



Shop Local,
Santa's watching!



The Times

Thursday
December 3, 2020
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SERVING WAITSBURG, DAYTON AND THE TOUCHET VALLEY

Published Since 1878

ONE DOLLAR



Lane Gwinn

'Tis the season! Volunteers from Columbia-Walla Walla County Fire District 3 set up the Main Street Christmas tree, officially welcoming the Christmas season in Waitsburg.

Just a 'see ya later!'

The Tuxedo Bar & Grill announced a temporary closure until dining restrictions are loosened

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES



Courtesy photo

Pam Stueckle

The famous Tuxedo Bar and Grill announced they will be temporarily closing, taking a breather until the COVID-19 pandemic-related dining restrictions are lifted. Owner Pam Stueckle took to social media to make the announcement, saying that it's 'not goodbye, just see ya later!'

The closure went into effect on December 1, 2020. It is unclear when the dining restrictions will be lifted enough for the Tuxedo to reopen.

The little bar and grill, located at 105 D Street in Prescott, has drawn diners in from all over the area with people driving from Lewiston, Ida. and beyond with the intention of grabbing a Jason Burger or joining in on live music. The restaurant has been going strong since it was purchased by Pam and her late husband Larry in 2005.

While the infamous Jason Burger is arguably the restaurant's crown jewel, other menu items like owner Pam Stueckle's clam chowder are also crowd favorites. Friday seafood and Wednesday taco nights have become huge hits among local diners, with in-person and social media reviewers raving about the food and atmosphere.

In an interview with *The Times* from 2014, Stueckle said she had no intention of changing the restaurant from the traditional burger joint The Tuxedo has always been, and more than six years later, she has stayed true to those words.

In the Facebook announcement, Stueckle said that the business could not successfully shift to a take-out model. Still, she is confident and looks forward to reopening and seeing everyone again.

"Our heartfelt thanks to the incredible number of friends- old and new- who have supported us throughout the years," Stueckle said in the announcement. "This is not a goodbye, just a see ya later."

Be sure to follow the Tuxedo Bar & Grill on Facebook to stay in the know about reopening updates!



Courtesy photo

Rest assured, the Jason Burger will return!

Columbia County Extension agent to retire

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON—WSU Extension Agent Paul Carter is retiring, effective Jan. 4, after over fifteen years of service to Columbia County.

Carter came to Dayton in April 2005, as a 52-year-old college graduate, from southern Indiana. He said he was looking for an Extension position somewhere in the west. He found that opportunity in Columbia County.

"For me, it could not have turned out better, one of my passions is farming, and this position has given me the opportunity to be very close to that occupation and the people that make it happen," he said.

Although it's nice to move on to post-career activities, Carter said he is feeling a little bittersweet at the thought of retiring. He said he would miss helping people with their concerns and developing projects and educational programs for the area's agriculture producers.

He has enjoyed taking part in the development of 4-H programs over the years and watching 4-H youth grow into future community leaders.

Carter considers one of his most significant accomplishments was creating an endowment that funds the program fees for local youth to participate in 4-H programs.

Carter said he has enjoyed having a role in continuing the Land Grant mission's legacy developed more than 150 years ago at WSU, and his work to address soil health problems caused by farming practices over the past decades.

With support from the Columbia Conservation District and a few "brave" landowners, Carter has built a program to address soil acidity. If adopted, the program will help provide data to allow for the implementation of successful farming practices and help secure the long-term future of agriculture in the county.

"As we heal the soil, future generations will be able to continue to farm and produce crops to feed a hungry world. How wonderful is that?" he asked.

Carter said he has been lucky to work in a county that values Extension and helping people enjoy success in their endeavors.

Carter comes from a family tradition of benefitting from and providing service to county Extension. He has three daughters, who are third-generation 4-H members. His paternal grandmother was an Extension worker in the early 1900s. Before her marriage to Carter's grandfather, she served as the first state-wide home economist agent for Oregon and Montana.

"It has been enjoyable to follow in her career footsteps," he said.

Carter won't rest on his laurels for too long.

He is planning to work with one of his colleagues at WSU on some projects they have developed over the years, and he is looking into some other career interests.

He plans to continue his cherry tree grafting project at home because he said he likes the idea of preserving tree genetics.

In addition, he and his wife Carroll plan to travel. Their daughters live in Broken Arrow, Okla., and Woodridge, Ill. Carter said his mother and a brother live in Indiana.

Carter said it is imperative for community leaders, farmers, families, and WSU alumni to tell the WSU administration how much they value the Dayton Extension office and the services that are provided. He is also hopeful the Columbia County Board of Commissioners will ask for continued support.

INDEX

- Weather..... 2
- Lunch menus..... 3
- Commentary..... 4
- Legals..... 6
- Pioneer Portraits... 10
- Puzzles..... 10-11

6 Seahawks vs

7 Teach like a pirate—ARRGH!

8 Local gift guide



TOUCHET VALLEY LIFE

NEWS BRIEFS

NEW LITTLE FREE LIBRARY AT STEVE'S GROCERY

THE TIMES

DAYTON—Steve's Grocery on Fourth Street in Dayton has always been a unique gathering place, a neighborhood market where you can grab a gallon of milk, a Hermiston watermelon, a Christmas tree, or an ice-cold beer straight from the cooler. It even housed a little free library back in the '70s. The store's original owner, Gail Bennett, had a shelf in the back of the store right by that beer cooler with the watermelons where customers could exchange books. "That shelf turned into a room of books, so we had to stop doing it," said his daughter and the store's current owner TJ (Tammy) Hersey.

Now the landmark grocery store is the newest location in Columbia County for the latest installment of a Little Free Library right outside, near the Christmas trees. This Little Free Library was donated and will be maintained by the Friends of the Dayton Memorial Library.



"It is a great way for the community to have a way to share books," said Lorna Barth of the Friends of the Library. "This is an easy and safe place to leave a book for someone else and take a new one home for a good read, and no mask is required."

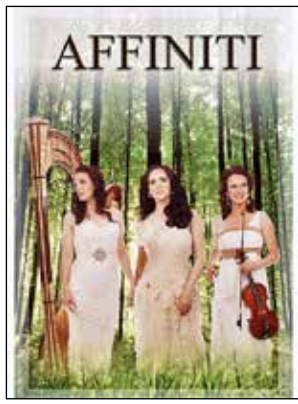
IRISH DANCE TRIO AFFINITÍ RETURNS TO WALLA WALLA FOR VIRTUAL CONCERT

THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA—Irish classical crossover trio Affinití will be returning to Walla Walla for the seventh year in a row—only this year, the holiday concert, *A Celtic Christmas*, will be virtual.

The concert will be filmed at the stunning Powerscourt Estate in Ireland's Ancient East. The trio will go live on December 17, at 12 p.m. The performance will be available to view for 72 hours, so it can be watched when you are ready.

Gesa Powerhouse Theater announced that tickets to the virtual concert are available for just €20 per household—prices may vary depending on the exchange rate at the time of purchase. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Laura Lynn Children's Hospice. Visit www.affinitimusic.com to purchase.



Ireland's Ancient East

Courtesy photo

DISTANCE LEARNING FOR NOW, BOARD TO REASSESS ON FRIDAY

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON—The Dayton School District board of directors will meet on Friday to determine whether students can safely return to in-person learning on Dec. 7.

The board met with Superintendent Guy Strot and Columbia County Public Health Administrator Martha Lanman over the weekend and decided the District would remain in distance learning mode this week.

The board agreed to switch students to remote learning on Monday, Nov. 23, because of an uptick in COVID-19 in the community.

On Wednesday, Nov. 25, there were 17 active cases of COVID-19. Eight of them were new in the community.

WALLA WALLA PARADE OF LIGHTS DRIVING TOUR THIS WEEKEND

THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA—Holiday cheer is still in Walla Walla! Title Sponsor Nelson Construction and the Downtown Walla Walla Foundation invites you to join them for a holiday driving tour on Saturday, December 5, from 6 p.m.- 8 p.m.

Downtown Walla Walla events have been postponed in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19, and that included the annual Parade of Lights that draws thousands to Main Street. Nelson Construction and Downtown Walla Walla Foundation have \$5,000 in prizes for participating homeowners. Winners will be announced on December 12.

Driving maps became available on December 2 at www.downtownww.com, and on Facebook. Grab the family and some hot cocoa and tour the City of Walla Walla!

WALLA WALLA'S GIFT LOCAL GIFT GUIDE

THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA—The Downtown Walla Walla Foundation wants gifting locally to be easy this holiday season. In order to facilitate the process, they have created the Gift Local Gift Line for residents to simply call or text or email for local suggestions.

Tell the gift line specialists about the person the gift is for and include budget anywhere from (\$0 to \$10,000). The gift line will provide three options for gifts near downtown Walla Walla.

Need gift wrapping or delivery? Just ask.

For more information or to make requests call or text (509) 240-2898 or email kathryn@downtownwallawalla.com.

W. T. WOOTEN WILDLIFE AREA FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PLAN

Next project: Deer Lake

THE TIMES

POMEROY—The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is implementing a \$20 million Floodplain Management Plan for the W.T. Wooten Wildlife Area that complements ongoing habitat restoration efforts to recover spring Chinook salmon and other Endangered Species Act-listed fish species within the Tucannon River Basin.

Construction on Rainbow Lake was completed in the fall of 2018, with some minor finish-work completed in 2019. Rainbow Lake was reopened to the public and stocked with fish in 2019 and 2020.

During the 2020 February flood event, the Tucannon River floodwaters flowed into Deer Lake and caused significant damage to the dam around the north end of the lake. Deer Lake has now been moved to the top of the list of projects identified in the Floodplain Management Plan, said Kari Dingman, WDFW Assistant Wildlife Area Manager.

One million dollars has been allocated from the state legislature in the 2019-21 Biennium for Capital Projects. Funds will be used for the environmental consulting company, GeoEngineers, to design the Deer Lake project. Construction is expected to take place in the summer of 2022.

The capital project funds will also go to GeoEngineers to conduct the geotechnical engineering for the Beaver Lake, Watson Lake, and Spring Lake projects.

Full plan implementation is expected to take ten or more years using current and projected funding allocations, according to Dingman.

Dingman said WDFW staff are available to provide progress updates about implementation actions to service groups, clubs, and other organizations.

Contact her by phone at (509) 843-1530 or by email at kari.dingman@dfw.wa.gov

Touchet Valley Weather Dec. 2, 2020

Waitsburg's Seven Day Forecast

Wednesday Partly Cloudy Areas of Fog High: 38 Low: 24	Thursday Mostly Cloudy Areas of Fog High: 43 Low: 23	Friday Mostly Cloudy Areas of Fog High: 42 Low: 22	Saturday Mostly Cloudy Areas of Fog High: 40 Low: 23	Sunday Mostly Cloudy Areas of Fog High: 41 Low: 25	Monday Mostly Cloudy Areas of Fog High: 40 Low: 23	Tuesday Partly Cloudy High: 42 Low: 26

Weather Trivia

Where is the driest place on Earth in terms of average annual rainfall?

Answer: Atacama Desert, Chile.

Local Almanac Last Week

Day	High	Low	Normals	Precip	Precipitation
Tuesday	53	35	44/33	0.06"	0.23"
Wednesday	44	36	44/33	0.16"	0.66"
Thursday	48	37	44/32	0.00"	-0.43"
Friday	49	29	43/32	0.00"	39.5°
Saturday	50	33	43/32	0.00"	37.6°
Sunday	35	28	42/32	0.00"	+1.9°
Monday	49	27	42/31	0.01"	

Data as reported from Walla Walla

Weather History

Dec. 2, 1925 - A late season hurricane caused extensive damage across the Florida peninsula, then moved off the Georgia coast crossing Cape Hatteras as a tropical storm. The storm produced whole gales along the Middle Atlantic and Southern New England coast.

Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
Wednesday	7:16 a.m.	4:08 p.m.	6:00 p.m.	9:30 a.m.
Thursday	7:17 a.m.	4:08 p.m.	6:58 p.m.	10:22 a.m.
Friday	7:18 a.m.	4:08 p.m.	8:03 p.m.	11:06 a.m.
Saturday	7:20 a.m.	4:07 p.m.	9:13 p.m.	11:43 a.m.
Sunday	7:21 a.m.	4:07 p.m.	10:26 p.m.	12:14 p.m.
Monday	7:22 a.m.	4:07 p.m.	11:40 p.m.	12:40 p.m.
Tuesday	7:23 a.m.	4:07 p.m.	Prev Day	1:04 p.m.

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Sat. 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Christmas at the Historic Dayton Depot museum

THE TIMES

An ornament depicting a train going off the rails due to COVID-19 is for sale at the Historic Dayton Depot Museum Christmas Marketplace. The marketplace is open on Wednesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.

According to the museum's event coordinator, Shellie McLeod, four people are allowed inside the Depot at a time.

"Please practice social distancing," she said. "If the Depot's door is locked, that means we have reached our maximum capacity. Wait just a few minutes, and we will welcome you when another guest has finished with their purchases."

The "2020-The Year that Went Off the Rails" ornament and many other items in the marketplace can also be purchased online at charityauction.bid/DaytonHistoricDepotChristmasMarket.

McLeod said sales of the ornament have been brisk.

"I feel confident that we will sell out of our current stock, and we can order more if needed," she said.

Editor's note: It did quickly sell out and is now on backorder, definitely worth the wait. The last opportunity to order ends December 10th. Backorders will not arrive in time for Christmas, however, it will be a fun surprise to receive in January when 2020 is hindsight!



Secretary of State office certifies 2020 General Election

THE TIMES

OLYMPIA—More Washingtonians voted in the 2020 General Election than in any election in the state's history.

According to vote totals certified today by Secretary of State Kim Wyman, 4,116,894, or 84.14%, of Washington's 4,892,871 registered voters made their voices heard Nov. 3. The 84.14% turnout rate is less than half a percent shy of the record (84.61%, set in the 2008 General Election).

"Throughout this election season, voters were energized, engaged, and eager to make their voices heard," said Wyman. "The nearly 4.2 million people who cast their ballots felt empowered to exercise their right to vote and have a say in their future and the future of our country."

Wyman thanks Washington's election officials and the local, state, and federal agencies that ensured a safe and secure election while balancing better access and greater security.

"Our 39 county election officials worked tirelessly to process and count more ballots than this state has ever seen," she said. "We believe this election's success is also due to our strong relationships with the Department of Homeland Security, FBI, U.S. Postal Service, and Washington National Guard that helped secure our elections and earn voter confidence."

Also contributing to this historic turnout was the state's efforts to register more voters. In the two weeks leading up to Election Day, over 55,000 people registered to vote. Nearly 20% of these voters were able to register on Election Day, thanks to Washington's same-day voter-registration laws.

Eligible Washingtonians can register to vote or update their registration online at VoteWA.gov, or by U.S. mail or in person at a county elections office.

For more election information, including results, statistics, and voter resources, visit sos.wa.gov/elections.

COVID-19 vaccine distribution plan update from the Washington State Department of Health

THE TIMES

OLYMPIA—The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) continues to make progress with the COVID-19 vaccine distribution planning efforts.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) received its first Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) application from a COVID-19 vaccine manufacturer on November 20. This is encouraging news about the potential for vaccines as a prevention tool to control the pandemic. An EUA allows the FDA to make a product available during a declared state of emergency before it has a full license.

The FDA's Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee will meet on December 10 to review the EUA application. DOH knows vaccine safety is of the utmost importance to communities in Washington. If the EUA is approved, the vaccine will then be vetted by the western states' Scientific Safety Review Workgroup.

This workgroup will provide another layer of scrutiny and expert review to this process and take about 1 to 2 days. This will be done while the vaccine is still being processed and shipped, so it should not cause any delay in making the vaccine available to people in Washington.

DOH is hopeful that they will have a vaccine to begin administering by mid-December. The federal government estimated that 62,400 doses of the Pfizer vaccine for the initial allocation, followed by an additional 200,000 doses by the end of the month. There is no estimate on the Moderna vaccine.

High-risk healthcare workers will be among the first eligible recipients in Phase 1A of the initial distribution. DOH is currently unsure what the remainder of the schedule will look like but expects to develop a more comprehensive plan and will share updates as they develop.

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 Celebration Days:

Third Monday of every month at 7 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. Zoom call information can be found at <https://www.daytonsd.org/page/school-board>

Columbia County Public Hospital District Board of Commissioners

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

Coalition for Youth & Families

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

Columbia County Rural Library District Special Meeting—Budget workshop

November 10 at 6 p.m. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85238363787>

DAYTON SENIOR ROUND TABLE LUNCH MENU

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

Thursday, December 3

Grilled ham steak
Mac & cheese
Pickled beets, Salad
Wheat bread
Tropical fruit, Milk

Tuesday, December 8

Tater tot casserole
Mixed veggies
Caesar salad
Gelatin salad, Milk

WAITSBURG SENIOR CENTER

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

Tuesday, December 8

Sloppy joe sandwich
Potatoes
Vegetables
Fruit

WAITSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

Starting October 5, the Waitsburg School District will only be delivering meals on Monday and Wednesday. If your student is already signed up for the meal program, the schedule will automatically adjust. If you have not signed your child up and would like to participate, you will need to submit a signed consent form to your child's school. The consent form can be found on the school's website, www.waitsburgsd.org.

Thursday, December 3

B: Long John
L: Teriyaki chicken
Rice
Snap peas
Mandarin oranges

Friday, December 4

B: Breakfast tornado
L: Cook's choice

Monday, December 7

B: Biscuit & Gravy
L: Tater tot casserole
Roll
Cucumbers
Peaches

Tuesday, December 8

B: Breakfast tornado
L: Nachos
Bell peppers
Oranges



Church Directory

St. Mark Catholic Church
405 W. Fifth, Waitsburg
Mass Sunday 5 p.m.
382-2311
Fr. Steve Werner

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

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

Waitsburg Christian Church
604 Main St
Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Each Sunday
337-8898
Rev. Matthew Wyatt



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NEWS & COMMENTARY



A ROCKEFELLER CENTER CHRISTMAS TREE



"SO WE WENT AHEAD AND HAD A HUGE THANKSGIVING DINNER WITHOUT FACE MASKS OR SOCIAL DISTANCING AND NOW WE NEED TO SCHEDULE OUR NEXT BIG FAMILY EVENT."

Waitsburg School District secondary students stay home for virtual learning

Secondary students returned to the virtual learning model when they returned from Thanksgiving Break

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—The Waitsburg School District announced over the weekend that secondary students would continue learning from home through December 18, as COVID-19 cases continue to rise in the area.

Shortly before students departed for Thanksgiving Break, the school district announced that students would temporarily return to the virtual learning model out of an abundance of caution as COVID-19 cases surged in Walla Walla County.

That temporary return has been extended for Preston Hall Middle School and Waitsburg High School, and students will follow the virtual learning model that they began the school year with. An updated schedule for secondary students has been posted to the district's website.

Preschool and elementary students returned to

in-person instruction on Monday, November 30, following the original hybrid schedule. "Group A" students will attend class on Monday and Tuesday, and "Group B" students will attend class on Thursday and Friday. Wednesday is still reserved for small group targeted assistance.

School superintendent Mark Pickel, along with the Waitsburg School Board, will review the schedule and discuss how to return to school following Holiday Break on December 17.

"We are working closely with the Walla Walla Community Health Department as we navigate these next few weeks before the winter break. It is of utmost importance to keep students, parents, and community members informed as we work towards bringing students back in adherence with a safe and cautious timeline," the district announced on their website. "The decision to switch the secondary students to distance learning was done with an abundance of caution, knowing that it is the best safeguard for our community under the current circumstances."

The school district continues to offer meal delivery and pickup services for students. If any secondary students are in need of additional meals during this time, please contact Food Services Supervisor Susan Wildey at swildey@waitsburgsd.org.

Area COVID-19 Case Counts Current as of December 1, 2020

Walla Walla County:
Total Active - 396
Hospitalized cases - 17
Deaths-21
Cumulative cases - 2308

Waitsburg:
Cumulative cases - 27

Washington State Penitentiary:
Active cases - 90

Columbia County:
Total Active - 15
Deaths - 2

CHARITABLE GIVING GUIDE IS AS EASY AS TWO CLICKS OF A MOUSE

THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA—Last week, *The Times* and other local newspapers included the Charitable Giving Guide, presented by the Blue Mountain Community Foundation.

The Charitable Giving Guide offers a one-stop-shop for donors to select their favorite nonprofits and make one payment through a secure, trusted website.

Through a partnership with the All in WA Initiative (www.allinwa.gov), every donation made through the Charitable Giving guide to nonprofits in the BMCF service area in Walla Walla, Columbia, and Garfield counties will receive up to a 100 percent match. BMCF will process and distribute all donations and matching dollars to the designated organizations by March 2021. Nonprofit partners in Oregon will receive up to a \$10,000 match through the BMCF COVID-19 Response Fund.

To donate, visit <https://bmcfcfsuite.com/erp/donate/list/grant>, select your favorite nonprofit(s) and your donation amount, and follow the Add to Cart prompt for checkout. There is no charge for participation in the giving- BMCF is covering all processing, administrative, and credit card fees, so the entire donation goes to the selected nonprofit.

For cash or check donations, mail to P.O. Box 603, Walla Walla, with your selected nonprofit in the memo line. Donations of securities, RMDs, or Donor Advised Fund grants are allowable- please contact the BMCF office by calling (509) 529-4371.

\$50 MILLION AVAILABLE FOR BUSINESS RELIEF GRANTS

Applications submitted before December 10 receive priority consideration.

THE TIMES

OLYMPIA—Governor Jay Inslee recently announced a \$135 million assistance package to target the hard-hit small businesses and families.

The relief package breakdown includes \$50 million in emergency relief grants, allocated for businesses most impacted by the current public health measures with annual revenue of \$5 million or less in 2019. Application for the Round Three Working Washington Small Business Grants opened early this week/ This grant prioritizes restaurants, fitness centers, bowling alleys, and music and event venues. Round Three is capped at \$20,000. Funds can only be used to cover expenses or costs incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Applicants should be prepared to provide a W-9 Request for Taxpayer Identification Number, a copy of a valid government-issued photo I.D. a copy of the 2019 Tax Return, proof of the business's physical location, and a NAICS code or description of primary business activity. Applications that are submitted by December 10 will receive priority consideration.

An additional \$20 million in grants will be distributed to eligible applicants from an earlier resiliency grant round who did not receive funding. The plan includes \$30 million in business recovery loans, \$20 million in rental assistance through the Eviction Rent Assistance Program, and \$15 million in utility payment assistance through the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

To apply for assistance, visit <http://startup.choosewashingtonstate.com/working-washington-round-3/>.

The Port of Columbia has offered to assist eligible businesses with the application help. Simply contact the Port of Columbia at (509) 382-2577.

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.

The Times

A PROUD TRADITION

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

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

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

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

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

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OBITUARY

Arnella Nadine Magill Warren



Arnella Nadine Magill Warren

Arnella Nadine Magill Warren, "Nadine," passed away, at the age of 94, on November 16, 2020, at Booker Rest Home in Dayton, WA. Nadine was a Dayton native, born in November 1926. Her parents, Benjamin Magill and Anna Hatfield Magill, were also born in Dayton, WA. Nadine attended Star Country School and graduated from Dayton HS, class of 1944, during WWII.

She had two brothers, Rolla & Glen, who were 17 and 10 years older than her. After HS she attended Kinman Business College in Spokane. She returned to Dayton and worked as a secretary at the Green Giant Co. for several years. She was given the nickname "Pink" while working there.

At age 24, Nadine met her husband Bob, Ernest Robert Warren Jr, on a blind date. They were married one year later in Dayton and shared an additional 64 years together. They farmed in Dayton, growing grain, children, cats, dogs, chickens, flowers, gardens and cultivating many wonderful relationships with Dayton friends and family. Always busy on the farm, Nadine also cooked, baked and cared for the many harvest crews. Homemade German Chocolate cake was her specialty. She kept meticulous records as bookkeeper for Warren Farms for over 60 years.

Nadine spent her life involved in Dayton activities. She liked canning her garden produce, fishing, picking huckleberries, baking, playing cards, arranging flowers for church, and spending time in the mountains. She rode snowmobiles and was a founding member of the Blue Mountain Snowmobile Club. She was an active member of the Dayton First Christian Church, Cowbelles, Cattleman's, Neighborhood groups and her bridge club. As a mother and grandmother, Na-

dine hosted family Thanksgiving in her home for over 60 years. Huckleberry pies were another specialty from her extensive recipe collection.

Bob and Nadine were 1966 Cattleman of the Year for Columbia County and were proud to be wheat farmers and cattlemen. They enjoyed traveling the US to attend National Farm Conventions. Nadine encouraged all of her children's involvement with 4-H and FFA including helping her boys with their swine & beef projects and over 15 years' worth of trips to the Spokane Junior Livestock Show.

Nadine's family would like to extend thanks to Booker Rest Home's staff, who provided over 3.5 years of care for her and Walla Walla Community Hospice who teamed with Booker for Nadine's final 3 months of life.

Bob preceded Nadine in death in Feb 2017.

She is survived by her children, daughter, Tressa (Jim) Petersen of Burbank; three sons, all living in Dayton - Gene (Mary) Warren; Glenn (Aileen) Warren; Bill (Kristine) Warren; eight grandchildren Dayna (Brian) Martin, Heidi Nadine (Andrew) Dryden, Keith (Melissa) Petersen, Garrett Warren, Kelsey (Cash) Brown, Matthew Warren, Katie Warren and Jennifer Warren. Great-grandchildren include Conner, Raleigh, Dawson, Noelle, Timothy & Alexa Martin; Elias and Johnny Dryden; Claire and Isaac Petersen and Baby Boy Brown due in January.

A graveside service was held at the Dayton City Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Dayton First Christian Church, Blue Mt Community Foundation, or your favorite charity.

BIRTHDAYS

December 3: Veronica Deal, Angela Smith, Chuck Riddle, Kim Ary, Adam Rich.

December 4: Teagen Larsen, Barbara Weaver, George Young, Robert Johnson, Sean Mathews, Corrine Miller, Jaimie Winnett.

December 5: Anthony Henry, Des Witt, Wendy Richards.

December 6: Janet Unholz, Judy Reser, Christine Ezell.

December 7: John Fenton Mason, Jeff Flores, Trey Cole, Hilary Hogan, Heidi Potolicchio.

December 8: Ruth Senter, Lisa Patton, Cliff Griffin, Abby Michels.

December 9: Russ Hays, Jerry Jeremiah, Jim Bird, Patty Hernandez, Ray Meier, Sarah Reser.



Lane Gwinn

Supervised by Mr. Rollin Carpenter, volunteer first responders set up the Main Street Christmas tree over the weekend—a serious job in our little town!

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

The Columbia County Rural Library District is seeking applicants to fill the open position of Library Director. For more a detailed job announcement, visit: www.daytonml.org. Interested persons should submit a resume and cover letter to Trustees@DaytonML.org no later than December 20th, 2020.

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SPORTS & LEGAL NOTICES

Inside the matchup Seahawks vs. Giants

NFL WEEK THIRTEEN GAMES AND PICKS

By Eric Umphrey | THE TIMES

Seattle's win last week, coupled with San Francisco's win over the Rams, put the Seahawks into first place in the NFC West. It also moved them up three positions into the second seed for the playoffs. Only the New Orleans Saints are ahead of them with a 9-2 record. Being the top seed in the playoffs is more important than in past years with the expanded playoffs in place this year. Since seven teams in each conference make the playoffs this year instead of six, it means only the top seed will get a bye week in the first round.

The Seahawks opponent this week is the New York Giants. The Giants have won three straight games and are now at 4-7 this year and in a tie with Washington for first place in the NFC East. The Giants hold the tiebreaker in this scenario since they've won both games against Washington.

Daniel Jones is the Giants quarterback and top rusher for the team. Basically, Jones has been the Giants offense. He is unlikely to play in this week's game as he suffered a hamstring strain on a running play in the third quarter of last week's win. If Jones can't play, that leaves Colt McCoy to take over at quarterback. McCoy, now thirty-four, has been a backup for most of his professional career. He hadn't played a full season since 2011 when he started thirteen games for the Cleveland Browns. Since then, he has only played in twenty NFL games, including last week's game.

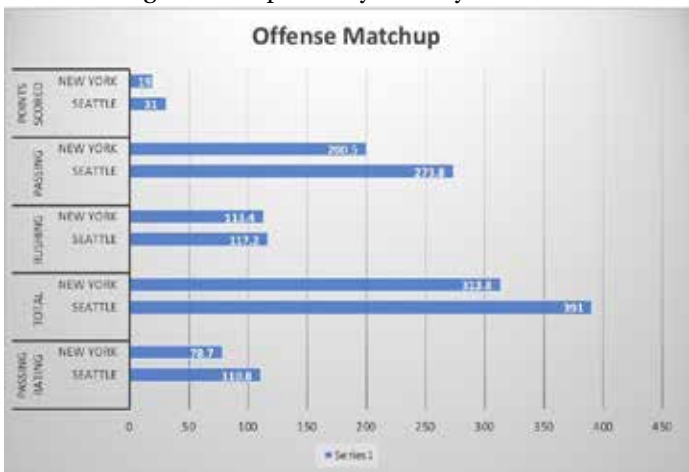
Expect to see a lot of running plays by Wayne Gallman. He is the Giants' primary running back and has scored all six touchdowns of the season in the last five games. Before his injury, Jones was averaging about fourteen carries a game. With Jones out, I'd expect him to get double that amount.

At the receiving position, Darius Slayton leads the Giants in reception yards with five hundred eighty-four. He had no receptions in last week's game. To put that in perspective, Metcalf has 1,039 yards receiving, and Lockett has 771 yards receiving this year for the Seahawks.

One bright spot for the Giants this year is kicker Graham Gano. He is second in the league in field goals made with twenty-five out of twenty-six attempts. His only miss was on a field goal attempt of fifty-seven yards.

Day	Time	Station	Away	Home	Pick	
Sun	10AM	FOX	New Orleans	Atlanta	Atlanta	
	10AM	FOX	Detroit	Chicago	Chicago	
	10AM	CBS	Cleveland	Tennessee	Tennessee	
	10AM	CBS	Cincinnati	Miami	Miami	
	10AM	CBS	Jacksonville	Minnesota	Minnesota	
	10AM	CBS	Las Vegas	New York Jets	Las Vegas	
	10AM	CBS	Indianapolis	Houston	Indianapolis	
	1:05PM	FOX	Los Angeles Rams	Arizona	Los Angeles Rams	
	1:05PM	FOX	New York Giants	Seattle	Seattle	
	1:25PM	CBS	Philadelphia	Green Bay	Green Bay	
Mon	2PM	TBD	Washington	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh	
	5:15PM	ESPN/ABC	Buffalo	San Francisco	Buffalo	
	Tues	5:05PM	FOX/NFL	Dallas	Baltimore	Baltimore

The Seahawks injury list continues to shrink in size but still contains some key players. The players listed as out for this week are Travis Homer RB, Brandon Shell OT, Jordan Simmons G, and Carlos Dunlap DE are listed as questionable. In what should be an easy win for Seattle, there is no reason to play anyone who is not fully healthy.



LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA
NO: 20-4-00221-36
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
RCW 11.40.030

In re the Estate of: **BILLY JACK GUINN**, Deceased.

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

PUBLICATION: November 19, 2020.

James W. Brower
Personal Representative
Attorney for Personal Representative:
Jeremy Hyndman, WSBA #44320
Basalt Legal PLLC
6½ N. Second Avenue,
Suite 200
Walla Walla, WA 99362
509-529-0630
The Times
November 19, 26,
December 3, 2020
11-19-a

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA
No.: 20-4-00078-36
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

(RCW 11.40.030)
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:
ROBERT A. BAUMANN, Deceased.

The Personal Representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim with the court in

which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020 (1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: November 19, 2020
Personal Representative:
Kip Baumann

Ann A. Parmley, WSBA #49063
Of Attorneys for Personal Representative
Address for Mailing or Service:
2225 Isaacs, Suite A, Walla Walla, WA 99362
Court of probate proceedings and cause number:
Walla Walla County Superior Court Cause No. 20-4-00078-36
The Times
November 19, 26, Dec 3, 2020
11-19-c

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR BENTON COUNTY
NO. 20-4-00464-03

PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the Matter of the Estate of:

DAVID G. DRIFTMEYER, Deceased.

The Administrator named below has been appointed as Administrator of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW § 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Administrator, or her attorney at the address stated below, a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced.

The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) thirty days after the Administrator served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW § 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and non-probate assets.

Date of Publication: November 26, 2020
Administrator: Terri Wilder Kion
Attorney for Administrator: Asa LaMusga
Address for Mailing or

Service:
Gravis Law, PLLC
503 Knight St. Ste A
Richland, WA 99352
Court of Probate Proceedings
Benton County Superior Court
Case Number
20-4-00464-03
The Times
November 26, December 3, 10, 200
11-26-a

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA
NO: 20-4-00227-36
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

RCW 11.40.030
In re the Estate of:
ARLENE M. DIRKS f/k/a ARLENE M. HENDRICKSON, Deceased.

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

the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and RCW 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: December 3, 2020.

Wanda A. Singer
Personal Representative
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509-529-0630
The Times
December 3, 10, 17, 2020
12-3-a

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

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(509) 382-2531

Pa'tridge in a Fir Tree

By Brad Trumbo | THE TIMES

With the holidays upon us, the sights and sounds of Christmas surround the Waitsburg community. From glittering street decorations to themed music taking over our favorite radio stations, the magic of December can be neither escaped nor denied.

Of the many celebratory songs, I am willing to place a wager on literally everyone knowing the "Twelve Days of Christmas." It's a timeless standard. And, love it or hate it, it shall be heard again this year. And what do we all expect on the first of the twelve days of Christmas? You guessed it. A "partridge in a pear tree." But have you ever wondered exactly what the phrase means, aside from the literal sense of a bird in a fruit tree? Possibly not, but being a biologist and upland bird fanatic, I had to dive in a bit deeper.

According to the reliable sources of the internet, the phrase "partridge in a pear tree" is meant to symbolize Jesus, as apparently, the mother partridge is the only upland bird willing to sacrifice itself for its young. A meaningful verse and analogy, but the phrase also begs the specifics of the partridge itself.

If you've read any of the myriad literature devoted to the pursuit of ruffed grouse, you likely recall them referenced as partridge, or pa'tridge, as Burton Spiller liked to say, expressing emphasis of a New England accent. But do grouse qualify as true partridge?

To be completely accurate, only a handful of upland birds native to Europe and Eurasia are actually partridge. Encyclopedia Britannica describes them as small game birds native to the Old World and of the pheasant family. References to quail and grouse of the New World are regarded as erroneous.

Two common partridges in our area of Washington are the Hungarian (Huns) or gray partridge and chukar. These two are quite distinct from one another in appearance and habitat, yet both are stunningly beautiful.

Huns are a favorite of mine and most common among the wheat farms and foothills. Their range extends largely across the northern U.S. and southern Canada. Short grass and crop fields are prime habitats with birds seeking high ground atop a ridge spine or the head of a draw. Their explosive, chirping flush is a welcomed treat and quite startling as an ancillary find in my bird hunting endeavors.



Blue grouse

Brad Trumbo

A soft gray body rises in a flurry of cinnamon head, and tail fans as cream-barred wings evacuate over the nearest terrain and quickly out of shot opportunity.

Conversely, the chukar, otherwise known as the "devil bird," boasts deep crimson legs and beak, an intriguing mask across the eyes and down the neck, and intricate barring across the flanking, beige breast feathers. Their devil reputation comes from the steep and rocky habitats in which they thrive, yet some inhabit gentler sage brush mountain tops and plateaus of Hells Canyon and the upper Columbia Basin. Their maniacal "chuk-chuk-chuk" call from the cliffs was seemingly designed to taunt the predator while slinking away, a defeated fool.

With our partridge properly identified, it seems only the Hun is likely to be found in a pear tree around local farmland. Of the erroneous pa'tridge, a ruffed grouse is likely to select similar habitat and food sources near or among timbered ridges and creek bottoms. But what if you vision a white Christmas among the mountaintop evergreens?

The blue grouse is our native highland cousin to the ruffed grouse, seeking evergreen timber, mountain meadows and rugged, rocky slopes over 2,000 feet in elevation. While ruffs and blues can share common habitat, the greatest difference between the two is the blue grouse behavior of seeking higher elevation as winter snows pile up. During periods of deep snow, blue grouse prefer to hang out in Douglas fir, feeding exclusively on the small needles.

Blue grouse males are a humble blue-gray in color and are larger than ruffed grouse. Males boast a nearly black tail and contrasting white neck feathers similar to the black ruff of the ruffed grouse. Females are a less conspicuous mottled brown. While the ruffed grouse is known for its wary personality and dodginess, blue grouse are less likely to flush early or too far distant when approached, often jumping onto an overhead tree branch when spooked.

Regardless of their predator avoidance tactics, our native grouse species are a seemingly fit pa'tridge for the for the Twelve Days of Christmas in these parts. And, while a partridge in a pear tree sounds nice, visions of a blue pa'tridge in a fir tree, blanketed in shimmering snow crystals and contrasted against a bluebird morning sky, paints a wonderful picture of a peaceful Blue Mountain Christmas.

With the "partridge in a pear tree" conundrum solved, may you and your family have a Merry Christmas or any December holiday you choose to celebrate! (Partridge optional).

Teach like a pirate: Erin Murphy

By Mike Ferrians | THE TIMES

I've known Waitsburgian Erin Murphy and her husband Nathaniel for many years. It occurred to me recently: these people are always in school, always taking classes, always working toward another degree. I sat down with her recently to ask about her commitment to learning.

Last year she earned her Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Educational Studies and began teaching music at Starbuck school as a paraprofessional. It was the realization of a childhood dream, but other degrees came first—along with other occupations.

"I have an Associate in Arts degree and an Associate in Business degree, both of which I got in 2006," she said. "Then I went back to school in 2009 and got my Bachelor's in Business Administration. In 2019, I went back for my B.A. in Educational Studies." Murphy has worked as a food service manager, then put in some time as the truck scale clerk at Columbia Straw. Murphy and her husband, Nathaniel, ran his business, Mary's Candies, at Blue Mountain Station in Dayton for four years.

Nathaniel holds de-



Erin Murphy

grees in Culinary Arts and Business Marketing and is currently working on a Master of Human Relations degree.

"I've always enjoyed helping people learn something, and I've wanted to be a teacher since I was a little girl," said Murphy.

Growing up, her older sister was always the first to do something Erin wanted to do. So, Erin heard, "Oh, you're just like your big sister. Isn't that cute?"

When big sister decided to go to school to be a teacher, Erin was discouraged.

"No way was I going to do it then. That was always the problem; her doing it first."

She decided to study business instead, though, the desire to teach never went away.

Erin is not all study and no play; it's worth mentioning that Erin's big hobby is Pirate cosplay (costume play). She's been dressing up and attending cosplay events since 2010. For years she has been involved in a MMORPG (Massively Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Game) called Puzzle Pirates. The game's website claims thousands of participants from across the globe. But more on pirates later.

This year the couple designed office space at their home, complete with individual work stations and plenty of room for their business, NE Custom Creations. Say the name out loud a few times, and you realize you're saying, Any Custom Creations.

The business uses pressure-sensitive and heat transfer vinyl to create custom designs for everything from fabric and mugs to signs for a business. The designs are made using specific software and fed direct-

ly to a vinyl printer. Storage totes in their office hold dozens of rolls of vinyl in many colors. You can find NE Custom Creations on Facebook.

Erin has made use of these creative skills in her work as a music leader in Starbuck. Public school teachers are especially creative with teaching supplies, with some costs coming out of their own pockets.

"My favorite teacher growing up was probably my seventh grade English teacher, Mrs. McCoy," she said. "Never did she not have time for a student. She would stay after school to help someone if they asked for it. Students would go into her room just to talk about stuff. She even let me drive her car to get my driver's license." Murphy grew up in Finley, Washington (school district #53). "That's the kind of teacher I want to be," she said.

Erin teaches music four days a week in Starbuck (school district #35). Her favorite teaching resource right now? "Teach Like A PIRATE" by Dave Burgess. Mr. Burgess loves pirate stuff every bit as much as Murphy. (Look him up at www.daveburgess.com.) His book, written in 2012, is based around the acronym P.I.R.A.T.E.: Passion - Immersion - Rapport - Ask & Analyze - Transformation - Enthusiasm. Erin let me browse through the book and read a story or two from its pages. As a music teacher myself, it was impressive to see.

Oh, and did I mention Erin's at school again, too? "I'm working on my Master's in Elementary Education. I'll finish at the end of 2021." Wow, that woman. I want her to teach me how to be a pirate.

The cost of insomnia

By Vicki Sternfeld-Rossi | THE TIMES

I don't usually believe in karma, probably because I just don't want to experience the wrath of someone imposing a karma curse on me. Lately, though, I am beginning to feel my sister may be getting me back with some sleep karma. I've recently experienced insomnia, which is not something I've ever had.

Until recently, I was the best sleeper ever. My mother used to say that I could sleep anytime, anywhere, and on anything; a bed, floor, bed of nails, in a car, plane, tent, it didn't matter. If I was tired, I slept, even sleeping standing up wasn't out of the realm of possibility. When I was a teenager and did some babysitting in our neighborhood, my parents wouldn't sleep, so they could call me continuously to make sure I was awake, and the kids were asleep, not vice versa (which was entirely possible).

When I was ousted from my condominium for three years because of the 1994 Northridge earthquake, I lived with my sister for the last year of the reconstruction. Most evenings, after dinner, we would sit in recliners to watch some TV. Usually, within five minutes, I was asleep! I would wake up, go to bed, and immediately fall back to sleep. My sister watched TV for hours, went to bed, tossed and turned, and eventually nodded off. I think it drove her a little crazy that sleep was so easy for me. Hence, the potential of my sister's karma.

That has changed! I am now dealing with insomnia. Is it karma? Possibly, but there is another option, I think; it is the scourge of living so far North. This time of year, I'm not toiling in the sun, picking weeds, tiring myself, and getting sunstroke. The days are short, darkness comes early, so we eat and go to bed way too early. Now, I fall asleep early and wake up around 3 in the morning. Sometimes I read, other times I shop online. I've been sucked into a few "deals" because, at 3 a.m., things that wouldn't have interested me during regular hours become more enticing, and somehow, easier to rationalize the need for that unnecessary item.



My one big splurge has been The Mirror. If you have not seen the TV commercials, it looks like a full-length mirror that you can hang on the wall. It is not just a mirror; it streams a variety of fun exercise classes. It seemed a bit silly since I belong to the Waitsburg gym and the Walla Walla Y, run and play tennis. However, all are now gone; I don't like running in cold weather, and the pandemic closed down the rest. Like other retailers, Mirror has be-

come very adept at sucking you in during this lock-down, shelter at home days, providing easy no interest payment plans and free delivery.

I think insomnia has also honed my rationalization skills: Without the local gym, when the Y reopens, it will mean driving into Walla Walla, potentially in the snow, fog, rain, dodging deer, and other animals wandering the highway. I have also rationalized some additional benefits to this new workout toy. When I take the classes, they register the calories burned. I see I burned 300 calories, great for me, another glass of wine. If I have two glasses, then I can do another class and burn that off as well. It's become a vicious circle, workout; eat, drink, repeat. Even Mugsy has become bored watching me stare at The Mirror while sweating. Daniel is sure I'm going to do one jumping jack too many and crash through the floor and land downstairs.

My last insomniac shopping spree was bed pillows, set to arrive Monday. Hopefully, to sleep, dream, and not spend!

GIFT GUIDE

A great thing about small towns is knowing the shop owners. They are our neighbors, our family, and friends. 2020 has been hard for everyone, and many small shops and businesses feel the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic dramatically.

If Waitsburg, Prescott, and Dayton are lucky to have one thing, it's a long list of great businesses. This year, **The Times** team encourages locals to check out their hometown shops before browsing sites like Amazon for stocking stuffers, care packages, and unique gifts.

Don't see something that fits your gift-giving needs? Check out the Dayton Chamber of Commerce for a full list of Dayton and Columbia County businesses at www.historicdayton.com. For Waitsburg businesses, visit www.cityofwaitsburg.org. Prescott Happenings, on Facebook, has a running list of area businesses, as well.

Align Massage

108 Johnson Hollow,
Dayton
(206) 650-2410

Align Massage is a quiet little escape less than ten minutes outside of Dayton. Owner Kahla Harrington, LMT, focuses on therapy work, with many of her clients coming to her with chronic pain. Align Massage offers a great selection of CBD products that help with sleep, anxiety, and much more.

To check out a complete list of services and products, check out www.alignmassage.care, or follow Align Massage on Facebook by searching the business name.

Beka's Pick: The CBD Pain Relief Ointment, Level 05 (this was also Kahla's pick). Perfect for pre and post-workout pain relief, this ointment delivers two high-potency painkillers, and the relief lasts for hours! The 7.05oz jar sells for \$90, and a little bit goes a long way!



Mama Monacelli's Kitchen

700 Artisan Way, Suite H
(240) 899-3654

Chocolates and snacks are Mama Monacelli's specialty! These hand-crafted chocolates and snack mixes have long been a hit at farmer's markets, and the owner herself is sweet as can be. This year, along with in-store shopping, Mama Monacelli's is offering online shopping at www.mamamonacelli.com. Along with their tasty brittles, barks, toffees, and chocolates, gift-givers can create custom gift baskets that start at \$5.00. And as always, the option to purchase gift cards for those unsure of which chocolate to pick is available in-store or online.

The shop will be open Christmas week Mon-Wed (12/21-12/23) from 10-6 and Thursday, the 24th from 10-4.

Beka's Pick: The espresso bark is to die for! An excellent balance of coffee beans and dark chocolate - I highly recommend adding this into a gift basket!



ment of Christmas trees and have a special going: Buy a Christmas tree and receive 10 percent off either a poinsettia or apples! Gift cards are available in-store at 124 Warren Street in Waitsburg.

Lane's Pick: Since Nancy's opened, I have taken one of their beautiful Christmas trees home each year. There is nothing like a real tree with real tree scent to make the holidays festive. As one of my dearest friends offered to a relative reluctant to have a tree, "Just think of it as a very large room freshener."

Paige's Floral and Gifts

207 E. Main St., Dayton
(509) 382-2565

I thought snow globes were a thing of the past, but not at Paige's Floral and Gifts. Paige and Laura have been working hard to create a beautifully redesigned shop with cut flower arrangements and a wide variety of gifts. There's been a fun upgrade to the old snow globe: battery-operated snow lanterns. Turn these on, and they come alive with light and self-stirring snow over a scene of a country church or snowmen with a full music-box-quality medley of holiday tunes. Two different models come with a USB connection for electric operation. See Paige's on Facebook. Gift certificates available.



Chief Springs Fire and Irons Brew Pub

148 E Main Street, Dayton
(509) 382-4677

A must-stop in Dayton, Chief Springs Fire, and Irons Brew Pub has a great selection of hand-crafted beers and some of the best pizza in the valley, not to mention their breadsticks! Chief Springs has gift cards, apparel, bottles and growlers of beer, and then some!

Stop by the pub or check them out online at www.fireandironsbrewpub.com, or on Facebook by searching the business name.

Beka's Pick: For the hard-to-shop-for person, I highly recommend the Chief Springs Mug Club. For just \$40 per year, Mug Club members get exclusive invitations to special events, brew days, keg tapping, dinners, and an annual appreciation dinner. On top of that, members get a custom 22 oz mug, kept at the brew pub for use at each visit.



Gaudy Gals on Main

121 Main Street, Waitsburg
(509) 947-2283

If you haven't already, you have to check out Gaudy Gals on Main, located inside Town Hall in Waitsburg. From lovely scented candles to reclaimed furniture, this little shop embraces cute and quirky - but what do you expect from a shop owned and run by artists!

Gaudy Gals is open Wednesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Follow the Gals on Facebook by searching the business name and stay up to date with new arrivals and gift ideas!

Beka's Pick: I absolutely adore the tastefully funky rooster teapots that Gaudy Gals carries - they're perfect for surprising that impossible-to-shop-for aunt. They also have wonderful candles!



Azure Mountain Botanicals

309 E. Main St., Dayton
(425) 478-3902

Art and Brenda Hall, artisan soap makers, are busy wrapping their new winter bath bombs, hand-painted with faces of happy snowmen. These all-natural products are luxurious in the bath; I know because I've dropped a few! Seasonal soap bars include one of my favorites, Frankincense & Myrrh, and a new one called Wenaha Wilderness - a rich and earthy scent of honest clean. Specialty jewelry and other gifts as well.

Lane's Pick: The scents from these products are heavenly. Real ingredients make for scents that add to your holiday décor without being overwhelming. Perfect for the guest bath or gift baskets. I have a hard time giving them away.

Dingle's of Dayton

179 E. Main St., Dayton
(509) 382-2581

Walking into Dingle's during the holidays is always a joyous playtime. Festive and packed with gift choices. This year's slipper rack is incredible! A fun variety of snug and cozy footwear for winter days or any day. All sizes. Come in and check out other seasonal items, toys, housewares, and unique gifts.



Moose Creek Cafe and Bakery

330 E Main Street, Dayton
(509) 382-2215

Dayton's go-to for one-stop shopping. Moose Creek Cafe and Bakery has terrific sandwiches, pastries, and coffee, as well as rotating salads and quiches - a gift card for morning coffee makes a great stocking stuffer. The gift side of the bakery has the best selection of Stonewall Kitchen spreads, soup mixes, and mixers I've seen in Eastern Washington, Washington-made soup packages, men's products, tea towels, dishes, and heavenly candles - and that's just the start! They also feature an excellent selection of kids' toys and books - all Gracie-approved.

Moose Creek Cafe and Bakery will have a dropbox for letters to Santa and will have cookies and cocoa for the kiddos who drop off their letters. The cafe will also be hosting a Shopping Night

Beka's Pick: I love the huge selection of Stonewall Kitchen items. I'm a fan of the Maple Bacon Aioli - tastes amazing on turkey paninis! Though, I wouldn't be upset if there was a box of Moose Creek maple bars under my tree. Yum!



Kimi Bruzas Art

121 Main Street, Waitsburg
(509) 947-228

In the same storefront as Gaudy Gals on Main, Kimi Bruzas Art thinks outside the box. Her collage pieces feature everything from road maps to images of the Train Master at the historic Dayton Depot.

Beka's Pick: Kimi's Christmas cards are way too fun! The cards are, quite literally, one of a kind, which is exactly what I look for when sharing Waitsburg with friends and family.



Laht Neppur Brewing Co.

444 Preston Ave, Waitsburg
(509) 337-6261

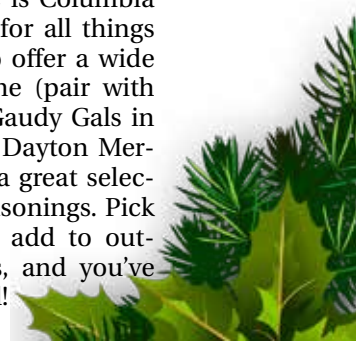
Waitsburg's very own brewery has beer, wine, and good eats for locals and visitors alike. Grab a mason jar or growler of hand-crafted beer (or choose from the selection of bottled beer that's readily available) for Christmas Eve dinner. Gift certificates are available, as well!

Beka's Pick: Consider giving a membership to Laht Neppur's Mug Club. Members receive a discount on beers, limited edition Mug Club mugs, and an invitation to exclusive parties and events. The Mug Club is currently on sale - \$55 for a year-long membership (regularly \$95) and \$350 for a lifetime membership (regularly \$495).

Nancy's Dream Garden Center

124 Warren St, Waitsburg
(509) 301-3858

Nancy's Dream Garden Center is a family-owned and operated garden store. Plants, soil, planters, trees... you name it! They recently received their ship-



GIFT GUIDE



One-Stop Holiday SHOP



Cryptid Comforts

Waitsburg

Cute and creepy don't often go together, but Cryptid Comfort's owner Lisa Russell has found the perfect blend. Hand-crafted mythical stuffies, pins, keychains, jewelry and more bring a little mystery to the Christmas tree!

Shop Cryptid Comforts on Etsy or visit www.cryptidcomforts.com to shop. Local pickup is available, and be sure to use discount code WAITSBURG to receive 20% off local orders.

If you use the local pickup option, be sure to include your phone number for delivery purposes.

Beka's Pick: The Bigfoot and Yeti stuffies are too fun! Gracie has one of each and loves them, along with her bigfoot necklace.



Ten Ton Coffee

216 Main Street, Waitsburg

Coffee makes everyone happy, and if, for some reason, you're not a coffee person, Ten Ton's cookies ought to do the trick! Stop by and check out the assortment of beans from Rey's Roast Coffee, coffee and tea supplies, grab a gift card or three, and enjoy a chocolate chip cookie!

New this year is a sample pack of Rey's Roast Coffee, which will feature three sample-sized bags of high quality, locally roasted beans, as well as the option to pre-order cookies by the dozen (order at least five days in advance). Ten Ton has partnered with some of their small business friends to offer unique gifts, including t-shirts, dog treats, and puzzles for purchase via front window display.

Beka's Pick: A pound of the Ten Ton roast coffee. "Wrap" a bag up in a French press and top with a Christmas bow, and you have the perfect recipe for a good morning.



Andrea Villa, LMT

131 Main Street, Waitsburg
(509) 676-9049

Tucked away on Main Street in Waitsburg is Andrea Villa, LMT, and her massage studio. Through the end of December, new clients will receive an additional ten minutes of massage, as well as aromatherapy, free of charge. Visit www.messagebook.com/biz/andrea-villa-lmt-waitsburg-wa to book a massage or inquire about gift certificates!



Bridget House at Embee Hair Space

242 E Main Street, Dayton
(509) 386-0937

The vivid hair color guru, stylist Bridget House is running a special on the B3 Brazilian Bond Builder Ionic Color Lock. The color lock spray keeps cuticles closed and dramatically reduces color loss, while counteracting UV fade and protects against color transferring onto fabrics. Repel dirt and pollution from hair and reduce styling time with a few spritzes and shakes!

The B3 Brazilian Bond Builder Ionic Color Lock is on sale now for only \$20! Visit www.bridgethousesalon.com for ordering! *Bridget is currently not accepting new hair clients*



Blue Mountain Land Trust

Experience the beauty of the Blues through the lens of local photographers like Bill Rodgers, Susan Bauer, and Greg Lehman. The Blues photobooks explore the Blue Mountains, its wildlife, and rich history. Visit www.bmlt.org to purchase.

Times Pick: These books are beautiful and will let your out-of-area relatives and friends see why we love our home.

Blue Mountain Station

700 Artisan Way, Dayton
(509) 382-2577

Blue Mountain Station features everything local. Artisan-crafted soap by Biker B's, Humble Honey, Chesed Farms mushrooms, Verdurous Gardens produce, locally-raised meats, Farmhouse jams and jellies, and Harmony Gardens plants are just a few of the locally-crafted items available at the Station. The ultimate in shopping local and shopping healthy.

Main Street Salon

440 E Main Street, Dayton
(509) 382-2060

Christine Delp, Maura Trainor, and Rachel Barber are ready to pamper you from head to toe! Stop in and choose from a great selection of hair and skincare products from brands including Kenra and Hempz. Grab a gift certificate for a color or updo with new stylist Rachel Barber. While you're at it, ask her about the ColorStreet nail strips!

Visit Main Street Salon in Dayton or follow them on Facebook by searching the business name.



Pacos Powder Coating

521 Cameron Street, Dayton
(509) 579-6393

Specializing in powder coating and metal restoration, Paco's Powder Coating can handle everything from bumper painting to bent railing repairs.



My Dad's Place

127 E Main, Dayton
(509) 382-1112

My Dad's Place added a new take-out menu item, stuffed manicotti! What better to have warming in the oven while you decorate your Christmas tree? My Dad's Place offers curbside pickup as well as delivery in Dayton.

Mr. C's Smokin' Co

495 Preston Ave, Waitsburg
(509) 386-0562

Local shopping is just around the corner in Waitsburg. Smoked cheeses, hunter sticks, and jerky are only a few of the delicious goodies at Mr. C's! Stop by the storefront and pick up some Christmas snacks!

Blush Salon and Spa

214 Main St, Waitsburg
(509) 337-3100

Hair care? Check. Skin care? Check. Adorable beanies, jewelry and headbands? Check! Stop by Blush Salon and Spa and check out the holiday table, featuring brands like CHI, Hempz, and Kenra for hair and skin care, or browse the great selection of CC brand beanies, scarves, and gloves. Pair a new hat with one of the many necklaces in stock and look cute while staying cozy!

Keep up with Blush Salon and Spa on Facebook by searching the business name.

Beka's Pick: A gift card for hair services from Brooke or Kelsey. I'm ready to leave 2020 behind completely: What better way than to start the new year with a new look?



Country Chic Boutique

Prescott, WA

Country Chic Boutique is a small, woman-owned clothing and accessories boutique in Prescott, WA. Available for in-person shopping by appointment only, owner Jessica Ruffcorn merges country fashion and city flair without forgetting about comfort. The boutique also features a graphic apparel and accessories line! Country Chic caters to women sizes small to 3X.

Follow Country Chic Boutique on Facebook by searching the business name, or check out their website, www.countrychicboutique509.com. Gift cards are available in \$10, \$25, \$50 and \$100 amounts on the website.



Smith Craft

Prescott, WA

Smith Craft, based in Prescott, WA, carries unique knives, handmade jewelry, collectable rocks and minerals, soaps, and more! Follow them on Facebook by searching Smith Craft, or check out their website, www.smith-craft-wa.com!



Ash and G Creations

Waitsburg, WA

A Mom and Daughter creating duo based in Waitsburg, Ash and G Creations specializes in custom tumblers and water bottles. To order, call Ash and G at (509) 629-2728. Shipping and local delivery/pickup are available. Be sure to check out their Facebook page!

Endeleas Aesthetics

408 Main St, Dayton
(509) 460-3675

Endeleas Aesthetics offers facial services that include traditional relaxing facials, enzyme treatment facials, microdermabrasion, and Gua Sha. They also offer a wide range of waxing services that include Brazilians to eyebrows and a range of comprehensive skincare that can help target acne, aging, pigmentation, rosacea, and sensitive skin. For booking, please call or text as the website is currently being revamped!

Follow Endeleas Aesthetics on Facebook!

Steve Henderson Fine Art

Dayton, WA

Receive \$25 off a print when you order a print from local artist Steve Henderson using code FSHAHEH at <https://2-steve-henderson-pixels.com/>. Steven focuses on local scenes, Southwest-inspired settings, romantic, nostalgic, floral, and more. To view the gallery, visit www.stevhendersonfineart.com.



A's Amazing Cleaning

Waitsburg
(509) 386-9435

A's Amazing Cleaning owner Ashley Katsel prides herself on delivering the cleaning service you expect with the integrity you deserve! This Waitsburg-based service offers residential, commercial, and construction cleaning and gift certificates are available! Call Ashley and book a post-holiday cleaning.

Virtual learning with Washington State parks

By Brianna Wray | THE TIMES

Washington State Parks (WSP) are ratcheting up their virtual amenities for those who, due to adverse weather or COVID-19, cannot visit the parks in person. WSP recently launched new learning opportunities to connect students and families to parks via their new Virtual Learning Parks webpage.

There and on the WSP YouTube channel, students and park patrons will find videos produced to be used at home, in a virtual classroom, or as part of any online learning. Essentially, a field trip with no permission slip field trip is required.

Educators can request an even more customized experience for their students by booking a curriculum supported virtual field trip with Skype in the classroom. Wade around the tide pools at Cape Disappointment or learn how homesteaders have changed the local landscape. Each session takes about 45 minutes.

WSP Rangers also make connections through their Facebook Live video presentations, which supplement the video presentations and further explain the wonders of the area's ecology,



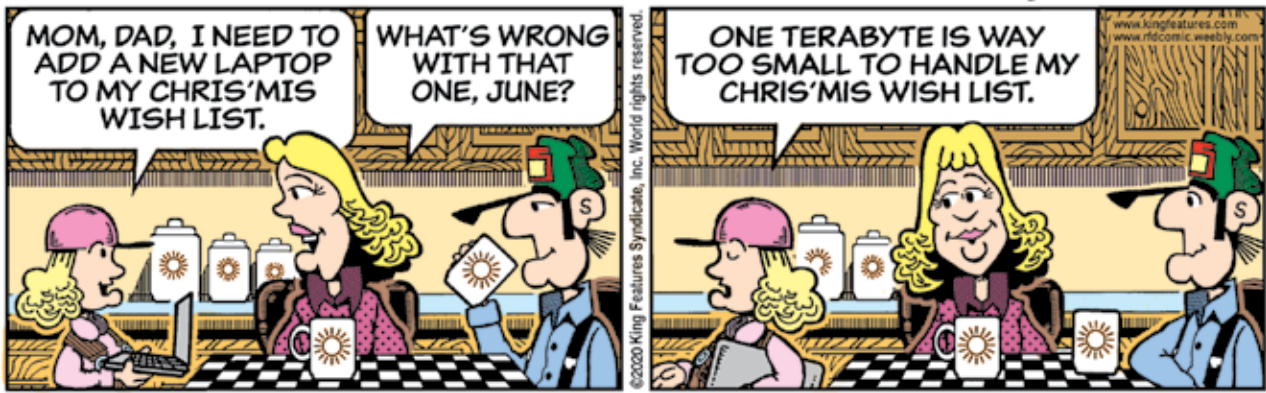
Courtesy photo
Washington State Parks interpretive specialist Laura Busby gives a virtual lesson on bats.

marine biology, the Lewis & Clark expedition, Washington's petrified forest, and more. Join live to ask questions on the history, biology, astronomy, or the park ranger experience. Past talks can be accessed through their video vault and include #AskaWaRanger question and answer sessions. Visit

<https://www.parks.state.wa.us/1197/Virtual-Learning-Opportunities-in-Parks> to learn more.

R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



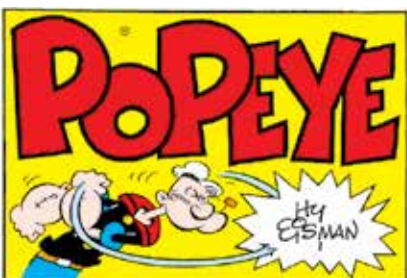
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



PIONEER PORTRAITS

Ten Years Ago
December 2, 2010



Valley Girls Barrel Racing members, from left: Rosie Gallaher, Kelli Currin, Josilyn Fullerton, Sidney Andrews, Kyla Connell, Shayla Currin, Emily Adams, and Ellie Johnson

Twenty-Five Years Ago

December 7, 1995

Waitsburg's annual Hometown Christmas celebration, including the lighted parade on Main Street, is Sunday, Dec. 10. This is the 10th year for the popular event sponsored by the Waitsburg Commercial Club. It is the fifth year for the lighted parade.

Waitsburg's fourth-graders scored higher than in the past on achievement tests, but the district's eighth-graders and high school students did not.

You can bet that Chuck Reichert and his wife Jeanette of Waitsburg will be in front of the television Saturday, Dec. 9, to watch their grandson, redshirt freshman running back Brian Gales, of Richland, when his University of Montana football team takes on Stephen F. Austin University in a game that could take the 10-2 UM to a NCAA I-AA championship.

Wedding vows were exchanged by Brandee Ann Halley of Waitsburg and Rodney Lee Smith of Vidar, Texas, on Oct. 9. The bride is the daughter of Kristine and Brandon Halley of Waitsburg. The groom is the son of Rebecca and Rodney Smith of Vidar.

Fifty Years Ago

December 17, 1970

[Photo caption] What is an old, authentic Shirley Temple doll worth? Mrs. Bill Shively is trying to find out after a friend from Astoria, Alice Vanderfeen, told her of the possible value of the collector's item. Estimates have placed the value anywhere from \$50 to \$2000. The doll, originally given to Mrs. Shively by her mother circa 1935, was in turn given by Mrs. Shively to her daughter Carol when she was a small girl. The doll was dearly discarded by Mr. Shively before the possible value was discovered. Any interested doll collectors in the area?

Several breaking and entering cases in Waitsburg were solved when five local juveniles admitted to taking part in a series of thefts that dated back to June. Items were taken from the Bill Zuger home, the Barbara Black home, and \$200 worth of food and supplies were stolen from Elfrink's Grocery. The young people agreed to make restitution for the items pilfered, and no formal charges were made by the local police officers.

Attendance this fall and winter have been so low at the Plaza Theatre that future shows have been canceled. Jack Otterson states that the receipts are not covering expenses, so the theatre will be closed until conditions warrant opening it in the future.

Seventy-Five Years Ago

December 21, 1945

Mary Loundagin returned home last weekend after being confined to the hospital for several months with rheumatic fever.

A telegram from the War Department has just been received by Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Lloyd notifying them of the death of their son, Lt. Tony Baynton Lloyd, in a prison camp in Japan, Jan. 7, 1943.

The new dining room adjoining the coffee shop operated by Mr. and Mrs. Bert Johnson will be open Sunday, December 23. Holiday turkey dinners will be served on Sunday and also on Christmas Day.

One Hundred Years Ago

December 24, 1920

Naomi Danielson arrived home from the State College at Pullman Saturday and will spend the Christmas vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Danielson.

Mrs. M. D. Perrin announced the marriage of her daughter Florence to Mr. Earle Deardoff of Spokane on Wednesday of this week, Dec. 22.

Among those home for the holidays from Pullman are Carolyn Bickelhaupt, Aaron Jessup, Homer Martin, Lester Wade, Ernest Mikkelsen, Leon Sayers, Donald Keiser, Verl Keiser, and Victor Harrington.

One Hundred Twenty-Five Years Ago

December 27, 1895

William Philips, Ed Kimmel, and Chas. Preston are home from Pullman College to spend the holidays.

J. P. Mullinix this week ornamented his Preston Avenue residence by building a substantial sidewalk in the front thereof.

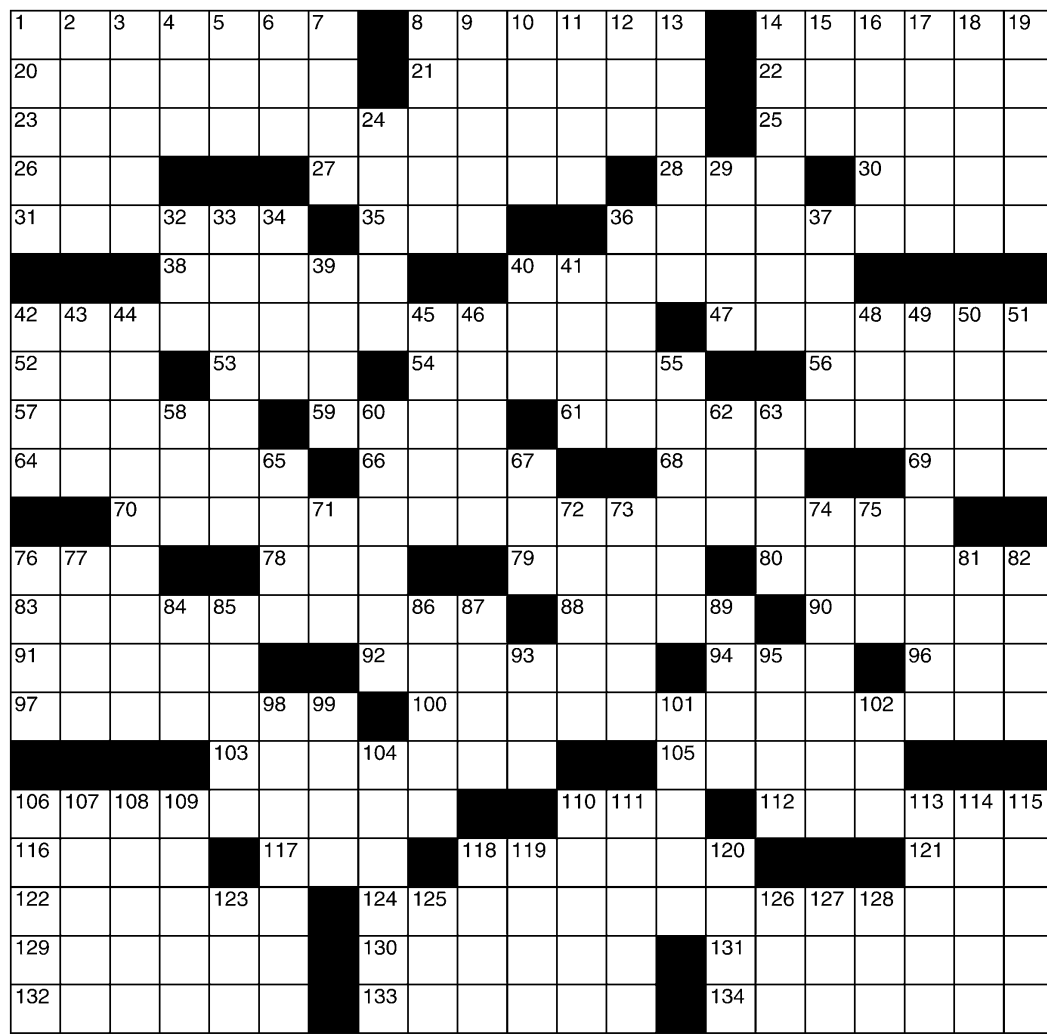
Hon. P. A. Preston arrived home from California on Monday morning. He brings joyful tidings that Mrs. Preston is much improved and is gaining steadily and rapidly.

There was a dreamer in town this week with a full line of straw hats. Is that a sign that winter is "broke?"

FUN & GAMES

Super Crossword PUZZLING-LY

- ACROSS**
- 1 Like many announcers' private side comments
 - 8 Glistening
 - 14 Give a cue to
 - 20 Sounded like a frog
 - 21 Durbin of old Hollywood
 - 22 Worrier's cry
 - 23 Deeper level of longing?
 - 25 Walk like a little 'un
 - 26 Coll. website suffix
 - 27 Slandered really badly
 - 28 "Uh-uh"
 - 30 Legal claim
 - 31 White water whereabouts
 - 35 Give it a go
 - 36 Place to bathe on the grass outside a house?
 - 38 "Marvy!"
 - 40 They cause actions
 - 42 Really boring chairs, desks and tables?
 - 47 Two-grid vacuum tube
 - 52 Cry to a matador
 - 53 Manning of the Giants
 - 54 Far-off
 - 56 Of charged particles
 - 57 Extreme type
 - 59 Lysol target
 - 61 What 1066 is famous as?
 - 64 Territory split in 1889
 - 66 Pertaining to
 - 68 Bad, to Jules
 - 69 Viral malady
 - 70 "Allow me to provide a leavening agent, if nothing else?"
 - 76 Blvds. and aves.
 - 78 China's Long March leader
 - 79 Aquatic bird
 - 80 — Leone
 - 83 "Pray that I find some cool gross stuff!"
 - 88 Isle of Man man, e.g.
 - 90 Scout unit
 - 91 — pittance (hardly any)
 - 92 Garage job
 - 94 Atop, to bards
 - 96 Short snooze
 - 97 Bit of voice mail
 - 100 Hankerings to take pictures of small and distant objects?
 - 103 Places for milk products
 - 105 Bored feeling
 - 106 Measure of how much a ship swerves off course?
 - 110 2000-15 TV series
 - 112 Facet
 - 116 Horror film lab aide
 - 117 With 108-Down, deteriorate
 - 118 Pre-entree dishes
 - 121 Lanai
 - 131 Arms depot
 - 132 Abides
 - 133 Breadwinner
 - 134 What vets provide
 - 1 Earthy color
 - 2 Artist Kahlo
 - 3 Mist over
 - 4 — jongg
 - 5 Mamie's man
 - 6 Plunk lead-in
 - 7 Häagen-Dazs rival
 - 8 Storied fireman Red
 - 9 Microbe-ridden
 - 10 Byway
 - 11 Camelot wife
 - 12 Raggedy —
 - 13 — opus
 - 14 Road hazard
 - 15 Sorority "P"
 - 16 In a curious way
 - 17 Word before circus or blitz
 - 18 More ashen
 - 19 Latest thing
 - 24 Singer John
 - 29 Be next to
 - 32 Small hotel
 - 33 Conquers
 - 34 Writer Bellow
 - 36 Connect with
 - 37 Match well
 - 39 Duo + one
 - 40 Tally a total
 - 41 1982 Disney cyberfilm
 - 42 "— better believe it!"
 - 43 Penne — vodka
 - 44 Sloppy smooches
 - 45 Wry twisting
 - 46 — Haute
 - 48 Acuff of song
 - 49 Like a swap
 - 50 Radio tuner
 - 51 Hose color
 - 55 Otter's kin
 - 58 "Bosh!"
 - 60 Go extinct
 - 62 Bub
 - 63 " 'Tis so sad"
 - 65 "You lookin' —?"
 - 67 Nosh
 - 71 Stable stock
 - 72 Seamless transition
 - 73 Von — family ("The Sound of Music" clan)
 - 74 — oxide (anesthetic)
 - 75 The, to Hans
 - 76 Emulated a fish
 - 77 1 p.m. is one
 - 81 Horse color
 - 82 iPad
 - 84 Oct.'s 744
 - 85 Union general George
 - 86 Darling type
 - 87 Bodily joint
 - 89 Aquatic bird
 - 93 Lofty trains
 - 95 Tall volcano in Sicily
 - 98 Groups of geese
 - 99 Dubliner's land
 - 101 Model Klum
 - 102 Dog's bark
 - 104 Key in anew
 - 106 Give in (to)
 - 107 Nixon veep Spiro
 - 108 See 117-Across
 - 109 Dryly comical
 - 110 In the vicinity
 - 111 Not as risky
 - 113 Kagan of justice
 - 114 Romero of "Batman"
 - 115 Work's name
 - 118 Lasting mark
 - 119 Related (to)
 - 120 Take a pic of
 - 123 — Abner
 - 125 Legendary coach
 - 126 Three, in Bari
 - 127 D.C. winter hrs.
 - 128 Remote button abbr.



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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

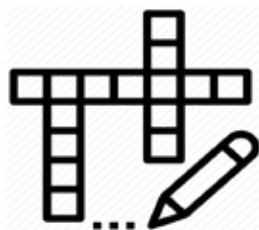
	7	2	5					6
5					8	2		
		1		7	3			5
	5		4			3		
4				9				5
		8			2	9		7
		4		1				2
2			9			7		8
1	3				5			9

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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TEENY MCMUNN: MY RECIPE BOX

Shortbread Cookies — Petticoat Tails

A recipe from England

This recipe is shared by Susan Jensen. In our delightful conversation, it turned to recipes. I asked her if she had any to share. She shared several, which will be fun to try. She sent this one for shortbread and it reminded me I used to make it around Christmas. There are many shapes one can do. Susan said it is called Petticoat Tails as it baked in the round with the ends looking like petticoats.



The recipe is in grams so I looked up the conversion. I like watching the British Cooking Shows, don't you?

Susan said she was born in Northamptonshire, (yes it is one word) about 60 miles from London. She came here (the States) in 2004 and yes, she has an accent!

For me, baking at this time of year is an excuse to share. I have a nice collection of holiday plates and tins to put cookies and candy on.

Side note-This recipe calls for Caster sugar. Another term I wasn't familiar with. "Caster sugar is a term used in the UK as well as the US, and in both cases, it refers to a sugar that is ground to a consistency between granulated and powdered sugar in coarseness. In the United States caster sugar is often called superfine sugar, baker's sugar or bar sugar.

INGREDIENTS:

- 225 g (1 1/2 cups plus 2 Tbsp) Be-Ho plain flour (all purpose flour)
- 75 g. (1/3 c. plus 1 Tbsp) caster sugar
- 150 g. butter (just shy of 3/4 c.)

DIRECTIONS:

- Mix flour and sugar in a bowl, rub in butter.
- Knead well to form a smooth paste
- Divide into two equal parts, shape and flatten into 2ea 7 inch rounds, approximately 1/2 inch thick.
- Mark tops into portions, decorate edges and prick with a fork.
- Place on a greased baking tray
- Bake for 30 minutes at 325° oven, Gas mark 3, or until pale and golden.



MY NOTES:

Too funny. This simple recipe has made me look up a few things. The British, (I have a FB friend in Australia) have their own language, close to ours but different names that don't match with the same products as we have. I looked up Gas mark 3!

It is a varying degree of the oven. The original recipe also used Centimeter for the oven, but we don't use it here, so I didn't add it.

When it says to rub in butter, I'd use a pastry blender to start.

I looked up Shortbread cookies. Most call for white sugar, some add vanilla and a bit of salt. It can be lots of shapes. If you make them into rectangles, they can be dipped in chocolate. I used to make them a lot.

On my list to try is Crumpets ☺

Thank you, Susan!

ENJOY! ☺

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS:

Super Crossword

Answers

S	C	O	T	T	S	T	Y	A	M	S	T	E	L	G	U	L	F
C	A	R	G	O	P	R	E	T	A	M	A	L	E	O	R	E	L
A	M	B	I	G	U	O	U	S	A	G	O	R	A	S	L	I	M
B	E	E	F	N	O	N	A	B	I	G	A	I	L	A	D	A	M
				Y	O	N	D	E	R	S	N	I	T	C	H	E	S
A	M	I	G	O	L	O	O	S	E	N	E	E	R	O			
M	R	B	I	G	G	L	E	S	W	O	R	T	H	A	A	R	O
I	M	E	M	I	N	E	B	E	H	O	L	D	S	O	L	O	
N	O	A	M	C	A	B	A	L	G	A	U	N	T	L	E	T	
E	M	M	E	T	P	O	G	O	I	N	G	B	E	E	E	S	E
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A	P	T	L	E	A	N	E	S	T	E	R	S	T	A	C	K	S
H	O	U	S	E	F	L	Y	E	N	I	A	C	W	H	A	T	
A	U	N	T	S	T	U	D	I	O	A	G	O	N	I	Z	E	
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E	G	O	M	A	N	I	A	I	S	O	L	D	E				
B	I	G	H	T	O	F	B	E	N	I	N	N	O	M	T	A	T
O	L	D	E	M	E	E	T	U	P	G	O	O	V	E	R	B	I
O	D	E	A	I	R	A	N	I	S	A	I	M	B	I	B	L	E
K	A	N	T	E	S	T	A	T	E	D	R	S	B	O	A	T	S

Weekly SUDOKU Answer

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



Tech Talk: Digital gift-giving

Make outstanding gifts easily

By Brianna Wray | THE TIMES

Remember when holiday greeting cards were simple? Down the stationery aisle, one could find a box that had the card, matching envelopes, and, with a book of stamps in hand, you're all set. Yeah, well, that ship sailed, and these days my mailbox is filled to the brim with beaming smiles from custom printed photo postcards. And since we haven't been allowed within six feet of extended family and friends for much of the year, this may be the perfect time to join the photo postcard trend.

Get the shot

You don't need the bloated photography budget of a glossy magazine to get a good photo. In a lot of cases, a mobile phone camera will be able to do the job. The purchase of a camera remote shutter release is ideal, but all phone cameras have a timer option. With delay settings of three or 10 seconds gives you enough time to get into position. Check all the available camera settings. In order to save memory, some phones are preset to take photos at a smaller size. The simple toggle of a switch allows for higher resolutions that look as good on paper as they do on screen.



No matter how many megapixels your camera boasts, the first and most crucial step to getting a good photo is a clean lens.

Photography is a broad art form that could take years to master. Get the basics down quickly by taking advantage of camera and lens equipment maker Nikon's holiday offering of free classes. Now through December 31, all their photography classes stream for free. The main lessons are broken down into 40-second to minute long videos and are easily digestible and designed with holiday cards in mind. Consider the background decor as much as the subjects in the photo frame. Getting the photo just right with no one blinking or in motion can be tricky, but sometimes a wacky photo can best tell the story of the chaos that is the holiday season.

Make the handoff

Know your output. To bring images from our devices into the physical realm, they must be exported to a printer. This is the time to research what file types work for your printer and the desired project. A photograph saved as a JPEG or JPG file won't necessarily print the same size in every printer, whereas a PDF format size of the file will remain unchanged (much to the chagrin of editors).

Print projects that make great gifts but require particular file types are custom printed t-shirts or color-changing mugs. These would be best suited to vector images with transparent backgrounds such as PNG or SVG that do not degrade as it enlarges. If working with these different printer files sounds daunting and too much like a commercial production project, fear not. Local help is available.

This holiday season, shop local. Waitsburgers Nathaniel and Erin Murphy of N E Custom Creations



Courtesy photo

Insert family here

have all the tools right in town. Reach out through their Facebook page and be a holiday hero.



Courtesy photo

N E Custom Creations is one of many great local sources for personalized gift ideas.

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I WILL UPHOLD YOU WITH MY RIGHTEOUS RIGHT HAND.

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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