



Thursday June 11, 2020 Vol. 143 No. 15 www.waitsburgtimes.com

SERVING WAITSBURG, DAYTON AND THE TOUCHET VALLEY

**Published Since 1878** 

**ONE DOLLAR** 



Lane Gwinn

Over a thousand peole gathered on Main Street near Land Title Plaza for the Peace Rally on Sunday, June 7.

## Black Lives Matter rally draws a peaceful, thoughtful crowd

Second protest gathers larger crowd

By Tracy Thompson | THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA—A grassroots group of people of color from the Walla Walla Valley community organized a second Peace Rally on Sunday, June 7 near Walla Walla's Land Title Plaza. With impassioned speakers and music, the rally gave a platform for people of color to be heard and for non-POC to listen.

The gathering attracted a larger crowd than the May 31 rally at the same location. Estimates of crowd size for both events vary from several hundred to over 2,000. There is no disagreement, however, to the fact that the crowd was peaceful and impactful. Diverse in age and color, all assembled safely on the sidewalks on both sides of the street.

Almost every person in attendance was wearing a facial covering, and there were volunteers in the crowd handing out spare masks to those who were without

Thankfully, there were no disruptions to the event,

except for a few well-meaning folks honking their horns as they drove by.

Organizer Lindsey Luna presented a powerful group of speakers and the sound system was adequate to communicate clearly to the crowd.

A second-grade teacher from Walla Walla shared a spoken word piece advocating for reflection and police reform. Jonathan Reid's spoken-word piece reflected on civil rights history, and called for the names

PEACEFUL PROTEST - PAGE 5

## **Columbia County approved for Phase 3**

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON—Washington State Secretary of Health John Wiesman and Governor Jay Inslee have approved Columbia County to move forward to Phase 3.

Individual Phase 3 business sectors can reopen only after the state publishes its guidelines for the specific sector. Individual business is only allowed to reopen after it can implement those guidelines.

Dr. Wiesman retains the right to revoke the approval and Governor Inslee retains the right to reimpose restrictions under his authority.

Phase 3 went into effect on June 5, but can be revoked by Dr. Wiesman if there is a significant community transmission of COVID-19, and in the event there is little or no access to testing, inadequate capacity in the hospital to handle a surge, inadequate Personal Protection Equipment supplies, inadequate case and contact investigations, inadequate performance on a daily contact for cases in isolation, or contacts in quarantine, inadequate isolation, or quarantine facilities, or other

- conditions warranting significant concern.

   In Phase 3 gatherings with up to 50 people are allowed.
  - Nonessential travel can be resumed
- Restaurants/taverns can operate at less than 75 percent capacity and can seat groups of no more than ten people at a table.
- Bar areas in restaurants/taverns can seat people at a 25 percent capacity or
  - Movie theaters at less than 50 percent of capacity
- Customer facing government services may resume (telework strongly encouraged)
  - uraged) • Libraries
  - Museums
- All other business activities not yet listed may resume, except for nightclubs People in high-risk populations are strongly encouraged to limit participation in Phase 3 activities and services.
  - The Centers for Disease Control consider this population to be:

     People 65 years of age, and older
  - People 65 years of age, and older
     People with underlying medical
- People with underlying medical conditions (particularly not well controlled) including:
  - People with chronic lung disease, or moderate or severe asthma.People who are immunocompromised
  - People with severe obesity
  - People with diabetes
  - People with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis, and people ver disease
  - People who live in a nursing home or long-term care facility

# 154th Walla Walla Fair and Frontier Days cancels

Commissioners voted to cancel the annual fair in a meeting Monday

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA—At a meeting on Monday, June 8, Walla Walla County Commissioners voted to cancel the 154th Walla Walla Fair and Frontier Days due to safety concerns amid the coronavirus pandemic. Commissioners said that the decision did not come easily.

The decision ultimately came down to a safety issue, as coronavirus numbers are slowly beginning to rise in the county again. Meeting attendees expressed that they were uncomfortable hoping that Walla Walla County would be in the proper phase of Governor Inslee's Safe Start plan come Labor Day weekend. Currently, Walla Walla County is in Phase 2 of the four-phase plan.

Financial issues were also a large part of the discussion, as the Walla Walla Fair and Frontier Days provides a revenue source for the county, city, many nonprofit organizations and area youth.

4-H and FFA market animals were a big concern. Commissioner Greg Tompkins mentioned considering an online sale to help the kids recoup some of the costs that go into raising market animals. Milton-Freewater Junior Show held a successful online animal sale earlier in the year, and many fairs and shows across the nation have also had success with virtual sales.

In May, the decision was made to postpone the Wednesday night concert with the band Chicago as the headliner. During the May meeting, fair board members and commissioners discussed how they would handle distancing and safety concerns at the demolition derby and the three nights of PRCA rodeo, as well as an event to fill the new gap on Wednesday.

Walla Walla Fair and Frontier Days is currently working on a plan to issue refunds and are anticipating the process will take roughly a week. Once the system is ready, the Fair will post on social media accounts and their website with information. www.wallawallafairground.com.

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Important

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Dayton School
District

Fishing the "unfishable"



## **TOUCHET VALLEY LIFE**

NEWS BRIEFS

### **OVERNIGHT CAMPING REOPENING AT SOME SITES IN WASHINGTON**

SPOKANE—With the lifting of public health and safety restrictions enacted by Washington State officials, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announced on Monday, June 8, that the Spokane District is opening certain developed sites in Washington to overnight camping. The BLM is working with federal, state, and local public health authorities to closely monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and is using a phased approach to increase access on a case-by-

This week, the following sites will begin to reopen access to overnight camping:

- Blind Island
- Coffeepot Lake
- Lakeview Ranch
- Pacific Lake
- Patos Island Posey Island
- Rock Creek/Escure Ranch
- Twin Lakes
- Yakima River Canyon

(Umtanum, Big Pines, Lmuma, and Roza)

Be sure to call (509) 536-1200 or (509) 665-2100 to confirm the site you're interested in is allowing camping. The public should still follow local area health orders, practice Leave No Trace principles, practice social distancing, and avoid high-risk outdoor activities while recreating.

The BLM encourages responsible, local recreation to avoid putting strain on other communities. The CDC has offered guidance to help people recreating on public lands prevent the spread of infectious diseases. We will continue to monitor all functions to ensure that visitors adhere to CDC guidance for mitigating risks associated with the transmission of COVID-19 and take any additional steps necessary to protect public health.

Details and updates on operations will continue to be posted on our website, https://www.blm.gov/oregon-washington/covid-access-restrictions and social media channels. Updates about BLM operations will be posted on www.blm.gov.

### **PROVIDENCE'S ANNUAL FUNDRAISER MOVES TO THE VIRTUAL CLUBHOUSE**

### THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA-In light of restrictions surrounding large gatherings, Providence St. Mary Foundation's annual themed golf fundraiser will head into the virtual clubhouse for a 'Fiesta off the Green.'

Instead of gathering for golf, participants can choose from one of two donation levels to support the cause while receiving fiesta-themed goodies served curbside at the Walla Walla Country Club on Friday, July 17.

From July 6 - July 17 at 8pm, supporters can preview and bid on creative auction packages including wine, trips and other experiences. Local restaurants, bakeries, caterers and others will create fiesta-inspired desserts which will be included in the auction lineup. Winning bidders will have custom desserts delivered to their home or business on an agreed upon date.

Direct donations can also be made through the event to support mental health initiatives launching this fall at Providence St. Mary Medical Center. Health experts expect COVID-19 to greatly increase risk of anxiety, depression and substance use. Your gift has never been more important as we respond to our community's needs.

"This event is our single largest fundraiser of the year. Now, more than ever, community support is critical to advancing healthcare in our valley", says Lindsey Oldridge, Chief Philanthropy Officer. "We knew we needed to get creative while keeping the safety and health of our community top of mind."

Since 2012, the day of golf, food and friends has brought together businesses and individuals to raise nearly \$1 million to advance health care in the Walla Walla Valley. You can visit the event site at bidpal.net/ fiestaoffthegreen.

### **Touchet Valley Weather** June 10, 2020 Waitsburg's Seven Day Forecast Wednesday **Thursday Friday** Saturday **Sunday** Monday **Tuesday** Scattered Scattered Partly Cloudy Mostly Cloudy Few Showers Few Showers Partly Cloudy T-storms T-storms High: 69 Low: 50 High: 80 Low: 58 High: 70 Low: 51 High: 71 Low: 52 High: 78 Low: 56 High: 75 Low: 50 **Weather Trivia Local Almanac Last Week** explained Day Low Normals Precip first Precipitation ...... 0.11" Tuesday rainbows? Normal precipitation . . . . . . . 0.41" 76 Wednesday 75/52 0.00" Departure from normal ..... -0.30" 74 53 75/52 0.00" Thursday Average temperature ...... 60.1° refraction process in 1304. 70 53 76/52 0.08" Friday Average normal temperature ..... 64.0° Answer: Theodoric, a rexplained the reflection Saturday 50 76/53 0.00'Departure from normal .....-3.9° Sunday 76/53 **Weather History** 0.00" Data as reported from Walla Walla Monday 76/53 **June 10, 1752** - It is believed Sun/Moon Chart This Week that this was the day Benjamin Franklin narrowly missed Sunrise Sunset Moonrise **Day** Moonset electrocution while flying a kite Wednesday 5:01 a.m. 8:43 p.m. 12:24 a.m. 9:54 a.m. First during a thunderstorm. Franklin 5:01 a.m. Thursday 8:44 p.m. 12:54 a.m. 11:00 a.m.

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

6/21

was trying to determine if

lightning is related to electricity.

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### The Times

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12:05 p.m.

1:08 p.m.

2:10 p.m.

3:12 p.m.

4:14 p.m.

1:19 a.m.

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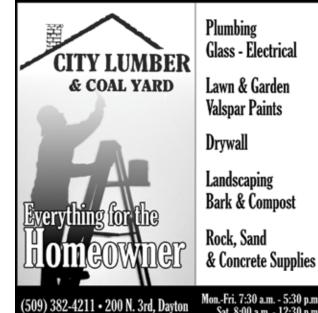
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### **ALL WHEELS WEEKEND GOES VIRTUAL**

DAYTON—When the universe gives you Covid-19, you make CarVID-20. That's right folks, the annual All Wheels Weekend car show is going virtual this year.

The Dayton Chamber of Commerce invites one and all to join them online for the 26th Annual All Wheels Car Show on Saturday, June 20 from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The online event will be held on Facebook and people are encouraged to visit the allwheelsweekend. com website the day of the event for a link to partic-

If you would like to be involved but are not on Facebook, simply email a photo of your vehicle to the Dayton Chamber of Commerce, at chamber@ historicdayton.com. Be sure to include your name, where you are from and a short description of your

Entrants can also mail a photo of their car and details about the entry to the Dayton Chamber, 166 E. Main St., Dayton, WA 99328. Photos must arrive by Friday, June 19, to be included. Please note if you would like the photo returned.

All entries will be featured on the Chamber's Facebook page and on allwheelsweekend.com. Best of Show will be awarded to the entry with the most votes on Facebook.

In addition, look for details about a virtual scavenger hunt the day of the car show. One lucky winner will take home \$100 in Dayton Dollars, good through the end of 2021.

Questions about the event should be directed to the Chamber at (509) 382-4825.

### **CORPS TO KEEP ILLIA DUNES CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

WALLA WALLA—The Army Corps of Engineers Walla Walla District announced on June 3, that Illia Dunes will remain closed until further notice. The site is located on the South side of the Snake River bank

The Corps has been working with Garfield County Health Officials and with the sheriff's department and a consensus has been reached that in order to ensure visitor safety, Illia Dunes must remain closed for the time being. It will reopen when it is determined safe to do so.

Visitors to other Corps recreational facilities should maintain proper social distancing practices, by staying at least six feet away from other people and by planning ahead to make sure they aren't attending a site that is already busy and crowded with people.

Updates to the status of Illia Dunes and other recreational facilities will be posted both on Facebook and on the Walla Walla District Website under each of the dams listed at https://www.nww.usace.army.mil/ Missions/Recreation/.

### **WALLA WALLA SWEETS CANCEL 2020 SEASON**

Preparations are underway for 2021

THE TIMES

Full

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

WALLA WALLA-The amateur baseball team, the Walla Walla Sweets. announced the cancellation of the 2020 season last week due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects felt across the Northwest.



Season ticket members with 2020 tickets will be able to roll over their tickets automatically to next year—and they'll receive tickets to two extra games at no additional charge

"We are disappointed that there will not be Sweets baseball this summer," Sweets general manager Cody Miller said. "We did everything we could as an organization and with the West Coast League to hold a season this summer, but unfortunately there became too many restrictions where we couldn't provide our fans the experience at the ballpark that they have come to love and enjoy."

The Sweets remain committed to Walla Walla and the community for 2021 and beyond and are already preparing for next summer. Miller also said he expects the return of former MLB All-Star Jeff Cirillo, the Sweets new manager, along with assistants Larry Price and Jarrod Molnaa.



Despite the cancellation news, Miller is grateful to see the progress made in Walla Walla County by advancing to Phase 2 of Washington state's reopening plan and looks forward to having community events resume in Walla

Walla this summer and fall.

"One thing this does allow us to do is get a head start on preparing for next season, and I can't wait to see everyone in Borleske a year from now," Miller said.

## **TOUCHET VALLEY LIFE**

### Pioneer Park Aviary killings prompt outrage and fundraising

By Tracy Thompson | THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA—The news of repeated break-ins and killings of birds at the Pioneer Park Aviary in Walla Walla has prompted an outpouring of support and funding from community members.

Walla Walla Police reported that there have been multiple incidents over the past two weeks of some-

one cutting the netting at the Aviary and killing approximately 12 birds. The City is offering a \$1,000 reward for the arrest and convictions of the person(s) responsible for the killing of the birds. The reward money was donated by "Friends of the Aviary."

Walla Walla resident and mother of two, Mariah Gizinski, lives next to the park and was angered by the senseless killings.

"When the information was released on Facebook stating that the birds had been killed, I was just devastated. I went around all day thinking of how someone

Finding that there was not an easy way for people to donate to the cause, Gizinski set up a GoFundMe page at https://tinyurl.com/yatdep9s where she has raised \$2,200 of her \$5,000 goal, to date.

The Walla Walla Union-Bulletin reported a total of \$28,000 has also been raised in support of Aviary security, replacement birds and updates.

### ABLE BODIED PEOPLE NEEDED AT THE **COLUMBIA COUNTY FOOD BANK**

Volunteers needed to help with the heavy lifting

DAYTON—The Columbia County Food Bank needs able-bodied people who can lift up to 40 lbs. and can be on their feet for three hours to help fill boxes of food, load and distribute them every Tuesday afternoon.

Judi Pilcher, who serves on the food bank executive board, said volunteers will receive on the job training at the current food bank location at the county fair-

The National Guard has been providing this service, but it is not known whether they will be available after the month of June.

For the past two months the food bank has served around 150 people each week, up from 40 each week before the COVID-19 challenge.

"Our food bank is a place where people in need can get food, typically basic provisions and non-perishables, for free," Pilcher said. "Currently we are providing three, and one half days of food assistance to 10 percent of the Columbia County population, every week."

The Columbia County Food Bank relies on the Blue Mountain Action Council, and donations from other organizations and private donors, for the food distri-

For information about volunteering contact Judi Pilcher by phone at (509) 382-

### **WARREN COMMUNITY ACTION FUND 2020 GRANT AWARDS ANNOUNCED**

DAYTON—Eleven grants totaling \$52,000 have been recently awarded from the Warren Community Action Fund, which is administered by Blue Mountain Community Foundation. The fund is a project of the extended Warren Family to honor Robert and Nadine Warren. Robert Warren passed away February 11, 2017 at the

The largest grants are: \$20,000 to First Christian Church of Dayton for roof and truss repairs and replacement; \$8,000 to Project Timothy through St. Joseph's to assist with COVID response funds for those in need in Columbia County; \$5,500 to The Club (also known as Plus Delta After School Studios) to provide after-school programming for the 2020-2021 school year; \$4,000 to Walla Walla Senior Center for nutritious, prepared meals for seniors in Columbia County.

This is the fourth year of grant awards from the Warren Community Action Fund for a total of \$172,000 in support for local programs, charities and organi-

### **WESTSIDE WINERIES JOIN TOGETHER FOR A BLOOD DRIVE**

WALLA WALLA—Reininger Winery, Foundry Vineyards, Smoky Rose Cellars, and Three Rivers Winery have partnered together with the American Red Cross to host a blood drive in Walla Walla to help our community in need. The event will take place on June 22 from 11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Sign up to donate blood at Foundry Vineyards, located at 1111 Avadie Street in Walla Walla, or locate a blood drive near you. If you have recovered from Covid-19, consider donating plasma. Sign up for the blood drive at the American Red Cross website located at: https://tinyurl.com/y77cmdu5.

### CASE COUNTS ON THE RISE IN **WALLA WALLA COUNTY**

Phase 2 is still out of reach for Benton and Franklin counties

By Tracy Thompson | THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA—Walla Walla County's COVID-19 cases are on the rise. Since May 31, fifteen additional residents have had confirmed positive test results. These new cases, as well as the County's threshold for number of individuals tested for each new case during the prior week will prevent the County from advancing to Phase 3.

The recent rise of new cases in Benton and Franklin Counties is much more serious, with both Counties still in Phase 1, neither are eligible in any of the four metrics for advancement to Phase 2.

Franklin County reported 195 new cases per 100,000 people over the past two weeks and Benton County reported 92 new cases per 100,000 people. To be considered for approval to move to Phase 2, counties must be under 25 new cases per 100,000 people over a two week period.

Other Counties still in Phase 1 of the Governor's Safe Start plan include Yakima, King, Chelan and

Yakima County continues its struggle to gain control over the virus' spread, with a report of 594 new cases per 100 thousand residents over the past two weeks. The County reports 4,665 cases and 101 deaths to date.

### BIRTHDAYS

June 11: Frank Donnelly and Kathie Payne, Katelyn Lambert.

June 12: Suzanne Moser, Ida Polley, Chad Lambert, Joshua Reser.

June 13: Anne Nelson, Michael Raven, Jan Cronkhite, Larry Weir, Bob Newbury, Mike Talbott, Cecilia Acev-

June 14: Haly and Shawny Ingle, Aaron Moffitt and Anthony Kiefel.

June 15: Jeff Hofer, John Segraves, Ryan Mason, Glen Smith, Nicholas and Jonathon Danforth, Ruth Fulton, Diane Conover, Susa Roberts, Darrell Syferd, Cheyenne Gritman and Maude Oberholtzer.

June 16: Catherine and her Grandpa John Melvin Reese, Jon Hays and Courtney Streeter.

June 17: Pat Davison and Gabriel Kiefel.

## Washington State Library to help distribute CARES funds to libraries, museums

THE TIMES

OLYMPIA—The Washington State Library (WSL), a division of the Office of the Secretary of State, has been tasked with distributing \$688,000 to public and tribal libraries, and museums for COVID-19 response efforts. The funds are part of the \$50 million allocated in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to the Institute of Museum and Library Services to assist museums and libraries across the country address the digital divide during

Three grant opportunities are available for libraries and museums. All applications can be submitted online at sos.wa.gov/library/libraries/grants/.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) grants – Grant amounts between \$500 and \$3,000 are available to help libraries and museums acquire PPE, and will be disbursed based on an entity's service

Outreach for COVID-19 Response grants – Grant rewards of up to \$3,000 will be available to support libraries, historical societies, and museums working within their communities to develop new programming to address unique needs during the pandemic. This includes but is not limited to computer programs, summer reading and homework help, and job-search support.

Wi-Fi Hotspots grants - Public and tribal libraries are invited to apply for one of 1,000 Wi-Fi hotspots available, which will enable up to 10 months of connectivity. The hotspots, which can be loaned like books, will be awarded based on current connectivity, economic need, and population. WSL acquired the hotspots through a special agreement with the Washington Military Department, facilitated by the Washington State Office of Broadband.

Applications are open now through July 31, 2020 or until funding is exhausted. Grants will be reviewed beginning June 19.

### Dayton School District breakfast & lunch delivery times

deliveries.

Meals will be delivered by school bus to the following locations: (Times are approximate)

Bus #1

11:00 a.m. - Valley View Court 11:30 a.m. – Country Village 12:00 p.m. - Cameron Court

**Bus #2** 

11:00 a.m. - 1st Street/Richmond Ave

11:20 a.m. – 4th Street/Dayton Ave 11:25 a.m. – Knoblock Apartments

12:00 p.m. – 4th Street (Adventist Church Parking

Lot)



Meals will also be available for pickup at the Day-

For more information, please contact the admin-

ton Elementary Multipurpose Room at 11 a.m. to 12

istration office at (509) 382-2543 or Jana Eaton at

(509) 520-7051. Arrangements can be made for rural

p.m. Monday through Friday.

### Waitsburg **Schools Meal Drop off**

WAITSBURG-Starting April 20, Waitsburg School District will be delivering meals to your home. Please visit www. waitsburgsd.org to sign

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

**Dayton Senior Center** 403 E. Patit St. 12 p.m. Drive up only

Thurs., June 11

Chili

Spinach salad w/ blueberries

Cornbread

Angel food cake Milk

Tues., June 16 **Spaghetti Garlic bread** Mixed veggie salad

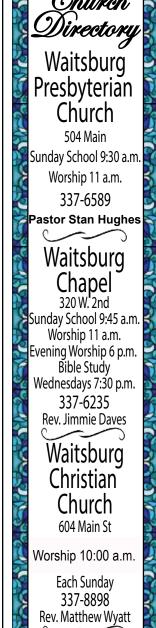
> Fruit jello Milk

### **WAITSBURG SENIOR LUNCH MENU**

Waitsburg **Senior Center 504 Main Street** 

Tues., June 16 Meatloaf **Mashed potatoes Veggies** Garden salad **Brownie** 





Brought to you courtesy of Lloyd's Insurance, Inc

Walla Walla (509) 525-4110

## **COMMENTARY & NEWS**





### WRITER SEES WEARING A FACE MASK AS **DEHUMANIZING AND HUMILIATING**

I am extremely worried about the current COVID-19 situation, and my concern has nothing to do with coughing, sneezing, or any other symptoms of the common cold/flu. In the recent video press release on May 31, 2020 Jay Inslee mandated that all workers in Washington state, effective June 8, must now wear a face covering at all times, and if they don't abide by these rules are subject to all sorts of fines, although, in classic Inslee fashion, he is indefinite about the specifics, leaving us to infer the worst. Inslee loves to talk about Science, and how he is adhering to the facts. Well, here's an interesting fact:

Back in March 30, 2020, the Chief Executive Director of the WHO Health Emergencies Programme, Michael J. Ryan said, "We don't generally recommend the wearing of masks in public by otherwise well individuals because it has not up to now been associated with any particular benefit."

Another interesting fact: the Washington State Department of Health says on their website, updated April 13, 2020, "There is limited evidence to suggest that use of cloth face coverings help reduce disease and transmission."

Jay Inslee describes wearing a face mask as a sign of love—no, I do not see it that way. Wearing a face mask is dehumanizing and humiliating, a sign of blind obedience to draconian orders, and ultimately making one more susceptible to giving oneself an illness. For example, common sense tells us that If someone has allergies and needs to sneeze they can either sneeze into their own mask and breathe in their germs, or they can lift up the mask, sneeze, and be subject to all the judgmental stares/glares being directed their way. Will they be fined for that?

And whatever happened to "my body, my choice?" For years, it has been legal and acceptable to kill an unborn baby who has no choice in the matter, but when it comes to wearing a mask that limits one's ability to breathe, keeps germs close to one's mouth, and, for some people, results in the skin breaking out, there is no choice.

As citizens of Washington State and human beings who live, presumably, in a free country, we need to ask questions—a lot of them—and not passively accept Inslee's decrees and mandates as the final word on the situation.

"Think. It's not illegal. Yet."

Savonnah Henderson Dayton, WA

### LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER | LANE GWINN

### Taking a R.I.S.K.

This last Sunday I was fortunate to be in attendance at the Peace Rally held in Walla Walla. I was there to take photographs for the The Times.

I was immediately impressed with the number of people who turned out for the event.

As I was taking photographs, I got caught up listening to the speeches from the impressive lineup of scheduled and impromptu speakers.

The topic of our country's systemic racism and its effects on people of color is difficult to hear. It was a big reminder that we must listen, truly listen, to voices other than our own. Listening without feeling the need to respond or debate. Listening without feeling defensive or hurt. Listening with the understanding that we do not walk through the world the same. We can only strive to not cause harm by understanding what others are saying to us.

The following is an excerpt from a speech by Dakotah Fryatt, one of the young speakers, on Sunday:

### Today is the day

from a speech by Dakotah Fryatt

"I remember the day my mom and dad sat with me and explained that in my life some people just weren't going to like me because I'm black. I was too young to understand. I didn't get it. But in middle school it clicked. I finally understood what my parents were talking about when another student would block the door to the locker room and tell me, "black people have to change outside." Pretty quickly I began to get

I felt it again at 16 when I was buying school clothes and a security guard followed me around the entire mall. I continued to feel it when I went to Walmart every now and again. Every aisle I went down, I was watched. You'd think the security guards and I were best friends. Man, we did everything together! At 16 I thought that was the worst that could happen, right? Until 17 came. I'd been working at McDonalds. And I'll never forget how degrading it was, when an older white gentleman told me he didn't want me to take his order. And how awkward it was when my white coworker took his order for me. Again, I thought that's as bad as it could get.

But nothing has hurt me more than when my closst friends and family have used the n-word. Racism didn't end because Martin Luther King Jr. had a dream or when Rosa Parks took a seat. We carry their flame, you and me. And we'll know it's truly finished when it's no longer you versus me, but when "I" becomes "we." Racism is evil. There's no other way to put it. It's heartbreaking. It should break your heart to know that to this day people are still hated and discriminated against because of the color of their skin.

It should break your heart that it wasn't until 2014 that Wilcox High School in Rochelle, Georgia had their first integrated prom.

It should break your heart that there are still "sundown" towns today in America.

It should break your heart knowing George Zimmerman started an auction for the gun he killed Trayvon Martin with, starting at \$100,000. And that for a fan he signed a bag of skittles. The snack Trayvon had the day he was murdered.

It should break your heart that Breonna Taylor was shot eight times while she was asleep, during an illegal, unannounced drug raid on the wrong house.

It should break your heart that Nikolas Cruz the Parkland School Shooter was arrested peacefully after killing 14 students and 3 staff members, but Tamir Rice was 12 years old when he was killed by a cop for playing with an airsoft gun.

It should break your heart that one of these stories could be about me.

But this is the first time in my life that I have seen so many people stand up and speak out against racism so boldly. All I can say is, "thank you."

What can we do today? I certainly do not have the answers, but this is something practical that everyone can do to speak out against injustice. We have to take a R.I.S.K.

### R is for Relationship.

It's hard to care about someone if you don't have a relationship with them. It's hard to care about anything or anyone that you aren't connected to. Something you can do right now is take the time to get to know people who aren't like you. Build relationships. You'll be surprised by how much you actually have in

### I is for Intentional.

Living a diverse life doesn't happen by accident. Be intentional with who you surround yourself with.

S is for Speak.

All of our voices are needed. Actively speak out against injustice. Proverbs 31:8-9 NLT says,

"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves; ensure justice for those being crushed.

### K is for Knowledge.

I know I just said to speak up, but also know when it's time to listen. There's a lot of stories out there that need to be heard. Be wise and seek to understand. It is okay to ask black people questions, or any person of color for that matter. Today is the day. Today is the day that you take a risk. Keep the conversation going and ask questions. We need leaders, now more than ever, to rise up and change culture.

This is my prayer, from Amos 5:24 MSG, the famous prophet couldn't have said it any better:

Do you know what I want?

I want justice—oceans of it.

I want fairness—rivers of it.

That's what I want. That's all I want.

What an incredible honor it is to be here. Words are a very powerful thing. So, thank you Walla Walla for letting me share a piece of my heart today. Please don't leave the same way you came. Today is the day."

Dakotah Fryatt is a 21-year-old resident of Walla Walla and is working on his teaching degree through Western Governor's University after achieving an A.A. degree at Walla Walla Community College.

### 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. Deadline for letters is Tuesday at

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.

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## **NEWS**



### **PEACEFUL PROTEST - FROM PAGE 1**

of victims of police violence to be spoken aloud. Following this short piece, Cia Cortinas, a young woman who claimed her heritage as coming from one of the 'founding families' in the Walla Walla Valley, expressed her support as an educator, and for the liberating power of education. Jonathan Reid took the stage again to sing a haunting version of reggae musician Bob Marley's "Redemption Song," accompanied by a guitarist.

Following the designated speakers, the crowd was asked to kneel if they could, and be silent for eight minutes and 46 seconds, the same amount of time George Floyd was restrained under the knee of Minneapolis Police Officer Derek Chauvin on a Minneapolis street on May 25, 2020.

The rally organizers then invited people of color to address the crowd. The granddaughter of Patricia Garanzuay, who was a well-known Director of Social Work in Walla Walla, did so, as did a young, Black emergency room registered nurse who shared her fear about speaking out and urged those in attendance to do so. Speaking through tears, another young Black woman thanked the crowd for their support and called for unity. A 32-year-old military veteran commented that although he served six years in support of counter terrorism, he has "been in fear trying to live in this community."

Pedrito Maynard-Reid, professor of biblical studies and assistant to the president for diversity at Walla Walla University, warmly praised the organizers for creating the event saying, "This country will change, this world will change, once we recognize the power of young people. You've got to get out and vote, you've got to make your voice heard," he urged.

Luna then thanked the crowd and invited people to follow the Black Lives Matter Walla Walla Instagram and Facebook pages, where they will share resources and updates on further events.

The gathering drew to a close with the announcement that the organization will be partnering with local advocacy groups in the city to create a fact sheet and a tool kit for supporters and allies on how to engage in direct action. Following this, the crowd dispersed quietly, albeit to the rousing call of Beyonce's song, "Freedom," echoing over the loudspeakers.





Photos by Lane Gwinn

Top: Event participants provide a visual aid to Dakotah Fryatt's powerful speech.

Above: Protestors kneeling as they observed 8:46 of silence. Left: A seasoned protestor participated in the rally while seated.

Fire District No. 2 Columbia/Walla Walla Counties\*



\*Includes City of Waitsburg



By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON—New businesses opening in Dayton, despite the coronavirus slow-down, is a testament to a community that will step up and help each other. It also says a lot about the pluck and determination of three entrepreneurs who are opening or have just opened businesses in town

The new owners of the Weinhard Hotel, at 229 East Main Street, are open to hotel traffic and have opened their new cafe, Jacob's Public House.

"I love people, food, and hospitality," said Christina Dingman, who along with her partner Sev Jones are the new proprietors of the hotel. "I love how welcoming, helpful and friendly the community is."

Dingman said Jones had passed through Dayton years ago and fell in love with the area. They felt purchasing the hotel was an opportunity not to be missed.

Since acquiring the property in March, the couple has made changes to the espresso bar by enlarging the seating area and attaining a liquor license to create the Jacob's Public House. They are also completing the updates to the hotel, getting rooms ready for occupancy, as well as making other finishing touches.

Dingman is optimistic about the hotel's future looking forward to when people start venturing back into the community."

The hotel cafe is open from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and until 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Early birds will be happy to see a variety of baked goods, coffee, tea, and espresso.

People should also be pleased with the menu which features green, roasted beet and Mediterranean salads, street tacos, and charcuterie boards.

Dingman said they are serving local wine from Dumas Station and L'Ecole Winery, and beer from the Post Falls Brewing Co., which will add variety to the great beer selections already in the local area.

Alicia Walker concurs with Dingman about the fantastic support business owners receive from the community at large, and the beauty of living in Dayton.

"It's just a Norman Rockwell-esque place to raise kids," she said.

Walker, the former proprietor of the Noble Hunt, has opened Locally Nourished, at 217 East Main Street, two doors down from the Weinhard Hotel.

Walker intended to open her new cafe before the coronavirus slow-down but decided to wait until things opened up a bit.

It is a family affair. Last week she was bustling about at the café with help from her mother, Terrisa, making sure customers are satisfied.

Walker is part of a family who believe food quality is important. Her sister Melissa Weatherford has been a past Blue Mountain Station Co-op Market manager, creating delicious soups and breads. Walker's parents were the proprietors of Little Dipper Dairy, a local goat farm.

The new restaurant offers pastries, espresso,



Michele Smith

Alicia Walker, proprietor of the recently opened Locally Nourished

smoothies, and various seasonal options for breakfast

Locally Nourished is open at 6 a.m. until 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

To the west of town, at 401 West Main Street, formerly the Shell gas station, customers will be able to purchase gas and eat great fried and broasted chicken from the in-house deli when Pelican Fuel Mart opens in mid-summer.

The gas station has been purchased by Dan Hatch, owner of the first Pelican Fuel Mart on East Isaacs Street in Walla Walla and will be managed by Tim De-

Dewald is excited by the project as he is currently overseeing the building renovation.

He said the plan is to convert the auto repair part of the building for use as a deli counter, with room for a soda fountain, coffee station, beer and pop coolers, and the point of sales kiosk. The former food mart will be converted into the business office.

Dewald explained the company philosophy, "We know it's an essential service. We know it's a competitive business, but we just like what we bring to the table. We are not your average convenience store. We're more centered, not on how much money we can make and how much volume we can perform, but just being an old school corner store, where people can come and hang out, and we know people by name."

Dewald said owner, Dan Hatch, wants to make sure employees are well compensated and the company takes part in local community activities.

A veteran himself, Dewald said veterans are being given hiring preference.

Pelican Fuel Mart, LLC is an equal opportunity

employer in the broadest sense of the word.
"We give a lot of second chances to employees,

"We give a lot of second chances to employees, some from adverse situations," he said.

When doors open customers will have access to diesel fuel, nonethanol and super unleaded gas, as well as propane. There will also be an RV dump on site.

### wwcso

### June 2

A vehicle that had been tagged for almost a month at an address on W. First and Main Street was towed in Waitsburg, WA.

A Smith and Wesson handgun was reported lost in the Walla Walla River while kayaking at an address on Byrnes and Maiden Road in Touchet, WA.

### June 3

A victim alleged her vehicle was stolen on May 28 from an address in the 300 block of Orchard Street in Walla Walla.

### June 6

Fraudulent debit card charges were reported from an address on Old Milton HWY in Walla Walla County.

An adult male reported three dogs severely injured three lambs, who are not expected to survive, and an additional two who are expected to survive. The injuries were reported at an address in the 1400 block of Wallula Ave., in Walla Walla County.

A counterfeit \$100 bill was passed at the Wine Valley Golf Course Pro Shop at 177 Wine Valley Road in Walla Walla.

A male was arrested for unlawful possession of a firearm at an address on N. Campbell Road in Walla Walla

### June 7

A man was arrested for Driving Under the Influence, and for failing to stop and identify following two collisions at an address on Farmland Road in Walla Walla County.

A female was arrested for Assault 4 - DV at an address on S. 3rd Ave. in the city of Walla Walla.



Goslings for Sale Straight run \$14 ea (509) 337-3015 Leave msg







## **NEWS & LEGALS**

## Columbia County Health System (CCHS) board report for May

Finances, assisted living facility, dental care facility discussed

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON—CEO Shane McGuire told the Hospital District Board of Commissioners he is now cautiously optimistic about Columbia County Health System

"2020 won't put us out of business and we are ready for fall," he told them, at their regular board meeting in May.

The CARES Act set aside one billion in aid from the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services for hospitals and health systems to weather the COVID-19 challenge, and the CCHS has been allocated around 4.4 million dollars, he said.

McGuire said an initial award in the amount of \$654,993 offsets the \$600,000 deficit from April's low volumes of revenue-generating services provided in the hospital and in the clinics.

There were various targeted funds from the distributions, which included money for the skilled nursing bed program, but the bulk of the money was to provide general help getting through the crisis, he

McGuire said at its worst the health system was losing \$130,000 per week because of the reduced ser-

He is asking the finance team to look into various financial scenarios to prepare for an anticipated surge of COVID-19, in the fall.

Further discussion needed for the board to move forward with building an assisted living facility

For the past three and one-half years the CCHS administrators have been looking into providing an assisted living facility in Dayton.

CEO Shane McGuire said patients who meet the criteria for skilled level of care are routinely turned away from admission into the Booker Rest Home causing many to move from their homes into other

He said a larger number of patients can be cared for, and other types of care settings would be made available to residents with an assisted living facility

McGuire said the Booker Rest Home runs a large operational deficit because the State does not reimburse CCHS for the actual cost of care for Medicaid residents. Only 50 percent of the actual cost of care is covered by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) which has led to an operational loss of \$1.6 million, last year, alone. While there is a State fund to cover some of those losses, it is not secure and is not guaranteed from year to year.

It is possible negotiations with CMS for Medicaid care could allow for a better rate of reimbursement McGuire told the commissioners.

Limiting Medicaid admissions is not an option in light of the District's mission and expected service to the community, he said.

McGuire said custodial skilled nursing services would still be provided in one wing of the Booker Rest Home facility, freeing the other wing up for use as

"We would maintain up to 12 beds for this purpose so that no services are lost. This will not impact staffing and there will be no staff reductions. . . There will be no reduction in care services and no residents will be displaced," he said.

The assisted living project will not be a bond or taxpayer funded project, said McGuire. Rather it is intended to be a builder funded project, with the hospital leasing the cottages and administering them.

Cory Burnett a business consultant with Community Link Consulting provided the commissioners with several financial scenarios.

He said three one level cottages, with eight or ten beds each, would make the most financial sense. They would need to be occupied 93% of the time to be cost sufficient. There will be associated costs in the way of personnel, supplies, building maintenance, dietary services and for administration, he said.

Burnett said given a room rate for self-payers of

\$250 per day, for a private room, \$217 per day for a semi-private room, with a better negotiated rate for Medicaid patients, and figuring in ancillary costs, each cottage stands to turn a \$152,000 profit every

McGuire reminded the commissioners private payers are currently charged \$263 per day at the Booker Rest Home.

Commissioner Bob Hutchens said he wanted to know more about costs before signing off on the plan. The board of commissioners agreed they would need further discussion and CCHS Controller Tom Meyers is expected to provide his professional expertise when they talk again on June 10.

McGuire said Stephanie Carpenter, Katie Roughton, Finance Manager Matt Minor, Michele Page, RN, and Architect John McLean are to be commended for their thoughtful and pragmatic approach to developing this vision into an operational design.

John McLean with Blue Room Architecture has been assisting with the initial draft design.

If built, the cottages would be located on the north side of the hospital. Each of the three cottages would have private or semi-private rooms with wide halls, nurse call buttons, a kitchenette, showers and other communal areas.

They would be designed around the needs of people living in them. They would be for people needing a higher level of care, like those with dementia or Alzheimer's disease. Additional homes could be built later for people requiring a lower level of care, and with lower costs, McGuire said.

McGuire told the commissioners the first round of bids for the proposed dental facility to treat Medicaid patients at Columbia Family Clinic was disappointing. The architect on the job said it might be better to wait until the COVID-19 shutdown is over, and the crush of projects needing completion gets done, before sending the project out for rebid. McGuire said he is working with an outside contractor to determine a better pricing strategy.

### IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM DAYTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

We had hoped to receive some guidance from the state, Governor and State Superintendent of Schools, regarding returning to school next fall yesterday. What we received instead was a note explaining they are still working on guidance and are waiting for information from the Department of Health and other agencies. They hope to share information with all school districts by the end of the week. While this is disappointing, it is also a message illustrating the many complex pieces returning to school will bring and the desire to provide best possible options.

The District understands the need for employees and families to have answers to the questions the fall of 2020 brings. Until we receive options and guidelines the state will support we would only be guessing about what options we should consider and how to manage the operational questions that may come with the options. It has become clear no matter what option is selected there will be some who feel uncomfortable or even angry about the new school year. We need you to know that while we can respect your frustrations and strong opinions the District's actions must follow any guidelines given to us. While there will be opportunities for local districts to make some decisions there will be some directives required of us.

The result for the Dayton School District will reflect our commitment to our student's education and our willingness to collaborate with parents and community within the parameters given to the District. Working together, as always, Dayton will find a way to provide for the needs of students and families. Respectfully,

Douglas Johnson, outgoing Superintendent Dayton School District Guy Strot, incoming Superintendent Dayton School District

### LEGAL NOTICES

### IN THE SUPERIOR **COURT OF THE STATE OF** WASHINGTON OF WALLA WALLA No.: 20-4-00100-36

PROBATE NOTICE TO **CREDITORS** (RCW 11.40.030) IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:

**DAWNA MARIE** WILLIAMS. 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

DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: June 4, 2020 Personal Representative: Kristoff Bauer

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

Jared N. Hawkins, WSBA #35426 Of Attorneys for Personal

Representative Address for Mailing or

2225 Isaacs, Suite A, Walla Walla, WA 99362 Court of probate edings and cause

Walla Walla County Superior Court Cause No. 20-4-00100-36

The Times June 4, 11, 18 2020

### **REQUEST FOR BIDS**

The Walla Walla County Conservation District is accepting bids to spray false indigo along a 3 mile stretch of the Touchet River. All applicants must have a valid WA pesticide applicators license and an aquatic endorsement. Accepting bids until June 19 at 3 p.m. For bid document please contact Joanna Cowles Cleveland at 509-956-3760 or email joanna. cowles@wwccd.net

The Times June 4, 11 2020

### IN THE SUPERIOR **COURT OF THE STATE OF** WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY **OF WALLA WALLA**

NO: 20-4-00103-36 PROBATE NOTICE TO **CREDITORS** 

RCW 11.40.030 In re the Estate of:

WALTER E. LOEVENSTEIN II

Deceased.

The Administrator named below has been appointed as Administrator of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Administrator or the Administrator's attorney 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 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 RCW 11 40 060 This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: June 11, 2020

Holly F. Forman-Patel Administrator Attorney for Administrator: Jeremy Hyndman, WSBA

Basalt Legal PLLC 61/2 N. Second Avenue, Suite 200

Walla Walla, WA 99362 The Times June 11, 18, 25 2020

### SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CHELAN NO. 20-4-00133-04

NOTICE TO CREDITORS In Re the matter of the Estate of:

GARY M. CARGILL, 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 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: June 11, 2020

Personal Representative: Janna Stevens

Attorney for the Personal Representative: /S/ CHARLES R. STEINBERG, WSBA NO.

23980 Address for Mailing or Service

323 N MILLER STREET, WENATCHEE, WA 98801 Court of probate

proceedings and cause

number: CHELAN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CAUSE NO.: 20-4-00133-

04 The Times June 11, 18, 25 2020 6-11-b

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY **OF WALLA WALLA**

NO: 20-4-00107-36 PROBATE NOTICE TO **CREDITORS** RCW 11.40.030

In re the Estate of: BETH LANE SANDERS. Deceased.

The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a 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: June 11, 20

Betty Joy Kincaid Personal Representative Attorney for Personal Representative: Jeremy Hyndman, WSBA

#44320 **Basalt Legal PLLC** 61/2 N. Second Avenue,

Suite 200 Walla Walla, WA 99362 509-529-0630 The Times

June 11, 18, 25, 2020

CITY OF WAITSBURG THE **6-YEAR ROAD PROGRAM** NOTICE IS HEREBY

GIVEN that a regular meeting of the City Council, City of Waitsburg, WA will be held in Lions Club Memorial Building at the Waitsburg Fairgrounds, Waitsburg, WA at 7:00 p.m. or soon thereafter on Wednesday, June 24, 2020, In accordance with RCW 35.77.010. to consider and adopt a revision of the Official Six (6) Year Road Program for the City of Waitsburg for the Six (6) Year period 2021 to 2026. In the event that the City has to hold the hearing virtually through a conference call, information on how to testify will be posted to the City website www.cityofwaitsburg. com on or around June 18,

City Council City of Waitsburg By Randy Hinchliffe, City

The Times June 11, 2020 6-11-d



legals@waitsburgtimes.com

NOTICE OF PUBLIC **HEARING ANNUAL EXTENSION OF** 



## LIFESTYLES

## Phase 2—progress with challenges

By Vicki Sternfeld-Rossi | THE TIMES

Yay! Governor Inslee has approved Phase 2 status for Walla Walla County. Such fortuitous timing, in the midst of so many other "phasing" events, like high school and college graduations, now those students will phase into their new lives as college freshman, or (hopefully) employees-maybe graduate school? June is also a big month for weddings, and couples "phasing" into married life. And some of us are just phasing into rural life, (and loving it). But, like all things in life, "phasing" presents its chal-

lenges. Last spring, when Daniel and I reconnected, I had just moved here from Los Angeles. I had been on my own for 10 years, and although I had dated, and had relationships, none ever passed the "you can leave your toothbrush here" stage, a phase of my life that rapidly changed.

Daniel moved here March 1, and both of us had to "phase" into new situations. The first two weeks were hectic, what with rearranging furniture, readying the place for the moving van's arrival and numerous trips to Home Depot for supplies, tools and much needed shelving. Daniel needed to assemble a second shed for storage and start on home repairs. Luckily, I had my escapes; tennis, the gym, and walking to Ten Ton Coffee with Mugsy for coffee, chats and sticking my nose into the crossword puzzle-solving contingent. We anticipated Daniel would start work on some Pop-Up restaurant ideas, meet some winemakers and check out local foods around the beginning of April.

Covid-19 changed our plans, and suddenly, there were no winery meetings, no restaurants, no gym, no tennis, only 24/7 togetherness, which is more of a slam, than a phase. He's kept busy with banjo playing, mowing, fixing things and building planters. Every scrap of wood and old cabinet has been turned into a planter. Living with him is the planter box version of living in the Winchester House. He

As I walk or run around the town, I've noticed other gardens are flourishing much more than mine. I'm convinced I need to fertilize more aggressively. I'm told horse manure works the best, but I just can't see myself chasing the backside of a horse with my little red wagon hoping to catch a few drops. I may settle for second best and learn to compost.

However, Phase 2 has brought me good news; I can play tennis again. I started last week, it felt great, but that also came with some challenges. After the first 45 minutes, I had to take four Advil, and in the last five minutes of the two-hour session, I realized I had developed a blister from the racquet. It opened, and I hit the raw bruise, just in time to end the lesson.



Phase 2 will also allow restaurants to open (with restrictions). Daniel's meals are better than I would have in most restaurants, so no complaints here. But, it would be nice not to have to do the dishes! Then going out will present challenges for me as well; do I still fit into my "going out jeans," since I've been only been wearing sweats and stretchy leggings since sheltering at home? I want to wear make-up, but I may have to watch a YouTube tutorial to relearn—how do you put on mascara? I've been outdoors so much, I have raccoon eyes from wearing sunglasses, and probably also have a new tan line from my mask. Attractive!

We've spent so much time at home with Mugsy, he'll probably have separation anxiety when he's actually left to his own devices for an extended period of time. Phase 2 presents challenges for all, even the dog, but progress is good!

## Emma's adventure to retrieve the abandoned treasure continues...

By Emma Philbrook | THE TIMES

(We last left our intrepid adventurer and her mother in the plague-stricken wastes of SeaTac International Airport, where nobody could be bothered to wear a mask despite being crammed like sardines into the concourse-and-a-half that was actually open. However, given that mask policy has become a hot-button political issue, our intrepid adventurer will use her lightning-quick reflexes to avoid this topic until later in this serial, where she will be stuck in consecutive four-hour layovers and will have more time to treat the mask debate with the nuance and sensitivity it deserves.)

(But seriously, folks, I'd hope we can all agree that it's one thing to go maskless around town, where people can distance themselves from you if they're nervous about catching something, and another to do the same thing in an oversized Pringles can with circulated air.)

(Anyway...)

"My," said the intrepid adventurer's mother as they made their way through the muggy night into South Bend, Indiana Airport, "what an uneventful, unremarkable, and generally non-entertaining series of flights!"

"I did enjoy watching the antics of our fellow brave explorers in Jumanji 2," the intrepid adventurer com-

"Me too," her mother replied. "It takes away some of the bitterness at our failure in the Quest for the Milton-Freewater Drive-In Theater."

"Still not the same without popcorn," grumbled the intrepid adventurer.



Jumanji 2: The Next Level

They eventually reached the kiosk-altar of the Ground Transportation Gods.

"Approach!" boomed the priest on the other end, his face obscured by a ceremonial N-95. "What is your petition, puny mortal?"

"W-we are desirous of a c-compact automobile for our journey to the V-valley of the G-golden Dome," stammered the intrepid adventurer's mother.

"Fine," glowered the priest, gesturing to the grotesquely stained surface of the altar. "That'll be your first-born child, then."

Our two heroes exchanged a glance before the intrepid adventurer stepped forward.

'Just go ahead and lie down with your neck on the green line," said the priest. "Blindfolds are five dollars

"I think not, fiend!" cried the intrepid adventurer. "Yours is not the only power in this land!" "And by what power do you challenge mine?"

sneered the priest, reaching for the desk phone in a sinister manner.

"By the Power of the Courts, in the Name of the

Law of Contracts, I invoke the Affirmative Defense of Unconscionability!" she declared, raising aloft her student identification.

"Oh, fine, fine," he said. "Just gimme your credit

The transaction was thus completed, the proper paperwork being signed with the proper blood, and the two left the airport in possession of the ceremonial token which would enable their passage in one of the sacred Ford Fusions.

"Marvelous!" exclaimed the intrepid adventurer's mother as they emerged into the lot. "Your legal training has served you well."

"Not at all," laughed the intrepid adventurer. "It is in the superstitious nature of laypersons to be instantly terrified of lawyers who are yelling long words. In fact, what I said was little better than gibberish, as an affirmative defense by its very nature cannot be raised until the contract is completed and one transacting party files suit to enforce it!"

"Well," said the intrepid adventurer's mother, fighting off a layman's shudder, "we may well be the ones suing, as the priest has failed to give us a real key!" She held up a bare fob.

"Let me see that," replied the intrepid adventurer, examining the fob closely. "I have heard of these before, but only in legends...

"What is it?" her mother asked.

"It is from a car," muttered the intrepid adventurer, "which starts with no key, shifts with no gearshift, and challenges all of its drivers to a contest of wits. To win is to arrive safely; to lose is – oh, but we must not think of such things now! Onward to the treasure, Mother, or the curse will surely overtake us!"

CONTINUED...

## Waitsburg businesses slowly reopen

### By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—Walla Walla county businesses got the long awaited 'go-ahead' to move into Phase 2 of Governor Inslee's Safe Start plan and Waitsburg business owners are preparing to provide sit down dining, post-pandemic haircuts, shopping, and more.

### Blush Salon and Spa:

Brooke Mikesell and Madison Mings have begun accepting appointments for hair, nails, lashes and more at Blush Salon located at 214 Main Street. Beginning June 1, the salon is open for clients by appointment only. All clients must wear a face mask during their appointment. To book services, visit the salon's Facebook page, Blush Salon & Spa, or call (509) 337-3100.

### **Gaudy Girls on Main:**

Gaudy Girls has resumed their normal hours of operation. Waitsburg's home decor and more store is open Thursday through Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday 12 p.m.-5 p.m. Gaudy Gals on Main is located at 121 Main

### Andrea Villa, LMT:

Massage therapist Andrea Villa, located at 131 Main Street, is ac-



Gaudy Girls on Main

cepting appointments. Andrea has added special coverings to the head cradle of her massage table for easy cleaning between clients. Please be prepared to wear a mask during sessions. To book, call/text (509) 676-9049 or book online.

### **Waitsburg Grocery:**

Waitsburg Grocery, 200 Main Street, will continue operating on their summer schedule, 6 a.m.-8:30 p.m. and will continue to offer delivery and curbside pickup for the foreseeable future. Call Waitsburg Grocery at (509) 337-6641 for orders.

### Ten Ton Coffee:

Ten Ton Coffee will continue operating 8 a.m.-2 p.m., seven days a week with their street front to-go window and a plan to phase in indoor ordering and service over the next week. The coffee shop will also be adding outdoor seating and weekend sandwich specials. Ten Ton Coffee is at 216 N Main Street,

Whiskey C's is back to their normal hours and full menu with 50% seating capacity, and no seating at the bar. The restaurant will open at 7 a.m. for breakfast on weekends. See them at 701 Preston Avenue.

### **Laht Neppur Brewing Co.:**

Laht Neppur Brewing is back open for sit-down dining and brews, with reduced indoor seating. The tap room is open Thursday through Sunday, 12 p.m. - 8 p.m., with Glen back at the outdoor grill from 5 p.m.-7:30 p.m. The outdoor seating area is also now open for the summer. Laht Neppur is at 444 Preston Avenue.

### Millstone Cafe & Bakery:

After a 'soft' opening with take-out service only, the Millstone Cafe & Bakery will reopen on for their official grand opening, TBA. The cafe closed to do some slight remodeling in order to safely accommodate dine-in services at their 206 Main Street location.

A complete list of Waitsburg businesses can be found at www.cityofwaitsburg. com. From good food to concrete and construction work, Waitsburg has a long list of locally-owned businesses to be proud of.

## **GRADUATES**



Dayton High School Class of 2020 tosses their caps to celebrate their graduation.

Scott Kirk

## Dayton Class of 2020 graduates amid pandemic

### THE TIMES

DAYTON—Dayton High School's Class of 2020 graduated last Saturday. Like graduation ceremonies across the nation, Dayton's ceremony looked a lot different than in years past. Due to pandemic-related restrictions, only graduates and family were able to attend the ceremony.

Dayton High School provided a live-streamed feed on Facebook for the community to enjoy. The stream is still available to watch on the Dayton Secondary

Graduation celebrations started Saturday afternoon with a gallery drive through Dayton. The students rode individually in vehicles, led by Columbia County Sheriff Joe Helm, down Main Street to the high school. Once they arrived at the high school, the students lined up at least six feet apart and stepped forward as Principal Kristina Brown called each student, recognizing honor graduates, class officers, and other distinguished positions.

Valedictorian Kylee Laughlin and Salutatorian Kira Boggs gave their respective speeches, taking a moment of silence to remember Dayton School District staff who had passed away, as well as victims of the COVID-19 virus.

"Although parting is such sweet sorrow, I am proud to bid you farewell and wish you the best for whatever lies ahead of you," Laughlin said during her speech. "Good luck, Class of 2020."

When it came time to present the students with their diplomas, Principal Brown took a moment to read off all scholarships and achievements, sharing student successes with the community.

Marking the end of the celebration, the class got to participate in a timeless tradition – the cap toss – as all 15 graduates removed their caps and tossed them as high as they could to commemorate their final moments as students at Dayton High School.

Congratulations, Dayton High School Class of 2020!

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## **LIFESTYLES**



**Brad Trumbo** 

Quail Lake is the quintessential desert lake surrounded by cattails and tule and sporting a wealth of midges and rainbow trout.

## Fishing the lakes that were not meant to be

### By Brad Trumbo | THE TIMES

Fishing desert lakes April through June is tough to beat. Flipping around on a float tube, the warm spring sun across my back, and wild trout smacking small streamers like mini freight trains is what I have come to love about desert lakes. Well, that, and the rugged, burgundy and chocolate-colored basalt rims punctuated by milky-emerald big sagebrush, random white plumes of yarrow and brilliant canary tufts of balsamroot blooms.

Having had quite enough of COVID-19 self-isolation, I decided to take a little road trip to Quail Lake in the Columbia National Wildlife Refuge near Othello. Quail Lake is open year-round to catch-and-release fly-fishing for trout. And while I love a good desert lake, my preference is mountain streams, which weren't yet open to fishing, locally. A desert lake would have to suffice.

Having never been to Quail Lake, or the seep lake area of Potholes, for that matter, the landscape was intriguing. Former ice-age floods gouged the prominent coulees and dozens of holes in the landscape, creating the scared and pock-marked surface similar to what you might expect to encounter on the moon. From atop the bluffs, the landscape appears flat, brushy, and baked brown with the already spent stems and drooping seed heads of invasive cheat grass. A few dark rims appeared in the distance, but the depth of the topography was not revealed before approaching the small, sunken lakes. Thus, Potholes is an appropriate moniker for the reservoir and surrounding area.

The lakes were formed by the Columbia Basin Project (Project), located in east-central Washington in the counties of Adams, Douglas, Franklin, Stevens, Okanogan, Grant, Lincoln, and Walla Walla. The primary feature of the Project is Grand Coulee Dam. Construction began on Grand Coulee in 1934 with an irrigation pumping concept of drawing water from the Columbia River, sending it down to Pasco, east of the Columbia River, as a means to reinvigorate the arid landscape for agriculture and homesteading. Presently, the Project irrigates approximately 671,000 acres, or 65 percent of the 1,029,000 acres originally authorized by Congress.

Construction of the pumping plant, irrigation canal system and dams were completed in 1951. North Dam and Dry Falls Dam (formerly South Dam) were built to equalize the irrigation discharge and form the grand coulee, which is now 27-mile-long Banks Lake. There is over 300 miles of main canals, about 2,000 miles of lateral canals and 3,500 miles of drains and wasteways on the Project, according to the Bureau of Reclamation.

Among the drains and wasteways, Potholes Reservoir was developed to capture irrigation water for reuse in the southern portion of the Project. It's the seepage from Potholes Reservoir and surrounding irrigation features which inundated the seep lakes.

Parking at Herman Lake and the Quail Lake trailhead, I was instantly mesmerized by the hoards of common carp thrashing the shoreline in search of and called it a trip. food as spring rains and irrigation flows had flooded the cattails and low grassland swales. Overlooking the lake, these large fish were literally everywhere, boiling, jumping and beaching themselves in the cattails and newly flooded grasses. Landing a carp on the fly rod is an incredible experience, and I nearly caved to the temptation. Exercising self-control, I grabbed my backpack and fly rod and trudged off through the sagebrush in search of Quail Lake.

The hike was short and easy, but the map showed roads that didn't exist, so I wound around through the wildlife refuge taking in the interesting bits of flora and fauna, like the myriad darkling beetles roaming gopher mounds, presumably in search of dung. Eventually deciding to cut straight to the lake, I was disappointed yet unsurprised to find the shoreline heavily populated with cattails and tule, so much that there was no potential to reach fish from shore. Experience told me this would be the case, yet I stubbornly ignored my own intelligence and made the hike a second time, returning with my float tube and waders.

Also as expected, the lake surface dimpled with rising trout feeding heavily on hatching midges. Had I not known better, I would have assumed it was beginning to rain. The overcast sky provided perfect conditions for a midge hatch, and between light puffs of wind, the trout were taking full advantage.

Flipping out from shore, I tied up a small streamer, which is my standard choice for desert lakes. Midges dominate arid water food sources, come in a staggering diversity of sizes and colors from millimeters to centimeters long, and make utter fanatics of the trout that feed on them. By this, I mean trout of all species that key in on midges know their profile down to antennae length and scrutinize imitations to the minutia of detail. I so rarely match a midge hatch that I strip streamers almost exclusively on desert lakes.

Gliding along, taking in the scenery, the morning slid seamlessly into early afternoon. Amid the rustle of red-winged blackbirds in the cattails and acknowledging the distant cackle of a rooster pheasant or territorial "kerrr" of a male valley quail, I noted the occasional tap on my streamer, too timid to produce a hookset. Quite uncharacteristic of the rocketing rainbows I have encountered in other desert lakes. Deciding to make a switch, I went for a dry fly; a tiny black midge to mimic something I was seeing on the surface. I tied an extra-long leader with very fine tippet to extend the nearly invisible fly as far from the main fly line as possible. And, as expected, something was amiss. No takers.

My final effort involved a midge nymph, again trying to mimic what I was seeing on the water's surface. Using a small orange float as a strike indicator and depth selector, I had no more than made my first cast when the wind erupted from an intermittent gust to a sustained 15 miles per hour. If you have ever lounged on a swimming pool float and been blown across at break-neck speed (which is apparently about 15 miles per hour), you will understand why I vacated the nearest shoreline open enough to clamber out on

Climbing the canyon wall on my way to the top, I mused over the setting and the puddle lakes visible from my vantage. An unlikely dry landscape transformed into a vast desert oasis of wetlands and waters. An unintended consequence (and benefit) of an irrigation project developed nearly a century ago.

Navigating for the truck, I pondered the uniqueness of the seep lake ecosystem and the flush of wildlife that now inhabit the once crisply dry area of central Washington, as well as the beauty of old-growth sagebrush and the contrasting pop of the blood-orange colored lichens covering their arm-sized trunks.

Approaching Herman Lake, it dawned on me that now was a great opportunity to try my hand at a carp on the fly. But a few teenage boys were sufficiently harassing them such that I simply wandered by, casting a sidelong glance at their peculiar techniques. I thought it comical the gear these boys were using and their uneducated attempts at catching the beastly, bronze, invasive bulls of freshwater. Suddenly, the notion struck home that I was doing nothing more than peering into my own past, seeing a striking resemblance of myself, back when I was an ignorant, harmless boy who wanted nothing more than to fish away his weekends. Well, at least before I had any clue of the foolery we adults rope ourselves into. Bills. Chores. Steady income. And for what? I suppose a home with acreage for the garden and wildlife is an acceptable example.

Closing the tailgate, the threesome strolled by, boisterously recounting their efforts to dupe the surprisingly intelligent carp. One boy said he wished they would have been able to catch a few more, while another said he was thrilled to have caught one at all. It was his first fish ever. An unlikely first fish from an unlikely lake that was never meant to be more than an ephemeral puddle, if that. Living vicariously, reveling in his success and exhilaration, I shifted my Tundra into "drive" and departed for home.



**Brad Trumbo** 

A darkling beetle cautiously postures when approached for a closeup photo.



## **LIFESTYLES**

### Jack and Nancy White Otterson honored

WHS Alumni Association present them with the Karen Huwe Alumni Service Award

### THE TIMES

WAITSBURG-The Waitsburg High Alumni Association has honored Jack and Nancy White Otterson (WHS Alumni Classes of 1956 and 1957) with the Karen Huwe WHS Alumni Service Award on Tuesday, June 2, 2020 via a Zoom Meeting of the Alumni Board facilitated by outgoing President, Chelsey Smith. They were surprised with a visit from Wendy Richards and Beth Anne Wood who provided the technology so they could be participants. On the call as well, were Tammy Otterson Wood, her husband (Scott) from Arizona, and Jack, Jr., of Waitsburg.

Jack and Nancy were awarded plaques via Zoom



which were delivered the next day by Darleen Dozier, current Board Member.

The presenter remarked, "both Jack and Nancy have quietly, through the various organizations to which they are or were members, have helped, mentored, encouraged, and loved hundreds of Waitsburg students."

A former classmate of Jack's, Bruce Brunton, remembered, "not only did Jack play basketball, he was one of the most outstanding basketball players that Waitsburg has ever seen. Jack played and excelled in all sports.

Nancy's legacy in the Waitsburg Chapter of Rainbow has spanned sixty years. She has also been active in Eastern Star, and Chapter BE, P.E.O. serving all three organizations in leadership roles numerous

Jack and Nancy were "sweethearts" during their high school years and continue to be best friends after sixty plus years of marriage.



Nancy and Jack Otterson were awarded the Karen Huwe WHS Alumni Service Award earlier this month. They are pictured on their wedding day in 1959, and on their 60th anniversary last year.

### Amber Waves









R.F.D. WHAT'S UP

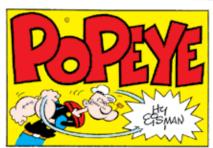




Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas







IN HERE!





IT'S NOT COMIN' FROM UP HERE!









### PIONEER PORTRAITS

### **Ten Years Ago** June 30, 2011

Farmers in the Touchet Valley are predicting their harvest this year will be at least a week later than usual with fields in the Prescott and Waitsburg areas ready by the third week of July and in Dayton by early August.

[Photo caption] Jennifer Flemming, visiting her mother Jacci Wooten for the weekend, cozies up to an Elvis impersonator from Walla Walla at the season's first farmers' market Sat-

Art enthusiasts from across the Touchet Valley visited the historic Boldman House on a sunny but breezy Saturday afternoon in Dayton for Art in the Garden.

### **Twenty-Five Years Ago**

### June 15, 1995

A tradition begins this weekend in Dayton. All Wheels Weekend is set Friday, June 16, through Sunday, the 18th.

In December 1993, Mark Jackson, a Dayton teen-ager, was told he had three months to live. But the then 13-year-old, diagnosed with leukemia, wasn't ready to die. Right then and there, he began a battle and, today, it looks now as though the 14-year-old warrior has won.

A Dayton city resident has asked the Dayton City Council to appoint a special board to review complaints against city employees, including city police, and has asked that the board hold its meetings to review complaints in private.

### Fifty Years Ago June 25, 1970

Jim Hubbard, enjoying the cool of the evening, drove in for a fillup. He was told to be at the new location at 8:10 p.m. for some brandnew gas out of a brand-new pump.

Frank Hart was installed as President of the Prescott Lions Club and Martin Dorsey was named "Lion of the Year."

Money does talk, it says goodbye.

It may be tough to pay over \$2 for a pound of steak. But the less you pay, the tougher it gets.

### **Seventy-Five Years Ago** June 29, 1945

Grain and flour shipments to Europe are now averaging about 1,500,000 tons per month and are expected to be maintained at about that level for the next three months.

The unusually cold damp weather this spring following the hot spell in many parts of the country has damaged beans in home gardens. Some seeds have rotted in the ground.

The greatly heralded \$40 old age pension "floor" established by the last legislature has "fallen through," the Republican Searchlight, new official organ of the Republican State Central Committee, declared.

### One Hundred Years Ago

### July 2, 1920

Ellis Laidlaw last week purchased an 80 acre farm on Dry Creek, a short distance southeast of Dixie. The place is all in crop—wheat and alfalfa, and a new cottage was built last year.

The census Bureau reports the population of Walla Walla for 1920 as 15,503, a decrease of 3,861 from 1910.

William Kendall, forester, has made a grade around the hill just at the edge of the forest reserve on Cold Springs Road. It is a great improvement and a very steep and dangerous hill is avoided.

Born—In this city, Monday June 28th, to Mr. and Mrs. Ed Buroker, a son; weighing 10 lbs.

### One Hundred Twenty-Five Years Ago July 5, 1895

Abe White arrived home a few days ago from north of Snake River. He had good luck in finding his horse.

Fifty-two car loads of steel rails have arrived at Pendleton, and will be laid between that city and this, which will make the track in a first class condition.

The Walla Walla Union was to have been sold at Sheriff's sale last Tuesday but as only one bid was made it could not be sold, for at a sheriff's sale at least two bids must be made before an article can be "knocked down." The only bidder was Hon. Charles Beserer, and his bid was \$1,000.

## **FUN & GAMES**

### CHANGE CROCCHIOTA

### "HOW ABOUT

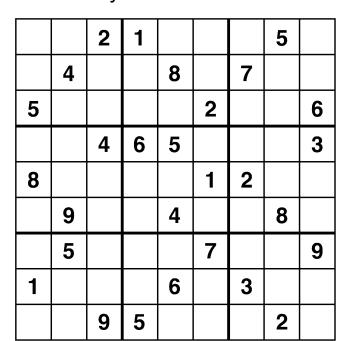
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## Weekly **SUDOKU**

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### by Linda Thistle



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### **DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ◆

♦ Moderate ♦ ♦ Challenging ♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!

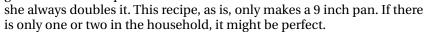
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TEENY MCMUNN: MY RECIPE BOX

## **Hot Fudge Pudding Cake**

'm on a roll with these old recipe cards. One of my hometown friends, Audrey, shared this one with me. She said her mom used to make it for dessert for the family. Looks like she kept the card or looks to be a cut out. I looked it up also because the card was a little hard to read. I'm putting in the new one. It differs a bit, but seems to have the same idea. If you can't read the card, and want to use those dimensions, let me know.

I didn't get a chance to make this but everyone gave it great reviews. One person said



We are still eating the Lemon Buttermilk pound cake so we need to finish that. I was going to make shortcakes for the fresh strawberries I bought so that is next. Also, on one of the Facebook posts a lady mentioned making crumpets. That sounds really interesting. That is also on my list to try. I had thought to put in a recipe about roasted red potatoes and asparagus, which I made, but the rosemary and thyme were over powering, I decided not to.

### **INGREDIENTS:**

1 1/4 c. white sugar, divided 1 c. all-purpose flour

½ c. Hershey's cocoa, divided

2 tsp baking powder

½ tsp salt

½ c. milk

1/3 c. butter or margarine, melted

1 ½ tsp vanilla

½ c. light brown sugar, packed

1 1/4 c. hot water

### **DIRECTIONS:**

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Combine ¾ cup white sugar, flour, ¼ cup cocoa, baking powder and salt. Stir in milk, butter and vanilla. Beat until

Spread batter in ungreased 9 inch square baking pan. Stir together remaining ½ cup white sugar, brown sugar and remaining ¼ cup cocoa. Sprinkle mixture evenly over batter. Pour hot water over top. Do not stir.

Bake 35 to 40 minutes or until center is almost set. Remove from oven; let stand 15 minutes. Serve in dessert dishes, spooning sauce from bottom of pan over top. Garnish with whipped topping if desired. Makes 9 (1/2 cup) servings.

Do you know how small half cup servings are?????!! Some of the differences between the two recipes is the older one uses white sugar for the batter and only brown sugar for the mixture on top. The newer one use both white and brown sugar for the mixture on top. The older recipe used shortening and only two tablespoons. The newer one uses a third cup of butter.

So it seems to be a little flexible. Notice the housewife in a dress and heels.



**LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS:** 

### — Weekly SUDOKU — Super Crossword ———

### **Answers**

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Answer

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## THE LAST PAGE

## Waitsburg's treasure hunter

Bert Baxter has more than 1,000 collectable model cars in his extensive collection

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—Treasure comes in all shapes and forms, to one Waitsburg resident treasure looks like model cars, lots of model cars. Bert Baxter's extensive car collection includes over 1,000 models, racing memorabilia, and more.

Baxter's love for all things automotive started at an early age and in 1952 he took up racing mini sprint cars for 15 years. He walked away from the racetrack after witnessing a tragic accident and went from driving to working on cars as he poured his heart and soul into his auto body shop.

It was around this time that he started collecting model cars from shops and yard sales. Each item in Baxter's collection has a unique story.

One of his favorite models is a bright orange 1964 Ford Mustang which came from the Ford dealership he worked at in the 1960's, according to Baxter. The car is powered by a gas and an electric engine and Baxter estimates it is worth nearly

"If I had kept the box and packaging, it would be worth more than \$800," he said. "Man, I wish I had kept the box."

The collection is not limited to just model cars. Baxter also collects rare hood ornaments and emblems. One hood ornament that holds considerable sentimental value for Baxter depicts a graceful female figure in chrome, she stretched out on her stomach, resting her head on her arms.

"That came off of my dad's Hudson. I tried to take it a couple of times, but Dad always made me put it back," Baxter said. "He finally let me have it."

Many of the cars in the collection had the potential to be worth a lot of money. For example, though his collection of Volkswagen buses are each valued at roughly \$100, as is, similar models can be worth up to \$100,000 each depending on their condition, original packaging and accessories.

"If you can find a bus with the original surfboard, they are worth a lot," Baxter explained. "There are less than five surviving models that are complete. They are super rare."

Baxter has searched high and low at yard sales, estate sales, and antique stores for those elusive automotive gems.

He has found entire collections for sale, and almost always jumps on the chance to pick up a complete collection. If he ends up with any duplicates he enjoys customizing them with stickers and decals, new engines, and other features. Clearly there are more ways to enjoy a model than just as a collectable.

Baxter has been collecting cars and automotive memorabilia since the 1960s and has learned a thing or two about collecting. His best advice to aspiring collectors is not to be afraid to haggle over prices and don't give up if the seller doesn't take your first offer.



Bert Baxter has spent decades collecting his more than 1,000 model cars and memorabilia



**Beka Compton** 

The graceful Art Deco hood ornament of his father's Hudson automobile captivated Baxter as a child.



A duplicate model racer that Bert customized with an All Wheels Weekend sticker. Bert has a couple of life-sized collectable cars which he enjoys taking to car shows.





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