade error
 - 5 Lacto- — diet
 - 6 Bylaw, briefly
 - 7 Epic of Troy
 - 8 Tour de France activity
 - 9 In a skillful way
 - 10 Brit's title
 - 11 Book before Daniel
 - 12 Heisman, e.g.
 - 13 Be human
 - 14 Fronted
 - 15 Erudite
 - 16 Perp's out
 - 17 Kind of bolt
 - 18 Soft, dry and crumbly
 - 21 Slip — (flub up)
 - 24 Certain aria
 - 29 Thruway exits
 - 30 Like painters
 - 31 Elec. or water
 - 32 August woe
 - 33 Man of La Mancha
 - 34 Steak- — (frozen beef brand)
 - 35 Politician
 - 36 Hoard
 - 37 Mojave plants
 - 38 Dramatist Joe
 - 40 Dallas coll.
 - 43 Kan. neighbor
 - 44 Narrow way
 - 46 Big Sicilian volcano
 - 47 Tuckus
 - 48 Auction cry
 - 52 Wacky
 - 56 Gets used (to)
 - 57 Jai —
 - 58 Unit of 36"
 - 61 Lakers great
 - 63 Beehive State
 - 64 Exact, e.g.
 - 65 Titleless one
 - 67 Being hammy
 - 70 War ender
 - 71 Salve plant
 - 72 Put-down
 - 73 Preached
 - 74 Grassy fields
 - 75 Most regularly
 - 77 "It's —!" ("You're on!")
 - 78 Old ship-locating system
 - 79 World War II hero
 - 80 Sightless
 - 84 "In excelsis —"
 - 87 Demure
 - 89 Jazz great
 - 90 — -fi flick
 - 92 "Valley of the Dolls" co-star
 - 94 Flatbread of India
 - 96 Foretell
 - 97 Film studio roarer
 - 99 "Excuse me, but ..."
 - 102 Actor Fiennes
 - 103 Palate dangler
 - 104 Away from home
 - 105 "Walkabout" director
 - 107 Frozen, dome-shaped dessert
 - 110 Likelihood
 - 111 Actor Richard
 - 112 "Valley of the Dolls" co-star
 - 113 Links
 - 114 Halts
 - 116 NFL coups
 - 117 Tick off
 - 118 Flanders of Springfield
 - 119 LaRue of "CSI: Miami"
 - 120 Plane domain



MY RECIPES Luke Chavez

Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad

Too often, uninspired versions of this dish are slapped on restaurant menus, overdressed with bland mass-produced dressing. Originally created in 1924, by an Italian immigrant at his namesake restaurant in Tijuana, Mexico, Caesar salads quickly became a hit with Hollywood trendsetters. Here, I have a lively and fresh homemade Caesar dressing that will change how you look at those that come in a bottle. Adding seasoned grilled chicken turns this into a satisfying warm weather entrée.



Ingredients:

For dressing:

- 6 to 8 anchovy fillets in oil, drained
- 1 garlic clove
- 2 large egg yolks
- 3+ tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- Zest of 1 lemon, finely grated
- 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- ½ cup vegetable oil
- 3 tablespoons Parmesan, finely grated
- Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper

Directions:

Chicken and croutons: In a small bowl mix 1 teaspoon of salt with thyme, sage and paprika. Dry rub the chicken, set aside at room temperature for at least an hour. Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In a bowl toss the torn bread with olive oil and season to taste with salt. Spread evenly on sheet and bake for 10 to 20 minutes, tossing occasionally, until toasted golden. Let cool completely.

Dressing: Chop anchovy and garlic together with a pinch of salt. Using the side of your knife blade, mash into a paste and scrape into a medium bowl. Whisk in egg yolks, 3 tablespoons lemon juice, and mustard. Gradually whisk in olive oil, adding drop by drop. Then add vegetable oil, in a steady stream, whisking constantly as the dressing emulsifies and lightens in color. Keep whisking until dressing is thick and glossy. Whisk in grated Parmesan, lemon zest and a generous crack of black pepper. Taste, and season with more salt and pepper to taste. Add more lemon juice if needed. Cover and chill until ready to use.

Salad: Heat grill to high, and oil grill grates. Grill chicken for 7 to 8 minutes with grill covered. Then flip chicken and grill another 7 to 8 minutes. Start checking temperature with meat thermometer after 15 minutes and keep moving chicken around grill to evenly cook. Chicken is done at 165 degrees. Let chicken rest for ten minutes.

While chicken is cooking wash and dry romaine, keeping leaves whole. Then while the chicken is resting assemble salad. Place romaine leaves and croutons in large mixing bowl. Add enough dressing to evenly coat all the leaves, tossing with tongs or with clean hands. Arrange salad on plates. Top each salad with shavings of Parmesan and plenty of cracked pepper.

Slice chicken into ½ inch slices across the grain and season with a pinch of salt. Arrange chicken on top of each salad. Drizzle a little dressing on top, with a squeeze of fresh lemon juice. Garnish with chives and more black pepper.

Notes:

This recipe is best when you use a hunk of real Parmesan cheese. To finish the salad, use a vegetable peeler to make the large shavings.

The anchovies add an essential burst of umami, and their flavor is perfectly balanced with the other ingredients of the dressing. Give them a try, don't be scared. Seriously. But, if you really must omit them, try using a couple dashes of Worcestershire sauce, or chopped capers instead.

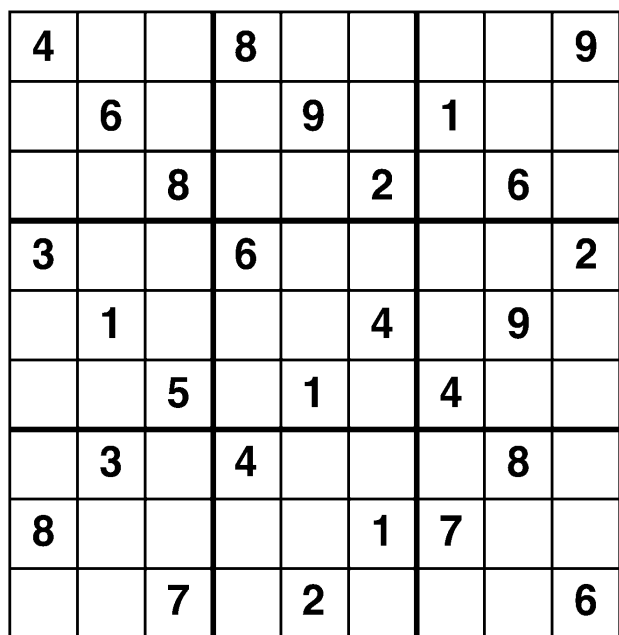
This dressing technically contains raw egg yolks, so you should use the freshest, best quality eggs you can get. **People with compromised immune systems, pregnant women or infants might not want to risk eating raw egg.*

Enjoy!

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

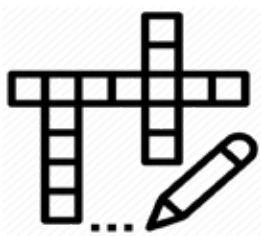


Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

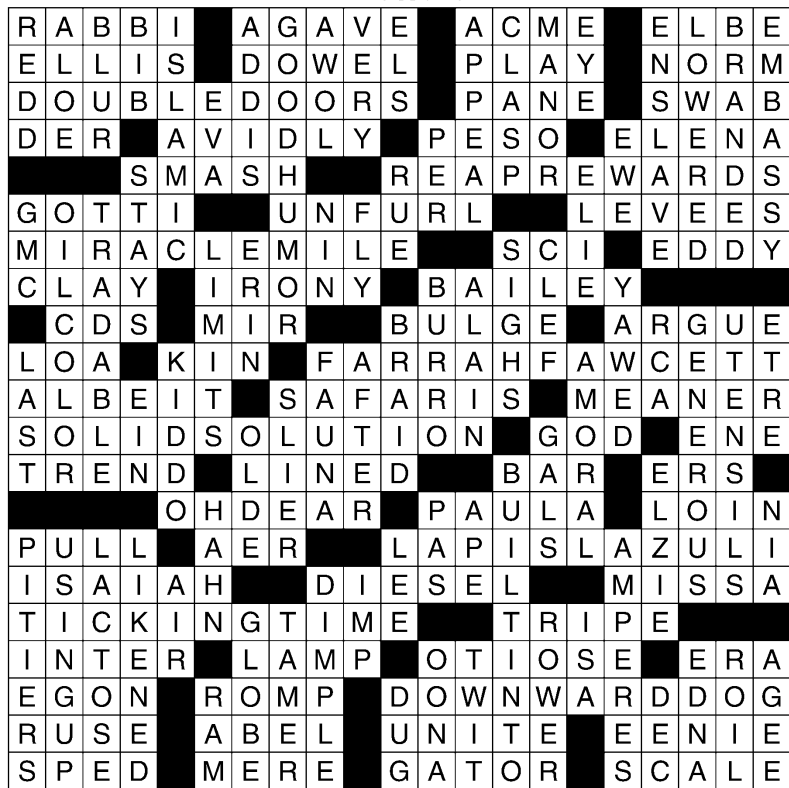
- ♦ Moderate
- ♦♦ Challenging
- ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Super Crossword

Answers



Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

6	7	1	2	5	3	4	8	9
3	9	8	4	6	7	1	5	2
5	2	4	9	1	8	7	3	6
1	8	5	6	3	9	2	7	4
9	4	3	7	2	5	6	1	8
7	6	2	1	8	4	3	9	5
4	3	7	5	9	2	8	6	1
8	5	6	3	4	1	9	2	7
2	1	9	8	7	6	5	4	3



Waitsburg Classic Auto Show enjoys great turn out

Car enthusiasts were more than excited to gather for the first show since COVID-19 shutdowns.

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—More than 160 car entries showed up for the 14th Annual Waitsburg Classic Auto Show on May 14th and 15th. Waitsburg's Preston Park was filled with cars of all ages, sizes and styles on one of the hottest days of the year so far, but nonone was complaining. Car shows across the nation were cancelled last year, as a result of the global pandemic.

Fifteen vendors provided cold beverages, street tacos, and more for visitors and entrants alike- snow cones were a hit once the thermometer read 85 degrees!

The auto show is hosted by New Generations Car Club, in the Tri Cities. Club members helped emcee the event, hosted door prizes and games, and provided music. A special thanks goes out to all of the businesses who sponsored the event.



Waitsburg's Classic:

Waitsburg's very own classic car enthusiast, Bert Baxter, never misses a chance to show off his favorite cars.



1937 Ford Rat Rod

Old Hickory:

"I got the bug the first time I saw a rat rod- I had to have one. So, I got the start of one from a guy, it was a case of 'broken dreams,' if you will. I brought it home and started working on it. The car has been changed many, many times over the years," said owner Joe Middleton, of his 1937 Ford Rat Rod Pickup. "I built my own frame and different engine. It's been about six years in the process, but rat rods, man, you are never done working on them!"

Middleton said that he often drives the low-riding pickup on highways and main roads, even taking it on a round trip to Lake Havasu, Ari., a more than 2,400 mile round trip. He is no stranger to surprised looks

or enthusiastic photographers trying to snap a photo of the rat rod as it cruises, and said that the interaction is part of what makes owning a rat rod so fun.

The car does have a sentimental side, though, despite its tough-guy looks.

"This emblem is from the 30th Infantry Division shoulder pad. My dad was in the 30th during World War II- so that's why it's called 'Old Hickory,' to honor Dad," Middleton said. The car has military nods all throughout its build- including a 50 caliber cross-hair sight in front of a vent. Other fun features include a Jack Daniels whiskey bottle that has been retrofitted for coolant overflow.



1972 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme

My High School Sweetheart:

Tony Fink said he bought his first 1972 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme while he was in high school.

"We had to sell it, of course, the family had started to grow. In 2005, we wanted to bring back the car we got married in. We found the car in New Mexico, brought it home and took it down to the frame for a complete restoration. We brought back our high school sweetheart."

Fink said that he has done all of the work, including all of the welding, sheet metal work, body work, and paint. The restoration began in 2015, and finished up last summer.

"It took me five years to finish it. I brought it out in '19, at the Dayton All Wheels. Last year was a total loss for shows, but I managed to finish up all of the work."



1934 Chevy

Best in Show, 2021:

"In 1999, I was looking in one of the Penny Savers- there were no pictures, just the description. It said 34 Chevy, the price and what not. I live in Grand Coulee, and it was up in Twisp, which is quite a ways away, and it was way up in the mountains. I went and looked at it and it was in really nice shape- gray primer at the time. I went up to look at it on a Friday, brought it home that next Monday, then took it up to Canada to have it painted and body work done."

Owner Boozer Barnaby said that he wanted a hotrod for his retirement, but the car just 'fell into his lap' before then. His retirement hotrod has a nearly 20 year old paint job that looks impeccable, and Barnaby says that the bright yellow car can be seen cruising down the road in the summertime- sometimes as far as California or Glacier National Park.

The 1934 Chevy won the coveted Best of Show award at the 14th Annual Classic Car Show.



2019 Dodge Challenger

Purple Reign:

Tina Madden's 2019 Dodge Challenger is more than just a car: It's her way of keeping her father's memory alive and close.

"My brother had gotten my dad a Challenger, and when he passed, he said it was supposed to go to me, but my brother ended up with it," Madden said. "I decided I wanted a purple one, and I put the white Mopar on the side of it. When my dad retired, he became a pro golfer and I wanted to dedicate it to his memory."

From her hair color to her seat covers, Madden said that everything she owns is purple. One of her favorite pieces of the car is the TY Beanie Baby cat that rides along with her- of course, it is purple and Madden said that they even share a birthday.

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.

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