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Giving Tuesday

A global movement spreading hope and generosity | B1-B8



First-ever Chelan County Rodeo Queen crowned

By **QUINN PROPST**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

CASHMERE - Chelan County Fair has crowned their first ever Chelan County Rodeo Queen, 20-year-old Austyn Robinson.

"I think she'll make a good Queen because she has a cute personality," said Kristen Mattson, a member of the Chelan County Fair Board and the Chelan County Rodeo Queen Committee. "I think she's gonna be fun to work with. Her personality is really magnetic when you're around her, and she's just really fun."

"At the pageant, everyone (the fair board and queen committee) is really excited about this next year and having her as our rodeo queen," Mattson said.

Robinson is a Cashmere High School 2022 graduate and the daughter of Nick and Casey Hollenbeck and Ryan and Leslie Robinson. She lives on a small family farm in Prosser and works as a barista at the Prosser Memorial Hospital.

Robinson feels honored and excited to serve as the first Chelan County Rodeo Queen, she said.

"I'm just excited to get out there and meet new people and get to experience all these experiences," she said.

"I think it's just a great way to get out there and be an ambassador for our rodeo and invite people to come and see us because we'll be making so many appearances at other rodeos, and it brings people to us," Robinson said. "And I just love promoting the rodeo itself and answering questions that people may have when they don't quite understand what's going on."

Both rodeos and rodeo queens are something her family is quite familiar with. Robinson's mom and aunts have all been rodeo queens. One aunt was Miss Rodeo Washington 2012.

"My family's always been involved in rodeo queen programs, and I just wanted to continue that legacy," Robinson said. "And I just love the family aspect of the rodeo. It's just a sport I've always loved so I've always wanted to represent."

When not working, Robinson is often riding her two horses Roany and Cookie. She plans to pursue a degree in Equine Dentistry.

At CHS Robinson was active in the volleyball program, 4-H and

FFA. She has been riding horses for as long as she can remember and has competed in barrel racing. She even competed in barrel racing in the Washington State High School Rodeo Association.

Robinson was crowned at the Nov. 12 pageant, where prospective queens competed in several segments including personal interviews, horsemanship skills, modeling presentations, speech delivery, and impromptu questions.

Organizers hope to make the pageant an annual event, showcasing and honoring local young women with an enthusiasm to compete for the title.

"Our rodeo is now sanctioned with the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association or PRCA, so we are hopeful that having a rodeo queen out promoting our rodeo at other events will draw more attention to the Chelan County Fair and Rodeo," Mattson said.

The 2024 queen will be presented with a variety of awards, sponsored items, and royalty accessories to be worn during the year of her reign. She will participate in a year of community events, public speaking, parades, luncheons, and rodeos while serving as a goodwill ambassador for the Chelan County Fair and Rodeo.

In the past, the Chelan County Fair had two local young people, known as Ambassadors, who represented the fair at speaking engagements before and during the annual fair. However, in 2024, the Ambassador positions will be reduced from two to one. The Rodeo Queen and Ambassador will work together to promote the fair and rodeo.

Mattson hopes the new queen shares her knowledge with the community to help people better understand the sport of rodeo and can serve as a good role model for little girls.

"Rodeo has always felt like family to me," she said. "Everyone who I've met through rodeo have become good friends; they are always willing to lend a helping hand when needed. My hope is the rodeo queen is a conduit for sharing that rodeo family and experience with our community."

The 2024 Chelan County Fair is scheduled for Sept. 5-8.

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COURTESY OF AMBER COOK

Cashmere graduate Austyn Robinson, 20, is Chelan County Fair's first Rodeo Queen. Robinson was crowned at the Nov. 12 pageant where prospective queens competed in several segments including personal interviews, horsemanship skills, modeling presentations, speech delivery, and impromptu questions.

Controversial MFTE Passes:

A tool in the toolbox for some, the wrong tool for others

By **TAYLOR CALDWELL**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

LEAVENWORTH - The contentious Multi-Family Tax Exemption (MFTE) passed in a 4-3 vote at the City Council Meeting Tuesday night. About half of the roughly 40 residents in attendance voiced their opinions during the public hearing, revealing a split of opinion reflected in the City Council.

MFTE was originally created in 1995 to use a tax exemption for developers to "incentivize residential development in urban centers, designated as 'residential targeted areas,' for Washington's largest cities," according to the Washington State Department of Commerce. Due to its success, the state expanded its scope to all cities in 2021.

Leavenworth would use MFTE to incentivize developers to build affordable housing. In Tuesday night's meeting, MFTE was widely referred to as a 'tool in the toolbox' that could be used to give the city more leverage with developers.

"This is not about using that tool today. It's about being able to consider it as an option [in the future]," said Mayor Carl J. Florea, who was passionately in favor of the exemption.

"I don't think this plan is perfect, but we need tools. We can't just keep trying the same thing over and over and expecting different results. We don't have anything else in our toolbox that offers this," added City Council Member Anne Hessburg in support.

Many community members were also in favor of the exemption, and reinforced the need for more housing in the area.

"We don't even know if developers will even do this because construction costs are so high right now. This might incentivize them," said resident Suzi Lane.

Travis McMaster, recently elected for City Council, expressed that the consideration for MFTE was "right on time."

While many cities in Washington state have adopted MFTE, including Wenatchee, some community members expressed concerns over the uncertainty of it working in Leavenworth.

"I don't think for a community this small, it would be the same as a larger community like Wenatchee," said resident Polly McIntyre.

McIntyre described Leavenworth as being a guinea pig for small towns adopting MFTE. A few others agreed, including resident Curt Haire, who suggested it might be the wrong tool.

"We don't want a hammer where we need a screwdriver," said Haire.

Uncertainty of the outcome was a strong sentiment for both those for and against MFTE. City Council Member Zeke Reister called for more public discussions on the matter, while Council Member Marco Aurilio said he wanted to see more due diligence done.

Mayor Florea pushed back, reminding members and the public that under the MFTE plan, the City Council will still have the power to approve projects and analyze their impact on a case-by-case basis.

"If you pass this, there's nothing to discuss until a project comes up," said Mayor Florea.

"I'm all for it," said City Council Member Jason Lundgren, "When the opportunity comes, I think it's going

Alpine Lakes Students are recovering after pandemic, but one grade was affected more than others

By **TAYLOR CALDWELL**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

LEAVENWORTH - Students of Alpine Lakes Elementary are bouncing back from the pandemic at higher rates than the rest of the state, according to test results. However, current fourth graders have been slower to bounce back than their peers in the grades above and below them, especially in reading.

At the Cascade School District Board meeting Nov. 13, Alpine Lakes Principal Kenny Renner-Singer presented test results from the state's 2022-2023 Smart Balance Assessment in the spring.

"We knocked it out of the park in mathematics," said Renner-Singer. At Alpine Lakes, 58.2 percent of fifth graders, 75 percent of fourth graders, and 62.3 percent of third graders all met state standards for math. State totals were quite lower, with 40.9 percent of the state's fifth graders, 48.2 percent of fourth graders, and 50.3 percent of third graders meeting standards.

For English Language Arts (ELA),

Alpine Lakes 68.9 percent of fifth graders, 77.4 percent of fourth graders, and 50 percent of third graders met standards. State totals showed 52.5 percent of fifth graders, 49 percent of fourth graders, and 47.7 percent of third graders met standards. Fifth graders were also tested in science, with Alpine Lakes having 67 percent success, compared to the state's 50.9 percent success.

While fourth and fifth grades performed 16 to 27 percent better than the state in math and ELA, third graders only performed 12 percent better in math, and 3 percent better in ELA. "I attribute those reading scores to the impact of COVID," said Renner-Singer.

"This is the class that I think is most impacted by the school shutdown," said Principal Emily Ross of Peshastin-Dryden Elementary. Now fourth graders in the 2023-2024 school year, these students hadn't even finished Kindergarten when the pandemic started. While the grades ahead of them had a couple years of learning and school structure to fall back on, these students were

having to learn basic foundational skills without much experience of a school routine.

Although both reading and math percentages were lower than other grades, Ross attributed the higher performance in math to the straightforwardness of basic numeracy. It was easier for parents to help kids with math than it was reading.

"You can look on your fingers and you can show that there's a five and people understand generally, when you take away one, you can put down a finger and that's four, and it's a shared understanding," said Ross. Reading however, requires a phonemic awareness that isn't as common. "If the teacher is asking a student to spell a C-V-C word [consonant-vowel-consonant], that's a term that we use all the time in school that we can really get in-depth with our students on. In order to have a parent get to that level of supporting their child at home, it requires a lot of background knowledge that not everyone has," said Ross.

The other challenge of reading was the responsiveness that's required. In the classroom, the teacher listens to the student read and provides immediate feedback when they mispronounce a word. "Since students were having to record themselves and wait for the teacher to listen and respond, it didn't have the same effectiveness," said Ross. Even holding a pencil incorrectly was something that could be missed on Zoom.

On top of this, when kids returned to school, a lot of their brain power was being diverted to relearning social interaction. "If you're not used to playing with a group of kids and you're all of a sudden allowed to, part of your brain is going to be thinking about how you're doing this. It's not going to be as automatic while you're still trying to get that 'a' sound in class," said Ross.

Despite the challenges, Ross said students that were able to maintain a quiet and consistent workspace at home were able to still find success.

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Opinion

A Time for Gratitude and Reflection

As the crisp autumn air envelops us and the leaves paint a vivid mosaic of reds, oranges, and yellows, our hearts and homes prepare for a cherished tradition: Thanksgiving. This quintessentially American holiday serves as a reminder to pause amidst life's hustle and bustle, embracing gratitude, unity, and the spirit of giving.



From the Publisher

TERRY WARD

Originating from the historical harvest feast shared between the Pilgrims and Native Americans in 1621, Thanksgiving has evolved into a mosaic of traditions. It's a day when families and friends gather around tables laden with a cornucopia of culinary delights, from succulent roasted turkeys to pumpkin pies adorned with dollops of whipped cream.

Beyond the feast lies the heart of Thanksgiving — the expression of gratitude. In a world often bustling with noise and distractions, this day beckons us to reflect on our blessings. It's a moment to appreciate the warmth of loved ones' laughter, the embrace of cherished friendships, and the simple joys that enrich our lives.

Yet, Thanksgiving is not merely about counting blessings; it's about sharing them. It's a time to extend a hand to those less fortunate, embodying the true essence of community. Whether through volunteering at local shelters, donating to food banks, or offering support to a neighbor

in need, this holiday calls us to demonstrate compassion and generosity.

In recent years, the celebration of Thanksgiving has evolved in response to changing times. Families scattered across the country often reunite through virtual gatherings, utilizing technology to bridge distances and share in the spirit of togetherness.

This year, as we gather once more, let us not only revel in the delectable aromas wafting from the kitchen but also in the conversations that unite us. Let's remember to acknowledge the richness found in our diverse tapestry of cultures, beliefs, and traditions that make this nation so vibrant.

As the holiday season commences, Thanksgiving serves as the prelude, fostering a sense of appreciation and setting the stage for the coming festivities. It prompts us to reflect not only on the abundance of our tables but also on the richness of our lives.

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, let us carry the values of gratitude, compassion, and unity beyond this day, making every day an opportunity to express thanks and extend kindness to all.

May this Thanksgiving be a tapestry woven with love, gratitude, and cherished moments, creating lasting memories that resonate throughout the year.

Happy Thanksgiving to all!

100 Years Ago This Month: Historical events from November 1923

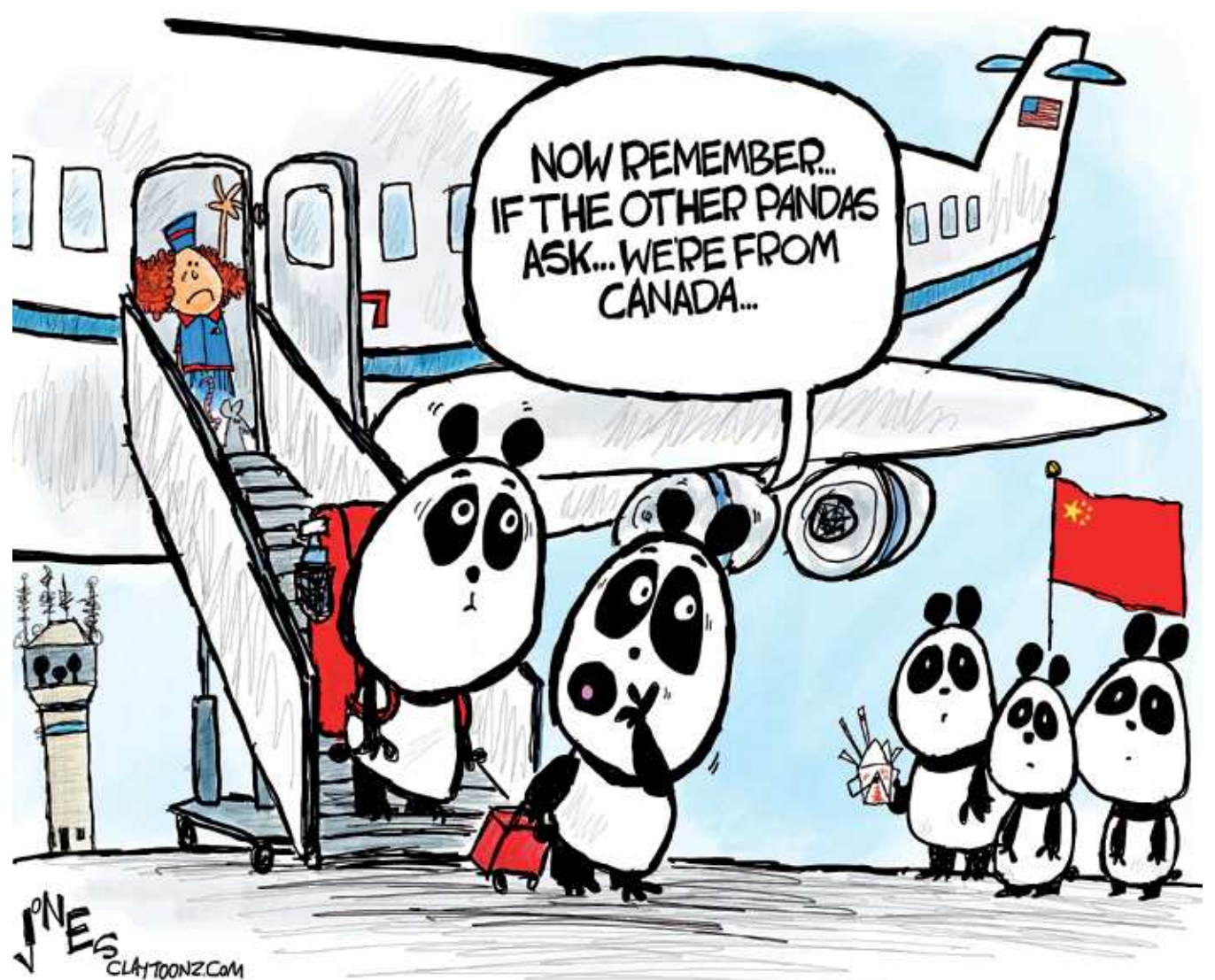
The month of November has been home to many historical events over the years. Here's a look at some that helped to shape the world in November 1923.

- Industrialist Gustav Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach signs an agreement with the French government while imprisoned on November 1. The agreement establishes conditions under which miners working for Krupp would resume work. Despite the agreement, Krupp remains imprisoned for two more weeks.
- Silent film actress Margaret Gibson is arrested on federal blackmail and extortion charges on November 2. The charges are later dropped, though Gibson's ties to blackmail did not end there. Gibson's 1964 deathbed confession to the murder of film director William Desmond Taylor in 1922 is suspected to be related to the blackmail scandals that Gibson had been linked to at the time of her arrest.
- The New York Renaissance play their first game on November 3. Often referred to as "The Rens," the team is the first all-Black professional basketball team.
- On November 4, Adolf Hitler abandons a plan to kidnap Bavarian leaders and declare a revolution after seeing a significant police presence at a memorial ceremony for

war dead in which various nationalist groups, including Nazis, marched.

- Despite being terminally ill with kidney disease, heavyweight boxer Bill Miske upsets Bill Brennan with a fourth round knockout on November 7. Miske was aware of his illness, and even fought despite not being able to train for the fight. The bout was the last of Miske's career, and the boxer succumbed to his illness on January 1, 1924.
- The Beer Hall Putsch begins on November 8. Hitler and more than 600 Nazi Party Storm Troopers surround a large beer hall where Bavaria State Commissioner Gustav Ritter von Kahr is making a speech. Hitler announces the Bavarian government is deposed, though he is ultimately found hiding in an attic on November 11 and arrested for high treason.
- The new flag of the Soviet Union is adopted on November 12. The flag remains largely the same until the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991.
- On November 14, Germany suspends payment of its reparations stemming from World War I, claiming France and Belgium had violated terms of the Treaty of Versailles.
- The entire crew aboard the American schooner

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OUR VIEW

Report unveils local journalism's crisis and rays of hope

The Leavenworth Echo calls for community aid

In the annals of our nation's media, the year 2023 has unveiled a complex tapestry, woven with threads of promise and threads of despair for local journalism. Recent revelations from the Medill Local News Initiative at Northwestern University delineate a stark reality: while glimmers of hope emerge with philanthropic pledges and innovative models, the fabric of local news outlets continues to fray, imperiling our communities' cohesion and democratic ethos.

Amidst the shadows, rays of hope shone through in the form of substantial philanthropic commitments—vital pledges totaling \$500 million. Simultaneously, governmental considerations to bridge digital divides and fortify journalistic integrity provided a beacon of optimism. Notably, select news outlets showcased promising business models, hinting at potential resurgence in beleaguered regions.

However, this ray of hope was eclipsed by an unremitting decline in the number of local news sources. The disconcerting projection anticipates the loss of a third of the country's newspapers since 2005 by the year's end, as the expansion of alternative local news entities trails the vanishing traditional sources.

Communities bereft of a local newspaper typically grapple with economic

deprivation and a lack of high-speed broadband, further isolating them from reliable information sources. This stark divide exacerbates existing societal fissures, exacerbating political polarization, civic apathy, and the proliferation of online misinformation.

The 2023 report on The State of Local News, meticulously curated by the Medill Local News Initiative, outlines the disparities engulfing our nation. Shockingly, more than half of U.S. counties lack or possess limited access to credible local news sources—be it print, digital, or broadcast. The dire statistics include 204 counties devoid of any local news outlet and 1,562 counties dependent on a solitary remaining source, with 228 on the precipice of losing this lifeline.

The decline in newspapers, at a rate surpassing two per week since 2005, has obliterated nearly 2,900 newspapers and two-thirds of newspaper journalists—43,000 positions—during the same period. This decay, particularly in metropolitan areas, compounds the crisis, leaving large swaths of residents stranded without access to essential community news.

Alternative local news entities—comprising digital start-ups, ethnic media, and public broadcasting—while promising, confront

their unique business hurdles—the struggle to attain sustainability plagues many, with advertising revenue decline imperiling their survival. The dearth of reliable internet access, especially in non-urban areas, compounds the challenges faced by digital ventures.

In this backdrop, the indispensable role of local journalism in fostering informed communities and resilient democracies looms large. It underscores the pressing need for collective action from policymakers, philanthropists, industry leaders, and community members invested in fortifying our local news ecosystem.

The Medill Local News Initiative's comprehensive report, complemented by interactive maps revealing the intricate local news landscapes across states, serves as a clarion call. It highlights the pivotal role of local journalism, invoking a sense of responsibility within us all to safeguard this cornerstone of our societal fabric.

Call to Action: Supporting The Leavenworth Echo

Amidst this critical juncture, The Leavenworth Echo stands as a testament to the importance of community-backed journalism. As the heart of our local news, it

relies on the robust support of the community it serves.

Local businesses play a pivotal role in bolstering our local news landscape. Their commitment to advertising in our publications not only promotes their services but also sustains the lifeblood of The Leavenworth Echo. We urge businesses to consider investing in local advertising, recognizing the pivotal role it plays in fostering an informed and connected community.

Moreover, residents hold the power to fortify our local news outlets. Subscribing to The Leavenworth Echo is a tangible means of supporting credible, community-driven journalism. Your subscription directly contributes to the sustenance of reliable local news, ensuring its continuity for years to come.

Furthermore, citizens can significantly contribute by patronizing businesses that advertise in The Leavenworth Echo. By consciously choosing to shop locally, you reinforce the symbiotic relationship between our vibrant local businesses and the sustenance of a robust local news ecosystem.

Together, through concerted efforts and unwavering support, we can fortify our local news and, in turn, fortify the very essence of our community's vitality and resilience.

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Have Your Say

We encourage (1) letter to the editor of 250 words or fewer from readers on subjects of local interest, and (2) "Point of View" guest opinion columns of no more than 550 words that focus on local community lifestyle issues. Letters and guest columns published become the property of The Leavenworth Echo, and it reserves the right to reject, condense or edit for clarity or when information stated as fact cannot be substantiated. Letters published in other newspapers or websites, anonymous letters, letters advocating boycotts, letters to other people, mass mailings and commercial appeals are not published. We will not publish letters that impugn the personal character of private persons or groups of people. Include your name, street address and — for verification purposes — day and evening telephone numbers. Email to letters@ward.media or mail to **Letters, The Leavenworth Echo, 29 S. Wenatchee Ave., Suite A, Wenatchee, WA 98801**

Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE



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Kid Scoop Together

Cranberry Salsa

Work with an adult to make this delicious recipe together!

Ingredients:

With the help of an adult, chop each of the following:

- 1 cup fresh or frozen cranberries
- 1 red bell pepper
- 1 green bell pepper
- 1 chili pepper
- ½ red onion
- 1 clove of garlic

Mix the following in a bowl:

- ½ tsp parsley
- ½ tsp ground cumin
- ⅛ tsp black pepper
- Zest of small orange
- 6 oz frozen orange juice concentrate

Combine all ingredients and mix well. Store in the refrigerator until all ingredients are chilled and flavors are well combined.

Eat with tortilla chips or put on a sandwich!

Thank you to the US Cranberries organization for the idea for this recipe. There are many more great cranberry recipes at uscranberries.com



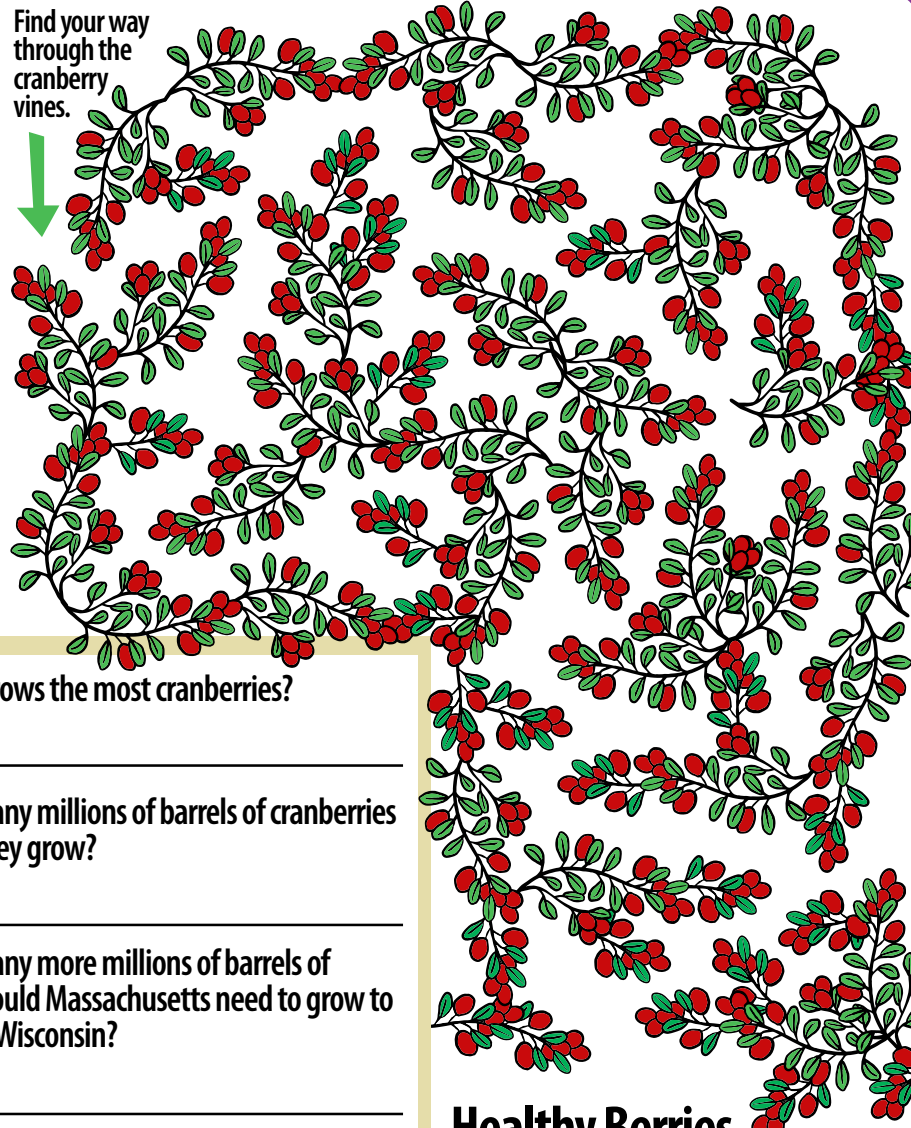
Cranberries

Americans eat about 400 million pounds of cranberries a year!

Many are eaten at Thanksgiving, but there are lots of ways to eat these little red, tangy berries all year round.

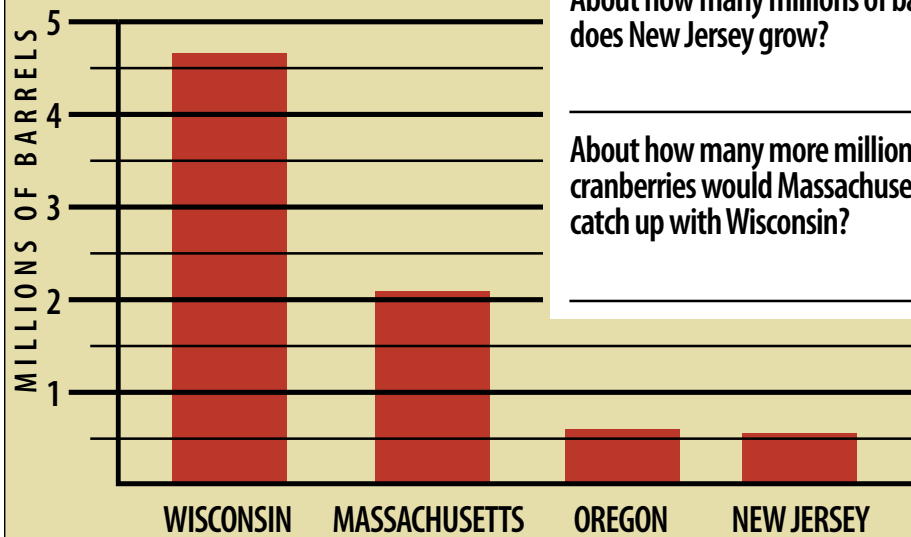
Cranberries are native to North America. Native Americans used them for both food and medicine.

Find your way through the cranberry vines.



Cranberry Chart

Use the chart to answer the questions!



Which state grows the most cranberries?

About how many millions of barrels of cranberries does New Jersey grow?

About how many more millions of barrels of cranberries would Massachusetts need to grow to catch up with Wisconsin?

NOTE: 1 barrel equals 100 pounds of berries.

SOURCE: USDA Economic Research Service and USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service

Standards Link: Number Sense: Interpret data from charts and graphs.

Healthy Berries

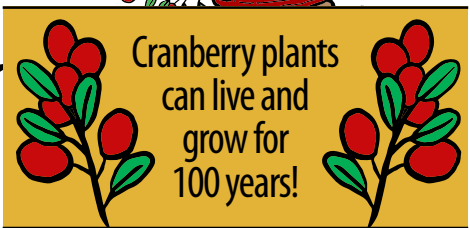
Cranberries are high in Vitamin C. Long ago, sailors and pirates took barrels of cranberries on long voyages. Eating the berries prevented a disease called scurvy.



Growing and Harvesting Cranberries

Number the pictures in order.

1. Cranberry vines are planted in sandy soil.
2. They grow into long vines that crawl along the ground.
3. When the cranberries are ripe, the farmers flood the field.
4. Cranberries have little air pockets inside that cause them to float to the top of the water.
5. Farmers wearing rubber "waders" walk through the floating cranberries and push them into a big vacuum in the center of the field.
6. The berries are sucked out of the water and end up in a big truck.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Sequence events in the correct order.

Extra! Extra!

Living Things Scavenger Hunt

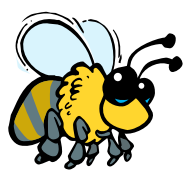
Look through the newspaper for:

- 5 things that are alive
- 4 things to eat
- 3 things made from something alive
- 2 things people need to survive
- 1 thing that you like to eat

Standards Link: Language Arts: Follow written directions.

Bee Power

Cranberry farmers need bees. The bees pollinate the plant's blossoms, so they turn into berries.



Kid Scoop Puzzler

Replace the missing words.

Ways to Eat Cranberries

Some people like the tart _____ of cranberries. Others _____ them with sugar, maple syrup, or honey.

While they are tart, cranberries can be eaten _____ or chopped raw into salsa, salads, and other dishes. Most cranberries are used to make _____ sauce and craisins. Craisins® are dried cranberries that look like reddish _____.

Canned cranberry sauce is a popular Thanksgiving side _____. It can also be enjoyed on turkey sandwiches.

Craisins® is a trademark of Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc.



Double Double Word Search

- BEES
- CRANBERRY
- EAT
- FARMERS
- FIELD
- FLOAT
- FLOOD
- FOOD
- GROW
- MEDICINE
- RED
- RIPE
- TANGY
- VINES
- WATER

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?



Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

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Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **WADERS**

The noun **waders** means high waterproof boots or waterproof pants with attached boots that are used for wading in water.

My mother wears **waders** when she harvests cranberries or goes fishing.

Try to use the word **waders** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.



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The Wenatchee Nutcracker prepares suite for the sweet

By **KATIE LINDERT**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

WENATCHEE – The Wenatchee Valley Symphony Orchestra and Fabulous Feet Wenatchee have teamed up for another production of The Wenatchee Nutcracker, a collaboration that has been in effect since 2013 but is part of a decades old regional tradition. Ballet Theatre Northwest founder, Joan Shelton-Mason, staged annual productions of “The Nutcracker” for many years before her passing. She taught dance for over 60 years, and is often credited with having brought ballet to the Wenatchee Valley.

The Wenatchee Nutcracker has carried on this treasured tradition since its inception in 2007. This year’s production features student performers ranging in ages 4-18, with 91 dancers overall. There are additionally 12 adult volunteer performers who hold both acting and dancing roles. There are many iterations of “The Nutcracker” ballets often performing variations to a set choreography. That said, Fabulous Feet Wenatchee’s own instructors and choreographers are credited with the original choreography found in productions of The Wenatchee Nutcracker. Fabulous Feet studio Owner and Director, Tracy Trotter, and Co-Director and

Instructor, Melissa Miller Port, constructed the original concept for this year’s production. Annual auditions for The Wenatchee Nutcracker are open to the community, not solely Fabulous Feet students, though most are involved. All who want to participate are welcome, with auditions held typically in July and primarily serving to help in designating roles. Rehearsals begin in September. Performers meet every week up until opening, with student rehearsals held on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. For any large scene work, dancers are broken up into groups and then slowly

integrated together until they can cohesively perform through the entire show. All other additional preparations begin in September. The sets for The Wenatchee Nutcracker are reused annually and maintained by their staff at the studio and the Numerica Performing Arts Center. Costumes are kept on hand, and altered to fit new students each year with the help of many volunteers. The Wenatchee Nutcracker has a wardrobe of close to 300 costumes due to the volume of students they have, some of the older students playing 2-5 roles. Their youngest students are angels and the mice, and as they age take on more and more additional roles. Some of the characters students may play include the Snow Queen, snow princesses, icicles, flurries, snowflakes, and demi-snowflakes (students on the younger end who are

not quite old enough to be snowflakes, demi-snowflakes are skilled midway between point and flat). Snowflakes dance on point. Co-Director Tracy Trotter is Mother Ginger and has been playing this role since The Wenatchee Nutcracker began. This year’s production will see the exciting addition of two new characters, Mother Ginger’s sisters, Ms. Cinnamon and Ms. Nutmeg. Additionally, this version of the Nutcracker will feature a Lead Angel who descends from the Christmas tree. The addition of characters are not the only new elements audience members may have to look forward to this year. Katie Spurbeck-Perez, Office Manager, Instructor, and first ever Clara for The Wenatchee Nutcracker shares, “We’re really excited for another good year, and we’re going to have new enhancements for the tree that grows during the battle

scene as well, so we’re really just excited about everything.” For a sneak preview of what magic The Wenatchee Nutcracker brings us this season, they will be performing an excerpt from the ballet as part of Holiday Spice, a review featuring a variety of regional talents at the Numerica Performing Arts Center on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 at 7 p.m. Dates for The Wenatchee Nutcracker are Dec. 7, 8 and 9 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 9 and 10 at 2 p.m., performances held at the Numerica Performing Arts Center located at 123 N. Wenatchee Ave, Wenatchee, WA 98801. Performances are 90 minutes. All ticket sales are through the Numerica Performing Arts Center. Tickets can either be purchased in person or by calling the NPAC box office at (509) 663-ARTS.

Katie Lindert: 509-731-3211 or katie@ward.media

Eagle Scout Installs Life Jacket Loaner Station in Cashmere

By **TAYLOR CALDWELL**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

CASHMERE – River recreation on the Wenatchee River will be a little safer next summer, thanks to a newly installed life jacket loaner station next to the boat ramp in Cashmere’s Riverside Park. The installation is all thanks to Wenatchee High senior Will Kolk, who chose to contribute it for his Eagle Scout Service Project. “It’s like a final test of your leadership, and it gives you a chance to show off what you learned by benefiting the community in an important way,” said Kolk.

friend in Cashmere about the opportunity to provide life jackets, he jumped on it. “I thought it would make an impact and hopefully curb those deaths,” said Kolk. Life jacket loaner stations are all over Washington state, including Leavenworth and Wenatchee, but this will be the first to exist in Cashmere. The project took Kolk about 55 hours to complete. He started on the basic designs last spring, then brought his idea to the City of Cashmere for approval. “It’s been something the city has been talking about for awhile...It’s something that the rafting community, the river-using community wanted, so it was good,” said Steve Croci, Director of Operations for the City of Cashmere. While the approval came easy, fundraising was another story. “I had a GoFundMe online and I promoted it to raise money. That took the longest. It was really hard to get funding for that. I applied to multiple grants, but those got rejected,” said Kolk. His greatest expenses were lumber and graphic design for the sign. Once the sign was ready, Kolk involved his troop in the

assembly. “That’s where the leadership comes from. You have to demonstrate your leadership skills and that includes bringing the whole troop out. You kind of give them direction and guidance and they help you through it, because it’s kind of like a team project...I provided food, we had a good time, we built the sign. It was a team effort for that one,” Kolk said. The sign includes information in both English and Spanish about river awareness and appropriate life jacket use. A chain hangs below for life jackets to rest on. Kolk collected fourteen life jackets from various sources, with sizes ranging for four-year-olds to full-grown adults. The city will put them out in the spring, and will replenish the stock as they wear. “It will bring awareness to people and give an opportunity to grab a life jacket, have it and hopefully wear it...If it saves one life that’s awesome, or if it just brings awareness to a bunch of others, that’s awesome,” said Croci.

Taylor Caldwell: 509-433-7276 or taylor@ward.media

According to a report done by the Wenatchee World, 33 people died on the Wenatchee River from 2019 - 1994, and only five of them were confirmed wearing life jackets. Since 2019, four more deaths have been recorded by American Whitewater’s accident database. While one was due to underlying health conditions, the other three were attributed to not wearing a life jacket. Kolk rafts on the Wenatchee in the summer, and was aware of the river’s death toll on unprepared river users. When he got a call from his dad’s



Boy Scout Troop Seven of Wenatchee stands proudly in front of the new life jacket loaner station in Cashmere. Will Kolk led the installation for his Eagle Scout project.



The final scene in Act 1 of The Wenatchee Nutcracker's 2022 Production, "The Land of Snow"

Dine with us in Wenatchee and Leavenworth!

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920 Front St., Leavenworth • 509-548-9652

www.wokaboutgrill.net

108 LOUNGE Find us for Happy Hour

UPPER VALLEY CHURCH GUIDE

To Place Information In The Church Guide Call 509-548-5286

New to our area? On vacation? These churches welcome you!

CASHMERE

CASHMERE BAPTIST CHURCH
103 Aplets Way • 509-782-2869
Sunday School, all ages, 9 a.m. Worship 10 a.m.
Bible Study, Wed., 6.30 p.m.
Pastor Bob Bauer
Find us on Facebook at Cashmere Baptist Church

CASHMERE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
303 Maple Street • 509-782-2431
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Call for activities: Pastor Charles Clarke
www.cashmerepres.org

CASHMERE COMMUNITY CHURCH
213 S. Division • 509-782-3811
In-person Service, Sunday, 11 a.m. until further notice.
Pastor Lilia Felicitas-Malana
cashmerecommunitychurch@gmail.com

CHRIST CENTER
Sunday Worship Service at 10 am
Lead Pastor Steve Haney
5800 Kimber Rd., Cashmere
509-295-8006
christcentercashmere.com

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
• 509-860-0736 • 401 Elberta Ave.,
Morning Prayer or Holy Eucharist.
Services, 10 a.m.
Pastor Rob Gohl

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH
• 509-860-0736 • 222 Cottage Ave.,
Morning Prayer or Holy Eucharist.
Services, 9:00 a.m.
Pastor Rob Gohl

DRYDEN

DRYDEN COMMUNITY CHURCH
Hwy 2 at Dryden Ave. • 509-782-2935
Sunday Worship at 11 am. • Prayer Meeting Wed.
at 6 pm. Pastor Bill Clem • Worship 10:45 a.m.
Pastor Steve Bergland

MID-VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH
8345 Stine Hill Rd. • 509-782-2616
Worship Service, 10 a.m.,
Sunday School, 9 a.m.
Pastor Mike Moore
www.midvalleybaptist.org

LEAVENWORTH

CASCADE MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH
Office: 509-548-4331
11025 Chumstick Hwy.
Please join us Sunday mornings
9 a.m., Sunday School
10:30 a.m., Worship Service

CORNERSTONE CHURCH
Leavenworth Grange Hall
621 Front St.
info@cornerstoneleavenworth.com
Sunday Worship – 10 a.m.

LEAVENWORTH COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
418 Evans Street • 509-548-5619
10 a.m. Sunday Service, Pastor Jo Dene Romeijn-Stout
leavenworthumc@outlook.com

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
10170 Titus Rd. (across from middle school)
Church: 509-548-7667
Meetings: Sunday - 10 a.m.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA
"Reconciling Works Congregation"
224 Benton Street • 509-548-7010
Worship 9:30 a.m. w/coffee following
Eva Jensen, Pastor
<https://www.flcleavenworth.org>

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LEAVENWORTH, SBC
429 Evans Street, 509- 470-7745
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.
Website: www.leavenworthbaptist.com
Email: info@leavenworthbaptist.com

LEAVENWORTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
111 Ski Hill Drive • 509-548-5292
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.
Lead Pastor: Greg Appleby
Youth Pastor Paige Derossett
Worship Pastor-Jacob Mitchell
www.LCN.org

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
10600 Ski Hill Drive • 509-548-4345
Saturday Services • Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Worship 11 a.m. • Fred Smith • 509-860-3997

SPIRIT LIFE CENTER
210 Benton Street • 509-548-7138
Sunday Worship 10 a.m., Prayer 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
Pastor Russell Esparza

MONITOR

MONITOR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
3799 Fairview Canyon • 509-548-2601
In-person service, Sunday, 9 a.m.
Pastor Lilia Felicitas-Malana

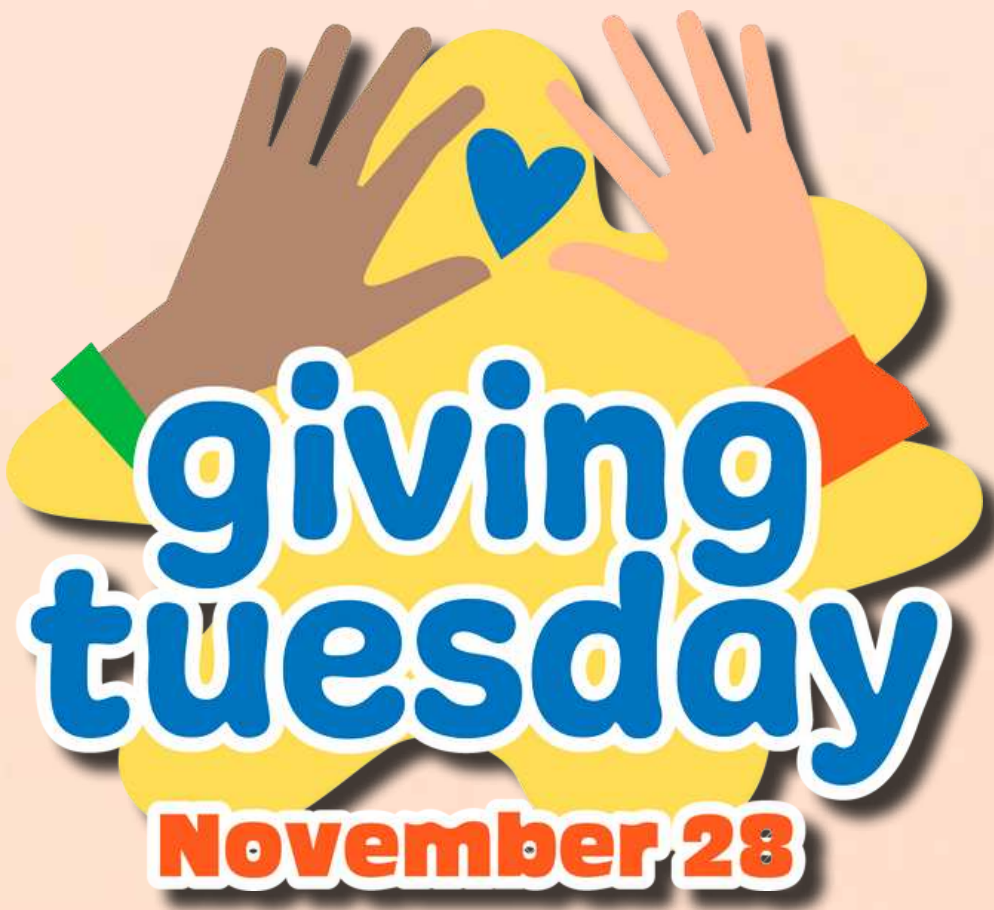
PESHASTIN

LIGHT IN THE VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH
8455 Main Street
Sunday Worship 10 a.m. • Pastor John Romine
www.lightinthevalley.org

NEW LIFE FOURSQUARE CHURCH
7591 Hwy. 97 • 509-548-4222
Sunday Worship, 10 a.m.
Pastors, Darryl and Mindy Wall
Email: newlifeleavenworth@gmail.com
FB page: [newlifeleavenworth](https://www.facebook.com/newlifeleavenworth)
www.newlifeleavenworth.com

PLAIN

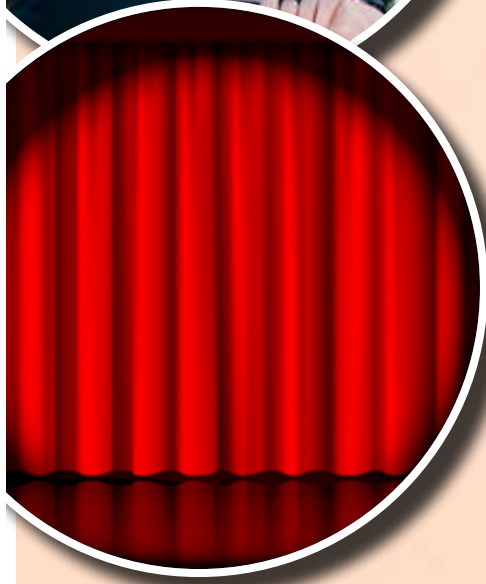
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A global movement spreading hope and generosity



Giving back strengthens our community's foundation
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Signs of charitable fraud
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Making wishes: one furry friend at a time
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November 28, 2023

GIVING TUESDAY

Give a gift they'll never forget



A place to call "Home" in the Chelan Valley

Your donation builds homes that local wage earners can afford to buy.

www.chelanvalleyhousing.org



CHELAN VALLEY HOUSING TRUST



Giving back strengthens our community's foundation

As we enter the season of gratitude and goodwill, it's with great pleasure that we unveil this special section dedicated to Giving Tuesday—an opportunity for us all to make a meaningful impact in our community.

At Ward Media, we firmly believe in the power of collective generosity and the profound difference it can make. As the Publisher of community newspapers across the region, our commitment to our readership goes beyond delivering news; it extends to fostering a thriving, supportive environment for all.

Today, we unite in celebration of Giving Tuesday—a day dedicated to giving back, supporting local causes, and uplifting the organizations that form the bedrock of our community. It's a day that transcends mere donations; it's a testament to our shared values, a symbol of our unity, and a catalyst for positive change.

The significance of giving back cannot be overstated. It is a tangible expression of our

solidarity, an embodiment of our empathy, and a testament to our commitment to building a stronger, more vibrant community. As we showcase some of the nonprofits in our area, their remarkable initiatives, and the incredible people behind them, we hope to inspire each and every one of you to join us in this noble endeavor.

Whether it's a small gesture of kindness, a donation of time, resources, or support for a cause close to your heart, remember that every contribution—no matter the size—matters. Together, our actions ripple outward, creating waves of positivity and empowerment that reverberate across our neighborhoods and beyond.

In the spirit of Giving Tuesday, let us come together, united in purpose, and extend a helping hand to those in

need. Let us embrace the joy of giving and share in the fulfillment that comes from making a difference in the lives of others.

We invite you to immerse yourself in the stories within these pages, to be inspired, and to embark on your own journey of giving. Let us stand as a beacon of compassion and solidarity, nurturing a community where generosity knows no bounds.

Thank you for joining us on this extraordinary day of giving and for being an integral part of the fabric that makes our community truly exceptional.

With heartfelt appreciation,
Terry Ward,
Publisher



The link between volunteering and academic performance

There are many reasons for parents to encourage children who express an interest in volunteering. Volunteering is a social activity that can help children develop their social and networking skills, and many parents credit volunteering with instilling a sense of perspective in their children that they might not have gained had they not been exposed to people from different backgrounds.

Volunteering also has been linked to stronger academic performance. The Corporation for National and Community Service reports that students

who indicate they're doing better in school are more likely to be volunteers than students who report doing less well. The broadened exposure to people and places that students may otherwise not encounter without volunteering also can benefit them in the classroom, helping them more readily identify with cultures and societies they're studying.

College applicants with volunteering experience also may set themselves apart in the increasingly competitive application process. Though a 2019 Pew Research study reported that most schools

admit more than two-thirds of their applicants, that figure is significantly lower at many of the more highly rated institutions in the United States. For example, Stanford University (4.3 percent) and Harvard University (4.9 percent) recently reported acceptance rates below 5 percent.

Though volunteering alone won't help applicants gain acceptance to such competitive institutions, it can serve as a strong résumé builder and be even more effective if it also produces the previously noted improvements in academic performance.

How to start an employee volunteer program

Passion for volunteering is commendable. Some individuals are so excited about the prospects of giving back that they may want to recruit more people to help. Such individuals may find that their place of employment is a great place to spearhead volunteer recruitment efforts.

Companies are diverse, but they also tend to attract like-minded individuals, which can make it easier to recruit potential volunteers. Business owners or human resources personnel looking to strengthen relationships among employees and give back to their communities can consider beginning volunteer programs at work. Here are some tips to begin this journey.

Choose a cause to support

While national nonprofits are worthy of support, employees may be more excited about partnering with local initiatives. Human

resource departments or the employees who are starting volunteer programs at work can poll workers on which causes to stand behind. For example, a company that produces outdoor recreation clothing and equipment might

want to support local efforts that focus on conservation in nearby parks. If a company has a strong stance on education, gear volunteerism around providing supplies for students or improving technological resources in schools.

Involve leadership

It's important to get the backing and approval of company leaders before starting a volunteer group. Since you may be using company resources and infringing on some company time, make sure that higher-ups are supportive. They also may be able to let organizers know whether a certain cause is complementary to the company mission or if it infringes on their mission. For example, a company that

produces plastic products may not mesh with volunteer groups that have negative things to say about plastic products.

Start recruiting volunteers

Reach out to employees and spell out the program's mission during your recruitment efforts. This may be a task that the human resources department can help with. If the company has a department that organizes employee engagement activities, then that group would be a valuable resource as well.

It is also important to think about where volunteers may fit in. Assigning jobs and figuring out how many volunteers and man-hours will be required to complete tasks can provide a

greater sense of the scope of the venture.

Establish when volunteerism will take place

It's best to have ground rules about how much of the employer-supported volunteer work will occur after hours. Some companies may be amenable to having a certain pocket of time taken from the work day, such as establishing Early Dismissal Fridays for volunteers. Employees can base their participation on how it will affect their schedules.

Establishing a volunteer program at work can be a great way to get involved and build strong relationships within the community.



STOCK PHOTO



Join the Fun!

The Brewster-Bridgeport-Pateros Community & Senior Center is a non-profit organization with focus on our senior community. We are starting our membership drive for 2024 and our dues are only \$12.00 per person. Donations are always appreciated.

We are also looking for volunteers for our thrift shop. This



could be an opportunity for kids from the schools to earn credit for community service.

As a non-profit organization, we offer many services to the community, some of which is loaning out medical equipment. We also run a monthly commodity program for Community Action. Hot meals are served three days a week serviced by OCTN. The OCTN bus runs 3 days a week locally and to Wenatchee on Thursday.

Come join us – it's a great way to serve our communities!
109 S. Bridge Street, Brewster | 509-689-2815

Chelan Valley Community Nurse

The Chelan Valley Community Nurse is a free, grass roots program dedicated to assisting our Chelan Valley seniors and others who are frail or vulnerable, to keep them safely in their homes. CVCN offers in-home Blood Pressure checks, Medication and Treatment Education, especially post hospital discharge, and Management Assistance with new or chronic conditions. CVCN also provides referrals to Physicians, Community Resources and Support Services for both Clients and their Families. Our services offer relief and support for family members as well, who live outside our valley and who are unable to physically assess and attend their loved ones. The Chelan Valley Community Nurse Program is FREE to anyone living within the Lake Chelan Valley and is funded entirely by Donations and Grants. We do not require Physician Orders, Insurance or payment. We depend upon the generosity of Donors for revenue and Your Support is Deeply Appreciated!



For information or to refer yourself, a neighbor or a loved one, please call 509-679-9059 or 509-393-1450. We are here to assist you and those you care about.

chelanvalleycommunitynurse@gmail.com | www.chelanvalleycommunitynurse.org

To Donate: facebook@ChelanValleyCommunityNurse Donations by Check may be mailed to: Chelan Valley Community Nurse, PO Box 2987, Chelan, WA 98816

Leavenworth Summer Theater is kicking off its 30th Anniversary Season of Theater Under the Stars

Be a part of the magic with your donation!

Leavenworth Summer Theater began as the vision of John and Susan Wagner and Bill Weis in 1994. Today, LST welcomes dozens of local and traveling actors and musicians each summer.

Great talent and a terrific outdoor location come together to create something truly magical. Today, Leavenworth Summer Theater is the largest theater between Seattle and Spokane, with more than 20,000 people expected each summer.

Local families have made it a memorable tradition. Join in the fun!

Celebrating 30 Years of Theater Magic

Leavenworth Summer Theater on Giving Tuesday

As the holiday season approaches, our hearts are filled with gratitude, and what better way to channel that spirit than by supporting the arts? This Giving Tuesday, we are thrilled to share the story of Leavenworth Summer Theater, a nonprofit organization embarking on its 30th-anniversary season of enchanting theater under the stars.

Founded in 1994 by John and Susan Wagner and Bill Weis, Leavenworth Summer Theater has grown to become the largest theater between Seattle and Spokane. Our commitment to providing family-friendly outdoor musical experiences in the picturesque foothills surrounding Leavenworth has garnered the love and support of more than 20,000 patrons each summer.

This upcoming season promises to be extra special as we showcase Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* and continue the beloved Leavenworth family tradition of *The Sound of Music*, both performed at the breathtaking Ski Hill Amphitheater. With show dates in July and August, we invite you to join us for an unforgettable evening filled with laughter, music, and the magic of live theater.

What sets us apart is not just our captivating productions but also the sense of community we foster. Each summer, we welcome 50-70 actors and musicians, some of whom hail from local areas, while others travel from across the nation to be part of our theatrical family.

As we prepare for this milestone season, your support on Giving Tuesday can help us continue our mission of bringing the arts to the heart of our community. Join us in celebrating 30 years of Leavenworth Summer Theater, where every ticket purchased and every donation made contributes to the magic that is live outdoor theater. Together, let's ensure that the lights on our stage continue to shine brightly for years to come.

The Impact of Your Contribution

Small Donations, Big Change

As Giving Tuesday approaches, it's a time to reflect on the power of generosity and the remarkable impact that even small donations can have on creating significant change in our communities. While the idea of making a difference often seems synonymous with large sums of money, the reality is that every contribution, regardless of size, plays a vital role in shaping a brighter future.

In the realm of charitable giving, it's essential to recognize that small donations collectively contribute to a substantial force for positive change. These contributions, when combined, form a mosaic of support that can address various needs and challenges faced by local organizations and initiatives.

One of the remarkable aspects of small donations is their ability to provide immediate assistance where it's needed most. Local charities and nonprofits often rely on a steady influx of modest contributions to sustain their day-to-day operations and fund essential programs. These funds may go towards providing meals for the hungry, educational resources for underserved communities, or support for those facing unexpected crises.

Moreover, small donations have a cascading effect on community engagement. When individuals contribute, they not only provide financial support but also signal to others the importance of giving back. This ripple effect creates a culture of philanthropy, inspiring more people to join the cause and amplifying the overall impact.

Consider the example of a local literacy program that aims to improve educational outcomes for children. A modest donation may provide the necessary materials for a child to participate in reading programs, setting them on a path towards academic success. Multiply that by numerous small donations, and suddenly, the program has the resources to expand its reach, benefiting even more children in the community.

In the digital age, the ease of making small donations has never been greater. Online platforms and crowdfunding initiatives allow individuals to contribute to causes they care about with just a few clicks. This accessibility empowers people to support a variety of initiatives, breaking down barriers and enabling anyone, regardless of financial means, to make a positive impact.

As we approach Giving Tuesday, let's celebrate the incredible potential of small donations. Whether it's contributing to one of the many North Cascade local food banks, supporting a community project, or aiding a cause close to your heart, know that your generosity, no matter the amount, is part of a collective force that can bring about meaningful change. Together, let's embrace the spirit of giving and recognize the profound impact we can achieve when we all contribute, no matter how small the gesture.

Women make up the greatest percentage of volunteers.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics says women currently volunteer roughly 6 percent more than men. What types of jobs might volunteers be doing? Fundraising for an event is the most common type of volunteer job in the United States. This is followed by tutoring or teaching; collecting, preparing, distributing or serving food; general labor; professional or management assistance; and coaching, refereeing or supervising sports teams.

STOCK PHOTO

Patty's Animal Rescue

We rescue animals in need in our community to find them happy, forever homes. Your generous tax-deductible donations provide food, vet care, enrichment and safe spaces for abandoned animals.

Visit our thrift store, **A Cause for Paws**, located at 131 Apple Blossom Drive Suite 111. We accept donations and all proceeds from sales support our rescue!

To make a tax-deductible donation use our QR codes. View our Amazon wish list <https://a.co/bcTbAQq>

venmo

Donate or give the gift of museum membership today!

WenatcheeValleyMuseum.org
info@wvmcc.org
509-888-6240

UVCares: New Drug and Alcohol Treatment Center Opens

By UVCARES

UVCares Behavioral Health continues to provide mental health services to our community. Additionally, UVCares Behavioral Health has opened a new division of substance use disorder assessments and outpatient treatment that addresses the increasing need of drug & alcohol addiction.

What we do and how you can help:

We average service to 46 clients per week and we have stopped 5 active suicide attempts. We are committed to serving you and our neighbors.

How Your Donation Helps a Person in Need

- \$100.00 - provides an

evaluation and a treatment plan.

- \$500.00 - provides treatment services.
- \$1,000.00 - provides full treatment.

We are experiencing higher than normal costs associated with therapist fees. Your donation is needed and truly appreciated.

Facts About UVCares Behavioral Health

- A registered 501c3 non-profit charitable organization - donations are tax deductible.
- Provides mental health assessments and counseling.
- Provides drug & alcohol addiction assessments and treatment.
- Provides private and court-ordered services.

- Addresses barriers that include access and affordability.
- Our telehealth model offers significant convenience and privacy.
- Sliding scale & payment plans.
- State approved healthcare facility (BHA.FS.61425685).
- HIPAA compliant.

We Serve

- Children (6+)
- Adolescents
- Adults
- Individuals
- Couples
- Family units
- 98% live either at or below the federal poverty level.

Reach out to us at 509-300-1113 - info@uvcares.org - www.UVCares.org



Cyber scams come in many different forms

STOCK PHOTO

In a relatively short period of time, the internet has changed the way people live. Things that might have been unimaginable as recently as a quarter century ago are now ingrained in daily life. For instance, few people in the late 1990s might have imagined a day when billions of people across the globe would be walking around with mini-computers capable of taking hi-resolution photos in their pockets. But smartphones have long since become an accepted and vital part of life in the 21st century.

The internet has opened doors to new possibilities, but it's also left other doors open for cybercriminals. Any home with an internet connection is potentially vulnerable to internet scams. Recognition of that fact and awareness of the following scams can reduce the likelihood of being victimized by opportunistic cybercriminals.

- **Disaster relief scams:** Human beings' innate sense of compassion is on full display in the aftermath of natural disasters when people across the globe typically donate hundreds of millions of dollars in an effort to help people whose lives have been turned upside down by hurricanes, wildfires, and other devastating events.

But skilled cybercriminals prey on that compassion by setting up bogus relief efforts. Such efforts may involve fake charities with names that are similar but slightly different than well-known, legitimate nonprofit organizations. Operations such as Charity Navigator make it easy to verify if a charitable organization is legitimate, and would-be donors should utilize such resources prior to making any donations.

- **Phishing scams:** Phishing scams are among the oldest cyber scams, but they still nab victims every day. The Federal Trade Commission warns that many phishing scams are conducted via email or text messages and inform potential victims that there is an issue with their finances. Some may say there are issues with a bank account, credit card or even a tax return. Skeptics may wonder how anyone could fall for a phishing scam in the age of two-factor authentication and other security measures. However, the Federal Bureau of Investigation reports that phishing scams cost victims nearly \$60 million in 2019, indicating they're still a lucrative source of

income for cybercriminals.

- **Formjacking:** Formjacking is a retail-based scam in which online shoppers' personal and financial information is stolen. In such instances, a retail website could be hacked without users' knowledge. When it comes time to purchase items they've placed in their carts, users are redirected to a fraudulent payment page, where they enter personal information, such as their credit card number, that cybercriminals then steal. When buying items online, shoppers should confirm that the URL on the payment page aligns with the retailer they're buying from. If the URL is missing even a single letter (think Amzon.com instead of Amazon.com), then chances are a formjacking scam is being operated.

Tech support scams, in which users are asked to download applications to fix an infected computer, and similar download-based fake antivirus software scams are some additional examples of cyber scams. Users are urged to be on the lookout for each of these types of scams and exercise caution whenever something doesn't seem right or authentic.



UVCares

UVCares is a nonprofit organization that delivers mental health and substance use drug and alcohol addiction healthcare while addressing barriers that include access, affordability, and community outreach.

How Your Donation Helps a Person in Need

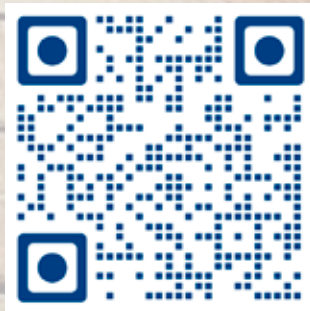
- **\$100.00** provides an evaluation and a treatment plan.
- **\$500.00** provides treatment services.
- **\$1,000.00** provides full treatment.

UVCares

Supporters like you mean a lot to our local communities. Thank you to UVCares supporters. Your support means everything.

Serving our communities since 2018.

(509) 300-1113
info@uvcares.org
uvcares.org



Emergency Veterinary Care

For Animals In Need



Besides offering affordable Spay and Neuter services for low-income families, Okanogan Regional Humane also helps cover the cost of emergency medical services for animals in our area.

Animals like Omen, a very sweet cat who was hit by a car earlier this year. The driver took Omen to a local vet and quickly realized that the surgery costs were beyond his financial reach. ORH stepped in and worked with the local vet to pay the remaining bill. Omen made a full recovery and is now living his best life in his new forever home!

Consider supporting Okanogan Regional Humane this Giving Tuesday and help us create happy endings for animals in need, like Omen.

www.ok-humane.org/donate

THRIVE

CHELAN VALLEY
EMPOWERING YOUTH

'tis the season

TO GIVE

ThriveChelanValley.com

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ITEMS LIKE COATS, SHOES,
AND FOOD TO YOUTH IN
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JOB POSITIONS AVAILABLE!



If you want to better the lives of children and families apply today!

Competitive wages and comprehensive benefits are the beginning of the many advantages when working at OCCDA.



Apply for an open job position today!

To apply scan the QR code or visit www.occda.net



Imaginations come alive



STOCK PHOTO

By OKANOGAN COUNTY CHILD DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

As a Local Program Partner of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, Okanogan County Child Development Association (OCCDA) ensures that children in the community receive books at no cost to families.

This program is funded solely by grants and community donations.

To ensure children continue to receive these books every month, please donate to OCCDA today through Give NCW.

Enrolled children from birth to age five receive a **free, high-quality, developmentally appropriate book every month.** The book is addressed directly to the child to help spark excitement in building a foundation in early literacy.

Research shows that having access to books helps

children gain early literacy skills and prepares them for kindergarten. When parents read to their children, it also provides opportunities for the parent and child to bond. We have delivered nearly 50,000 books to over 2,600 local children.

The Give NCW campaign is open on Thanksgiving Day until Dec. 31, 2023.

To donate, please visit <https://cfncw.org/givencw2023/>



Donate Today!



Giving Tuesday:

A global movement spreading hope and generosity

Rooted in the spirit of generosity, this global phenomenon, celebrated on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving, encourages individuals and communities worldwide to embrace the act of giving back.

Origin and History:

Emerging in 2012 as a response to the commercialism of Black Friday and Cyber Monday, the concept of Giving Tuesday was born from a collaboration between the 92nd Street Y, a

cultural and community center in New York City, and the United Nations Foundation. Fueled by the power of social media and the collective desire to make a positive impact, this initiative swiftly gained traction, transcending borders and cultures.

The Purpose and Impact:

Giving Tuesday serves as a beacon of hope, uniting people across the globe to support causes close to their hearts. Whether contributing funds

to charitable organizations, volunteering time and expertise, or simply spreading awareness, this day empowers individuals to effect change in their communities and beyond.

Unwavering Support and Growth:

Over the years, the ethos of Giving Tuesday has reverberated across continents, igniting a spirit of philanthropy that knows no bounds. Organizations, corporations, and individuals join forces, amplifying the impact of their contributions to address diverse issues, from education and healthcare to environmental conservation and social justice.

Local Initiatives and Participation:

Communities around the world, including our own in North Central Washington, embrace Giving Tuesday with enthusiasm and passion. From charitable drives and fundraising events to volunteer-led initiatives, the spirit of giving resonates deeply within our neighborhoods, enriching lives and fostering a culture of compassion.

Looking Ahead:

As the world faces various challenges, the significance of Giving Tuesday continues to grow, reminding us of the profound impact of altruism. With each passing year, this day serves as a powerful reminder that generosity knows no bounds and that collective action can pave the way for a brighter, more compassionate world.



STOCK PHOTO



November is National Family Caregivers Month
Contact us for programs that help you continue to help them!



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TO DONATE: Send a check to: **Chelan Valley Hope, P.O. Box 635, Chelan, WA. 98816** or go online: chelanvalleyhope.org/donate



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How to make a charity a beneficiary

Giving to charity can be a rewarding endeavor that makes a difference in the lives of people in need. Many people donate throughout their lives, and some people may want to impart a more lasting legacy by continuing to support a charity even after they have passed away.

Incorporating a charity into an estate plan is a great way to continue giving after you pass away. Individuals may not know how to make charities beneficiaries in their wills. A financial planner, attorney or accountant can answer the more complex questions individuals have about naming charities as beneficiaries in a will. In the meantime, this general guide can serve as a solid foundation for individuals

who want to give back in their wills.

Most people think of beneficiaries as loved ones, but a beneficiary can be any person or entity one chooses to leave money to, including nonprofit organizations. It's relatively the same process to name a charity as a beneficiary as it is an individual. According to the resource Trust & Will, first identify the charity that will be supported, including getting its Employer Identification Number or Taxpayer Identification Number. Next, determine which type of gift to make, which may be a predetermined financial contribution, a gift of property, or other assets like stocks. For large donations like real estate or cars, it may be best to contact the charity in advance

to ensure they are able to accept such gifts. Finally, be sure to include your wishes in an estate plan. A qualified attorney can help clients draft a will that spells out their wishes in detail.

Keep in mind that charities also can be named as beneficiaries on life insurance policies or individual retirement accounts. They also can be listed on bank accounts. Again, people are urged to discuss all options with estate planners to ensure their plans fully reflect their wishes.

When naming a charity as a beneficiary, it can be wise to inform family members and other beneficiaries so no one is caught off guard upon your death. This way the charitable gift is not held up by delays in executing the will.

Signs of charitable fraud

Giving to charity is a selfless endeavor that's vital to the survival of countless nonprofit organizations across the globe. Without the generosity of donors, many charitable organizations would cease to exist, leaving the people they help vulnerable to illness and financial hardship.

Fraud may be the furthest thing from donors' minds, but it's something charitable individuals must be aware of as they consider donating to charity. According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, charity fraud increases during the holiday season, when many people embrace the spirit of giving and seek to make end-of-year tax deductible gifts to their favorite charities.

The FBI also warns that charity scams are common after disasters or tragedies, including pandemics. The Federal Trade Commission noted in September 2020 that Americans had lost more than \$145 million to charity fraud

related to the coronavirus in the first six months of the pandemic.

One measure all prospective donors should take is to learn the signs of charitable fraud. Many charity scams target seniors, but no one is entirely safe from charity fraud. AARP notes that the following are some warning signs of charity fraud.

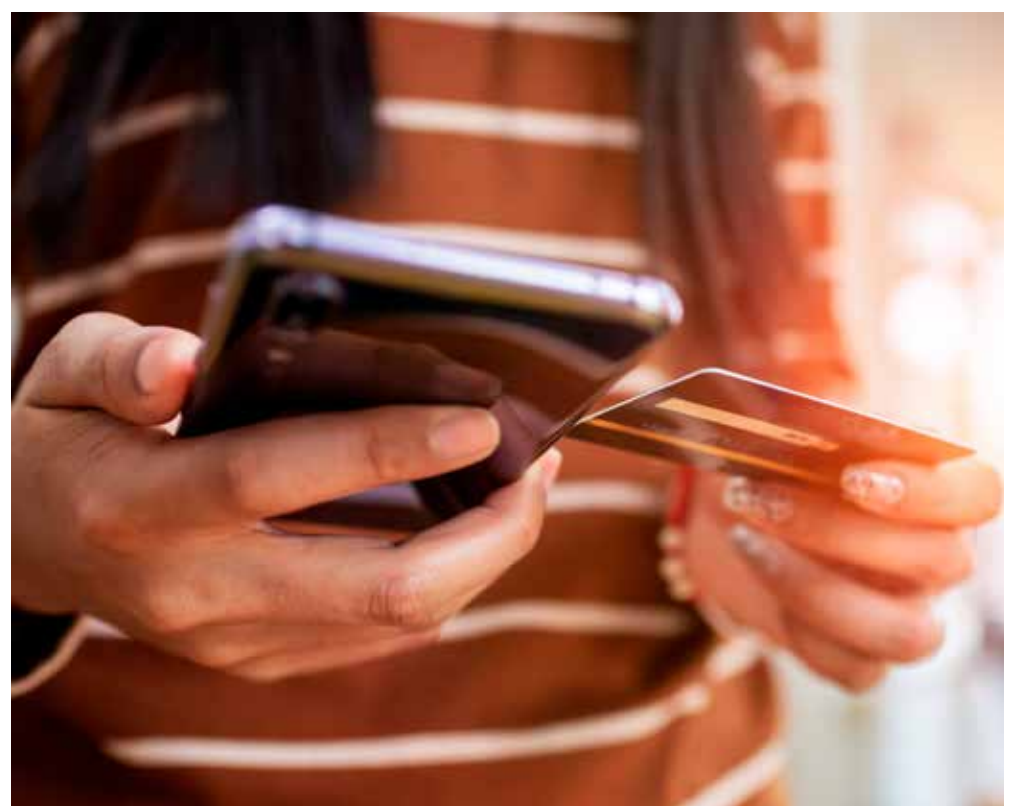
Pressure to give: Reputable charities do not pressure prospective donors into giving. A strong, trustworthy charity will accept donations whenever donors choose to make them. Legitimate operations like the American Red Cross may heighten their solicitations after natural disasters, but such groups still will not try to pressure people into donating.

Thanking donors for donations they don't recall making: AARP notes that some charitable fraud perpetrators will try to convince potential victims they have already given to a cause. This is done in an effort

to lower potential victims' resistance, giving them a false sense of security and the impression that a fraudulent operation is legitimate. If donors don't recall donating to a specific charity, chances are strong they didn't make such a donation and that the message of gratitude is merely a fishing expedition intended to reel in new victims.

Requests for cash, gift cards, or wire transfers: Cash, gifts, and wire transfers are difficult to trace, which makes it easier for perpetrators of fraud to escape the authorities. Reputable charities will welcome donations made by personal check or credit card.

Perpetrators of charitable fraud prey on the vulnerability of well-meaning donors who simply want to support a good cause. Learning to spot signs of charitable fraud can provide an added measure of protection against the criminals behind such operations.



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Thinking Outside the Box in Giving: Unconventional Ways to Contribute to Causes Beyond Traditional Donations

As Giving Tuesday approaches, a day dedicated to charitable acts and giving back to the community, it's an opportune time to explore unconventional ways of making a difference beyond the traditional avenues of monetary donations. While financial contributions are undoubtedly valuable, there are myriad creative and unexpected ways to support causes close to your heart. This year, let's think outside the box and discover innovative ways to contribute to meaningful change.

Time and Skills Donation:

Instead of reaching for your

wallet, consider giving the gift of your time and skills. Many non-profit organizations are in constant need of volunteers to support their missions. Whether you have expertise in graphic design, marketing, event planning, or simply a willingness to lend a hand, your skills can make a tangible impact. Offer to help with social media campaigns, create promotional materials, or organize fundraising events. Your time and talents can be just as valuable as a monetary donation.

Micro-Volunteering:

For those with hectic schedules, micro-volunteering offers a convenient way

to contribute in bite-sized increments. Websites like Sparked and Catchafire connect volunteers with short-term, online projects that can be completed in as little as 15 minutes. This allows individuals to make a meaningful impact, even during a coffee break or while waiting for a bus.

Donation of Goods:

Clean out your closet or declutter your home with a purpose. Many charities accept donations of gently used clothing, household items, and even technology. Your old laptop or smartphone, for instance, could provide educational opportunities for

those in need. Check with local organizations to see what specific items they are currently seeking.

Educational Initiatives:

Share your knowledge and passion by engaging in educational initiatives. Offer to host a workshop or mentorship program for individuals interested in your field of expertise. Education is a powerful tool for empowerment, and your guidance can help open doors for others.

Social Media Advocacy:

Leverage the power of social media to raise awareness about causes that matter

to you. Share informative content, inspiring stories, and calls to action on platforms like Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook. Your online presence can help amplify the reach of organizations, sparking conversations and encouraging others to get involved.

Random Acts of Kindness:

Sometimes, the simplest acts can have the most profound impact. Embrace the philosophy of random acts of kindness by surprising strangers with small gestures of goodwill. Whether it's paying for someone's coffee

or leaving uplifting notes in public spaces, spreading positivity can create a ripple effect that extends far beyond the initial act.

This Giving Tuesday, let's redefine the meaning of giving by exploring unconventional ways to make a positive impact. Whether it's through volunteering your time, sharing your skills, or embracing small acts of kindness, there are countless ways to contribute to causes that matter. By thinking outside the box, we can create a culture of giving that extends beyond traditional donations and fosters a spirit of generosity that lasts throughout the year.

Charities that help children

Whitney Houston famously sang "the children are our future." Each generation has the potential to change the world. Even the most determined children need some helping hands in order to reach their full potential, especially if they must confront financial, medical, or other obstacles.

Charitable organizations assist individuals in various ways. Children's charities help kids in need, whether they are facing poverty, need critical medical care, come from abusive homes, or require learning assistance. The following are some of the many critical children's charities working to help youngsters reach their full potential.

Wheels for Wishes: This organization helps children of the Make-A-

Wish Foundation. Wheels for Wishes facilitates car donations that can help fund experiences for critically ill children. (www.wheelsforwishes.org)

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation for Childhood Cancer:

This organization was started by the parents of Alexandra "Alex" Scott, a young girl who had cancer and succumbed to the disease in 2004. The group helps raise funds for pediatric cancer research. (www.AlexsLemonade.org)

WorldVision: This group was founded in 1950 by Robert Pierce to support Christian mission services for families experiencing crises in East Asia. It is now the largest international non-governmental organization helping impoverished children in Asia and elsewhere. (www.worldvision.org)

Save the Children: This charity works internationally and in the United States to sponsor children experiencing abuse, physical abuse, neglect, and sexual exploitation. (www.savethechildren.org)

Imagination Library: This organization, started by country star Dolly Parton, provides free books to children from birth through age 5. While it began for kids in rural Tennessee in 1995, the charity now distributes one million books to children across the U.S. to help foster a love of reading. (<https://imaginationlibrary.com/>)

St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital:

The work at St. Jude's helps to fund research to find cures and new treatments for childhood cancers. St. Jude's also provides safe and free medical services to children with cancer. (www.stjude.org)

Locks of Love: This charity provides wigs made of real hair for children suffering from long-term medical hair loss. The wigs are made from donated ponytails to provide the highest quality hair prosthetics to financially disadvantaged children. (<https://locksoflove.org>)



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Give NCW is an online fundraising campaign from Thanksgiving Day - December 31st that supports nonprofits in North Central Washington.

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I wish to give furry friends to kids at Seattle Children's

Krystin, 18 leukemia



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Make-A-Wish ALASKA AND WASHINGTON

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Wish kids like Krystin need you. Make-A-Wish needs English and Spanish-speaking volunteers to help grant life-changing wishes to local kids. Start your life-changing journey to making wishes come true today!

Making wishes: one furry friend at a time

By MAKE-A-WISH ALASKA AND WASHINGTON

When Make-A-Wish alumna Krystin Intrchoodech was in the hospital, the only people outside of her family she got to see were her nurses and doctors.

"It was very lonely," said Krystin reflecting on the seven months she spent in the hospital undergoing five rounds of life-saving treatment for leukemia.

But while there, she found comfort from an unexpected source: a fluffy, pink, Build-A-Bear teddy gifted to her by her dad and brother. It was just the companion Krystin needed to lift her spirits.

She affectionately named her furry friend Krystin Jr., and the two were inseparable. "She slept with it every night," said her mom, Ladda.

During that time, she was introduced to Make-A-Wish Alaska and Washington -- the non-profit that grants wishes to local children with critical illnesses -- and was told she qualified for a wish.

"I thought about all the things I could wish for and decided that I wanted to give back," she said. "I wanted every child to have a friend - something to be there for them in their time of need to comfort them."

And so, that became her wish -- to give back.

For a day, the pediatric cancer units at the hospital were transformed into Build-A-Bear workshops. Large stuffing machines were set up in the family rooms of the outpatient cancer clinics. Adorable outfits and various furry friends were laid out so patients at the hospital could create a one-of-a-kind stuffed animal just for them.

Bear Builders from Build-A-Bear worked with each patient individually to stuff the bears, perform Heart Ceremonies, and stitch them up with love and care.

As children brought their furry friends to life, it was almost as if more wishes were coming true, the power of a wish touching each person involved.

"Krystin embodies the spirit of generosity that fills the air this time of year and is vital for Make-A-Wish to continue its work," said Angela Miller, vice president, regional and volunteer programs for Make-A-Wish Alaska and Washington. "We rely on volunteer support and donations to make life-changing wishes like Krystin's possible."

In fact, the local chapter is in dire need of volunteers who speak both English and Spanish in Chelan and Douglas counties. "Right now, we have a handful of volunteers who are single-handedly granting all the wishes in Central and Eastern Washington."

Volunteers meet with families -- helping them through the wish-granting process, including planning their wishes.

"For anyone looking for a fun and joyful hands-on experience working directly with kids and families, this is a volunteer opportunity unlike anything else," Miller said. "When people hear the name Make-A-Wish, there is a common misconception that we have all the funding and resources we need because we are so well-known. But that's not true."

If Krystin's wish has inspired you, please visit wish.org/akwa/Krystin to learn about how you can help grant life-changing wishes like hers by donating your time as a volunteer or making a gift of cash or frequent flyer miles.

