



New Fire Break for Nason Creek

Wildfire Prevention for Lake Wenatchee

By MEGAN SOKOL

Staff Writer

In the next few weeks, Chelan County will be working on clearing up dry brush and potential brush fuel as they construct a fire break within Nason Creek.

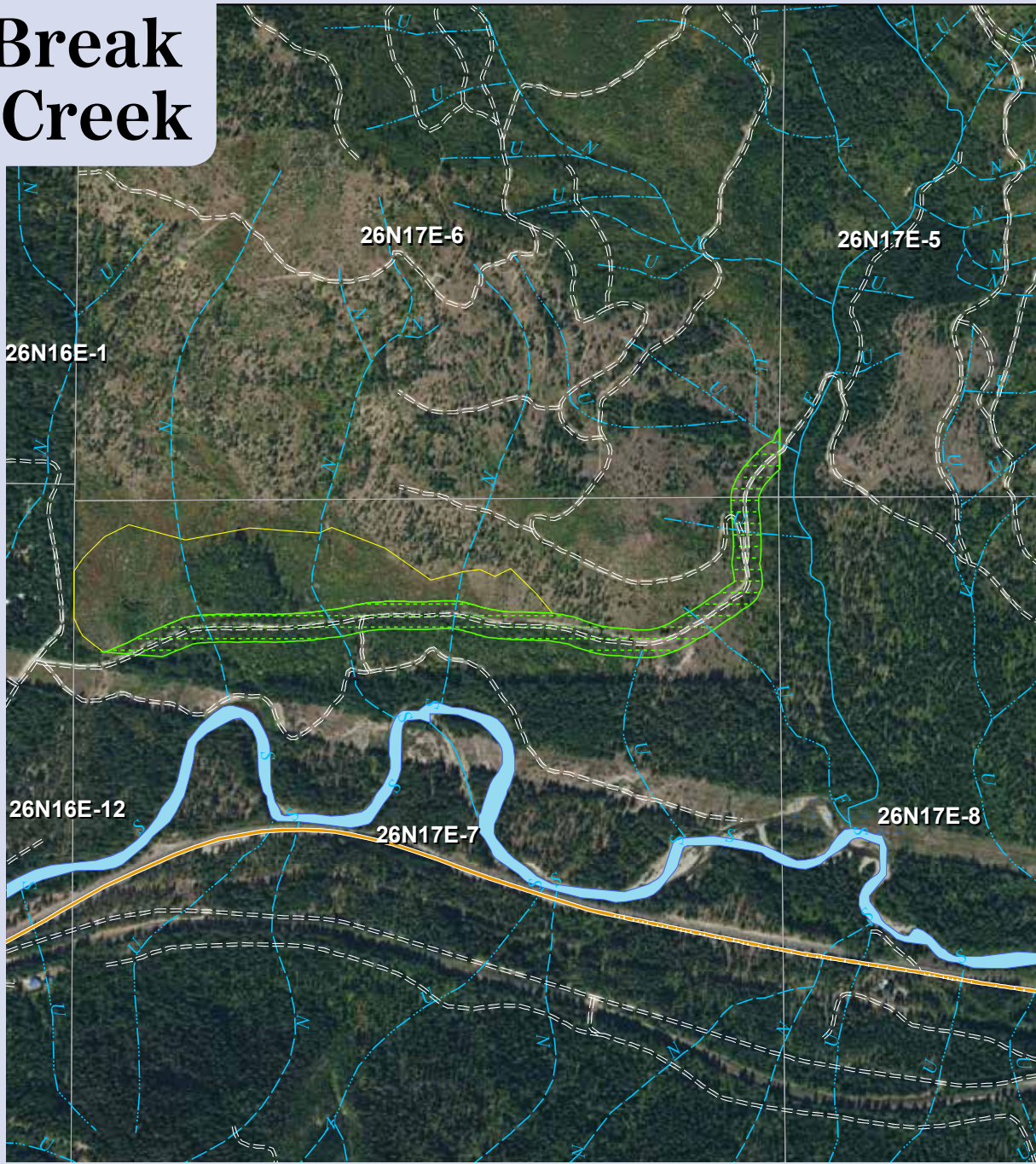
Chelan County Natural Resource Director Mike Kaputa categorizes this particular project as a “shaded fuel break.” He states that the Lake Wenatchee area has been identified as one of the highest at-risk areas for wildfires in the state.

“We’re going to remove some of the small trees, some of the underbrush we’re gonna leave in the large trees so when fire comes that direction, there won’t be as much fuel to burn,” Kaputa explained. “The fire will either be slowed down or it will stop.”

The county is collaborating with Western Rivers Conservancy, an Oregon-based conservation group that currently owns that area, Kaputa says that it is wise to take advantage of this opportunity while they still can.

The fire break is approximately 100 ft. wide and would be placed on top of an existing unimproved road on US Hwy. 2 that can access the Western Rivers property. That property will soon be in Chelan County’s possession, but the final date on that purchase has not been set.

They hope to start work on this in the next few weeks and be finished by early May, depending on icy or muddy conditions in the area.



Map of the fire break in Nason Creek.

MAP SUBMITTED BY CHELAN COUNTY NATURAL RESOURCE DIRECTOR MIKE KAPUTA.

WCOG sues the Washington State Redistricting Commission

WA Redistricting Board Ordered to Pay Over \$137k in Legal Fees and Fines

SUBMITTED BY GEORGE ERB

WCOG Secretary and Juli Bunting, WCOG Executive Director

The Washington Coalition for Open Government (WashCOG) today agreed to settle its lawsuit with the state of Washington and its Redistricting Commission for violating the state Open Public Meetings Act. The Commission today voted to accept the settlement, as well.

The parties reached an agreement on a consent decree to present to the Thurston County Superior Court for approval. That agreement includes open government principles that ensures future Commissions will not continue to act secretly, which was WashCOG’s goal.

Elements of the agreement include: The Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) applies to the Commission and its Commissioners.

The Commission and its commissioners violated OPMA and the Commission’s corresponding rules regarding transparency.

A commitment to implement rules so that commissioners no longer negotiate in private.

A stipulation that all future commissioners and staff shall complete open government training within thirty days of hiring or appointment.

Before the Commission considers any motion to approve a final redistricting plan, the Commission shall make that plan publicly available, including any proposed Congressional or legislative district maps.

The Commission shall open for public comment any motion to approve a final plan prior to voting on the motion.

Penalties of \$500 per commissioner and payment of legal costs and fees for the plaintiffs.

Under the settlement, the Superior Court would deny WashCOG’s request to invalidate the redistricting plan and district maps the Commission transmitted to the state Supreme Court on Nov. 16.

The Supreme Court’s had already issued an order December 3, 2021, affirming that plan. The Supreme Court’s decision said that “the primary purpose of achieving a timely redistricting plan would be impeded, not advanced, by rejecting the Commission’s completed work.”

Subsequently, the Supreme Courts declined original jurisdiction to hear WashCOG’s complaint and the Legislature adopted of the Redistricting Plan as amended on February 8, 2022.

WashCOG President Mike Fancher said, “We concluded the Supreme Court and Legislature had no interest in invalidating the plan and maps so close to the 2022 elections. We took no position on maps, but pursued an outcome that ensures this Commission and future Commission will not repeat the same mistakes. We feel this outcome achieved that aim.”

The Commission has agreed to clarify its rules and never again vote on a “framework” rather than a redistricting plan in final form with actual maps in recordable form made public prior to its vote. The Commission agreed to forgo private negotiations and bring its working conversations or deliberations into the public forum moving forward.

“The Commission has taken these matters seriously as shown by their stipulation to individual penalties and covering the costs and attorney’s fees incurred in enforcing open government protections,” he said.

Washington’s Open Public Meetings

CONTINUED TO PAGE A2

Drama and Speech Teacher Mandi Wickline is leaving Cascade High School

By MEGAN SOKOL

Staff Writer

After 11 years of directing nearly 30 productions at Cascade High School, and teaching Drama and Speech/Debate since 2015, Mandi Wickline has made the difficult decision to tender her resignation and will not be teaching for the 2022-23 school year.

“It’s been a really difficult decision because the kids are really amazing here. They’re just very kind, well-rounded people. I’ve really enjoyed working with them over the years,” Wickline states, “but the process of putting on shows is really hard. It takes a lot of different skills, a lot of organization, a lot of patience, and after almost 30 shows, I just feel like I needed a change.”

Due to personal family issues and wanting to help nanny her niece in Auburn, Wickline felt that moving was necessary. The departure of their



dedicated set designer Ted Fredericks without a permanent replacement also solidified her decision. She notes that although Peter Pan the Musical was a success, it was incredibly difficult due to COVID-19 protocols interfering with rehearsal.

“Every show I’ve directed has been an incredibly difficult endeavor because it’s like reinventing the wheel every time you do a new show. Every time a show got really difficult, I would always go, ‘you can’t quit because the kids are so cool,’” Wickline explained. “But my family is my priority.”

Outside of school, Wickline is an actor, owner of Earth, Wind & Wire, co-founder of Dangerous Women, the theater camp director at Upper Valley Connection, and a program facilitator at the Trails Day Program at Tierra Village.

She promises to keep ties with the community and will stick around this spring to direct a special needs theater camp through Upper Valley Connection in June, along with a Dangerous Women production in May.

“I really want to come back and see shows and connect with the kids because there’s so much potential and I regret that there’s a lot of kids I

haven’t been able to work with yet. That’s probably the hardest thing.”

She knows that her successor will have the same passion she has for the kids and hopes to see the drama department continue to thrive in her absence, along with keeping it a safe space for neurotypical students and those within the LGBTQ+ community.

“I’ve called it the anxiety and the honorary anxiety and depression and LGBTQ support group for Cascade over the years because I’ve always wanted it to be a safe place, both speech and drama,” Wickline said. “Those are important things to me, mental health and honoring people for who people truly are.”

Wickline will be directing her last Cascade School District production “Shakesplasion!” a comedic overview of all of Shakespeare’s plays in five acts. Actors range from grade 3-8 and will be played at Cascade High School on May 12-14.

School Board meeting highlights Special Services



Marlene Farrell
Correspondent

On February 28th, the School Board heard a presentation about the district’s special services from Special Education Director Brett Johnson. Special services include special education and other aspects of support structures for students,

including early education, counseling, COVID testing and more.

The year has had challenges related to special education staff and substitute shortages. This has been alleviated somewhat by several new staff being hired and trained. The staff support students while fostering learning that is meaningful and fun. “They care for and inspire their students day in and day out,” said Johnson.

Johnson highlighted the new American Sign Language program, taught by Ashley Kakish. Now that it’s in its second semester, the level

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SUBMITTED PHOTO. From left, medical support specialists Chloe Hollatz and Jen Barber and school nurses Keshia Smith and Shelly Zehm are ready for a day of drive up COVID testing.

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Dan’s Market



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THE LEAVENWORTH ECHO

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Letters policy

The Leavenworth Echo welcomes letters to the editor. All letters must be accompanied by the author's name, a home address and a day-time phone number (for verification purposes only). Letters may be edited for length, clarity, accuracy and fairness. No letter will be published without the author's name. Thank you letters will only be printed from non-profit organizations and events. We will not publish lists of businesses, or lists of individual names. Email your letters to Publisher@leavenworthecho.com or Reporter@leavenworthecho.com

Corrections

The Leavenworth Echo regrets any errors. If you see an error, please call 509-548-5286. We will publish a correction on this page in the next issue.

Contact the listed organizations or events for updates on the Covid-19 regulations.

MEETING SCHEDULES FOR AA, ALANON, CELEBRATE RECOVERY

AA Meetings: Call for the Zoom link to Leavenworth AA meetings: 541-480-8946 Call for the Zoom link to Leavenworth AlAnon meetings: 509-548-7939 509-548-1627, 548-4522, 664-6469, 206-719-3379 Sunday 7 p.m., Leavenworth Senior Center, 423 Evans St. Tuesday, 7 p.m., Light in the Valley, 8455 Main Street, Peshastin Wednesday, 7 p.m., Leavenworth Senior Center, 423 Evans St. Thursday, 1 p.m., Leavenworth Senior Center, 423 Evans St. Friday, 7 p.m., St. James Episcopal Church, 222 Cottage Ave.

Alanon Meetings, call 509-548-7939 Monday, 7 p.m., United Methodist Church, 418 Evans St.

Renewed Celebrate Recovery, Every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at Leavenworth Church of the Nazarene. 111 Ski Hill Drive. Come experience God's grace for all of life's hurts, habits and hang-ups. For more information: CelebrateRecoveryLCN@gmail.com or 509-596-1510.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wednesday

Children and Youth Program, 6:30-8 p.m., 4th-12th grade, Leavenworth Church of the Nazarene, 509-548-5292.

Leavenworth Rotary Club, Zoom meetings, Noon. For more information email, President Joel Walinski, jtwalinski@gmail.com

Alpine Water District: meets at the YMCA Camp 1 p.m. Contact: Anne Mueller, muellers5@msn.com (2nd Wed. each mon).

Thursday

Leavenworth Chamber of Commerce, 8 a.m. Call Chamber, 509-548-5807. Everyone is invited to attend as a guest. Email Troy@leavenworth.org for Zoom meeting information. (1st & 3rd Thurs.)

Leavenworth Lions Club, For more info. email President Anita Wilkie at leavenworthlionsclubwa@gmail.com

Peshastin Community Council meeting, 7 p.m. Peshastin Memorial Hall. (2nd Thurs.)

The Wenatchee Valley Doll Club, 11:30 a.m. Call Yvonne, 509-663-7991. (2nd Thurs.)

Caregiver Support Group, 2-3:30 p.m. For Caregivers of those with Memory Loss. The Henry Building, 120 Cottage Ave. Cashmere. Contact Carmen Gamble, 509-393-0789. (1st & 3rd Thurs.)

Friday

Veteran Service Office: For information contact Tony Sandoval, 509-664-6801 or email: Tony.Sandoval@co.chelan.wa.us

Monday

Upper Valley Free Clinic, open every Monday to evaluate urgent health needs. Downstairs at Cascade Medical, 6:30 -8:00 p.m. Call Terri (509)393-8271 for more information.

Cascade School board meetings, 7 p.m., Agenda can be found at https://www.cascadesd.org/Page/166. (2nd & 4th Mon.)

Chelan Douglas Republican Women, Meetings at Red Lion, 1225 N. Wenatchee Ave. Please, RSVP if you want to have lunch. Cost for lunch is \$18; Cost for meeting with beverage only is \$7 (no outside food please). Check-in begins at 11:30 a.m. and the meeting will begin at Noon. Call Ellie: 425-319-9869. (1st Mon., monthly).

Tuesday

Peshastin Water District, 5:30 p.m. For meeting location, contact Steve Keene, 509-548-5266. (2nd Tues.)

Icicle & Peshastin Irrigation Districts Meeting Current meeting time 8 a.m. at 5594 Wescott Drive. Call Tony Jantzer, cell, 509-433-4064, or 509-782-2561 or tony.iid.pid@nwi.net, (2nd Tues.)

Cascade Medical Board Meeting, 9 a.m. Call Cascade Medical, 509-548-5815. (4th Tues.)

Cascade Education Foundation. Contact: CEF@cascade.org LWSC Alpine Committee, 7 p.m., Ski Hill Lodge. Call 509-548-5477. (1st Tues.)

Leavenworth Masons, 7:30 a.m., Zarthan Lodge No. 148, Leavenworth Senior Center upstairs. www.leavenworthmasons.org. (1st Tues.)

Cascade Garden Club, 1 p.m., at a member's home or other venue. Call President Claudia, 509-662-7706. (3rd Tues.)

NCW Libraries

Libraries will continue to offer a wide variety of resources and programs online at ncwlibraries.org and its Facebook page. Go to NCWLIBRARIES.ORG or 1-800-426-READ (7323) for more information, and updates.

Leavenworth Public Library. Located at 700 Hwy. 2, Call 509-548-7923 or online Leavenworth@ncwlibraries.org Open: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Saturday. 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday. Closed Sunday.

Peshastin Public Library. Located at 8396 Main St., Peshastin. Call: 509-548-7821 or Peshastin@ncwlibraries.org Open from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday, 1 to 5 p.m. Thursday and Friday. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Saturday. Closed Sunday and Monday.

Other events

The Greater Leavenworth Museum, formerly known as the Upper Valley Museum, is open Friday-Sunday, 11 a.m.- 4 p.m. Please check our Facebook page or our website at www.leavenworthmuseum.org for updates and information.

Leavenworth Fish Hatchery, 509-548-7641. Trails and grounds are open every day to the public. Please park outside the gate. All animals must be on a leash.

Note: Some meetings or events may be rescheduled due to holidays or other closures. Please call and check with that organization listed.

Please note that if your organization changes dates, or hours please send us your updates to reporter@leavenworthecho.com or call 509-548-5286. Otherwise we are not responsible for any misinformation.

Leavenworth

WRI Events

On March 10, WRI hosts Mike Cecka, a Wenatchee Valley local, to discuss his 46-day sailing adventure around Vancouver Island. The last two Red Barn Events of the month feature female authors. March 14, WRI introduces Joan Burton to talk about her book Footprints on Snow, telling stories of seven brave women who shaped the history of the Northwest Mountains. On March 24, WRI welcomes Judy Bentley to talk about her book Hiking Washington's History. A Book for All Seasons will be at these events to sell these books - get them autographed, too. Admission is by donation and helps Red Barn continue and grow with help from local business sponsors. Visit the website find out more details on upcoming Red Barn Events: https://wenatcheeriverinstitute.org/. Contact: Rande Zerger rzerger@wenatcheeriverinstitute.org 509-548-0181 ext. 7.

Regional

Cascadia Conservation

The District's regular monthly meeting scheduled for Friday, March 18, at 1:30 p.m., has been canceled. For information, please call the District office at 509-436-1601.

The Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society

Meets via Zoom at 2:00 p.m., Monday, March 14. Chicago-based educator Thomas MacEntee will present "Are You Ready for the 1950 Census?"

Contact WAGSLibrarian@gmail.com to receive Zoom invitation; call 509-782-4046 for general information. Free and open to the public.

Numerica PAC Eases Covid-19 Guidelines

Effective March 2 the Numerica Performing Arts Center has decided to discontinue its recent policy of requiring proof of COVID-19 Vaccinations or a negative test to gain entry to its events. The change of policy, in place since September 1, 2021, during the height of the Delta variant, is a direct response to the easing of restrictions statewide due to the decline in COVID-19 cases. For more information contact J. Wood Lotts, Executive Director at woodyl@numericapac.org or 509-665-9096.

Year of the Apple High School Student Art Contest

The Washington Apple Education Foundation (WAEF) invites all current high school students in the following counties to participate in the 20th Annual Year of the Apple Art Contest:

Our (local) counties of: Chelan, Douglas, Okanogan. The Washington apple-themed contest will grant over \$1750 cash in student prizes.

First place will receive \$1,000, 2nd place \$500, and 3rd place \$250. In addition to cash prizes for students, the top three winner's art class/teacher will win a \$150 Amazon gift card for art supplies. Start working on your artwork today! Contest rules and registration forms may be found at www.waef.org or by calling (509) 663-7713. The overall grand prize

winner is awarded \$1,000 cash and the opportunity to see his/her artwork reproduced onto a poster-sized calendar. Artwork submitted to:

Washington Apple Education Foundation C/O Art Contest 2900 Euclid Avenue, Wenatchee, WA. 98801. Deadline of May 1, 2022

The Washington Apple Education Foundation (WAEF) is the charity of the tree fruit industry. The organization is best known for its scholarship program. Annually, WAEF awards over \$1 million in scholarship aid to students raised in tree fruit industry communities.

NCW Library events

Offering three virtual reading challenges in March through the Beanstack website and app. Readers across North Central Washington are invited to track their progress, write book reviews, earn digital badges, and discover great books for the whole family. Join one or all three of these challenges:

•Oscar Worthy-Reads: A reading challenge for adults featuring books adapted into Oscar-winning films.

•Women Changemakers: An all ages challenge celebrating women in history (March is Women's History Month).

•Read Across America: An all ages challenge with American landmark-themed virtual badges.

NCW Libraries offers new virtual reading challenges every month to help people get inspired to read more, discover new authors and genres, and to broaden their understanding of people and the world. Join a reading challenge at https://ncwlibraries.beanstack.org/reader365.



Sheriff/Fire/EMS

The sheriff's report is compiled from public records as provided by the Chelan County Sheriff's Office. The publisher cannot certify the complete accuracy of the information provided.

February 25

- 01:27 Suspicious Activity, 185 US Hwy. 2. 01:45 Traffic Offense, US Hwy. 2 and River Bend Dr. 10:12 Trespassing, 807 Front St. 16:52 Assist Public, 1214 Commercial St. 17:37 Traffic Offense, 10395 Chumstick Hwy. 20:52 Property, 1117 Front St.

February 26

No Report.

February 27

- 02:38 Welfare Check, 185 US Hwy. 2. 06:53 Unknown Accident, 12177 W. Shugart Flats Rd. 07:06 Burglary, 8410 Main St., Peshastin. 09:42 Disturbance, 10090 Main St., Peshastin. 10:10 Harassment/Threat, 213 9th St. 11:01 Property, Leavenworth. 17:00 Civil, 715 Front St.

February 28

- 11:26 Non-Injury Accident, 263

- Mine St. 12:03 CPS/APS Referral, 22203 Stirrup Rd., Plain. 12:59 Assist Agency, Beaver Valley Rd. MP 13., Plain. 14:37 Hazard, 17285 N. Shore Dr., Lake Wenatchee. 15:01 911 Call, 300 Enchantment Park Way. 15:09 911 Call, 211 14th St. 20:54 Civil, 221 Orchard St.

March 1

- 00:07 Welfare Check, 305 8th St. 04:02 Noise, 633 Front St. 11:10 Suspicious Activity, 346 Old Mill Ln., Lake Wenatchee. 13:06 Suspicious Activity, 11450 US Hwy. 2. 15:47 Juvenile Problem, 10700 Stemm Rd., Peshastin. 16:05 Court Order Violation, 1214 Commercial St. 19:51 Suspicious Activity, Shore St. and Icicle Rd. 19:51 Alarm, 16200 Telemark Ln., Lake Wenatchee. 20:45 Suspicious Activity, 12659 Shore St.

March 2

- 06:20 Burglary, 321 9th St.

- 08:40 Suspicious, 100 Ward Strasse. 09:31 911 Call, 300 Enchantment Park Way. 10:29 911 Call, 309 8th St. 10:42 Non-Injury Accident, 116 River Bend Dr. 13:09 Civil, 1214 Commercial St. 16:40 Hazard, Chumstick Hwy. and Eagle Creek. 17:16 Traffic Info, US Hwy. 2 MP 103 W.B., Peshastin.

March 3

- 00:09 Suspicious Activity, 8410 Main St., Peshastin. 07:31 Disturbance, 1250 US Hwy. 2. 10:44 Harassment/Threat, 10190 Chumstick Hwy. 12:58 Burglary, Leavenworth Ski Hill. 17:18 Suspicious, 8541 Icicle Rd. 18:03 Theft, 10460 Ski Hill Dr. 20:52 Traffic Offense, 10461 Stemm Rd., Peshastin. 22:57 Noise, 100 Ward Strasse #B330.



CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m. (1st Wed.) City Council Study Session, 8:30 a.m. (2nd Tues.) City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (2nd & 4th Tues.) Design Review Board, 3:00 p.m. (2nd & 4th Wed.) For more information, visit the city website CityofLeavenworth.org for Zoom meeting information. Call 509-548-5275. Email hello@cityofleavenworth.com

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WCOG sues

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Act requires "All meetings of the governing body of a public agency shall be open and public and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting of the governing of a public agency, except as otherwise provided in this chapter." RCW 42.30.030

The Washington Coalition for Open Government is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization founded in 2002. We are an independent, broad-based advocate for public records, open meetings and informed citizens.

Go online at Cascadesd.org or all menu updates.

City of Leavenworth presents Administrative Services Director Candidates

By MEGAN SOKOL
Staff Writer

The City Council has arranged two special meetings for the public to meet with prospective Administrative Services Director candidates Jason Reynolds and Larry Harala.

The meeting with Jason Reynolds was held on Friday, March 4 at 7:15 p.m. at the Enzian Inn. The meeting with Larry Harala will be held on Friday, March 11 on the 4th floor of the Enzian Inn at 590 US Hwy. 2.

Here are the brief introductions to both candidates provided by the City of Leavenworth:

Jason Reynolds:

Jason Reynolds served the City of Nassau Bay, Texas for the last six years, managing the day-to-day operations of a full-service city with approximately 4,800 residents and an operating and capital

improvements budget of \$24.5 million. He has experience in leading disaster operations and recover efforts, economic development projects, long and short-range capital improvement programs, contracts for infrastructure and development repairs, and grant procurement and management. Prior to his work in Texas, Jason worked for the City of Arlington, Texas and served his country in the U.S. Army, 3rd Special Forces Group. His formal education includes a bachelor's degree in Workforce Leadership, a Master of Business Administration, and a Master of Urban Planning.

Larry Harala:

Larry Harala is currently a Principal Planner for the City of Tacoma, and oversees the long-range planning communications team, comprehensive plan updates, and works directly with key stakeholder groups. His

prior experience with the City of Tacoma as a permit specialist and with the City of Las Vegas, Nevada as a City Council Liaison II, Management Analyst and City Planner II bring a wealth of knowledge in terms of project management and planning, communications with communities, drafting legislative bills, and land use policy to the table. Larry's formal education includes a Bachelor of Arts in History, a Master of Health Administration, and a Master of Public Administration.

Harala notes his love for Leavenworth, visiting periodically with his family. He states that both he and Reynolds seem very qualified, but that his familiarity the Pacific Northwest area might give him an edge in the selection process. "I'm from the Northwest, I'm a Pacific Northwestern. I haven't worked in small towns as an administrator, but I've lived in small towns and grew up in Eastern Washington and Eastern Oregon, so I have a connection to the Northwestern area."

Cascade Sports Schedule

BOYS SOCCER	
March 12:	Cascade vs. Ephrata; 1 p.m.
March 15:	Cascade vs. Ellensburg; 4 p.m.
BOYS TENNIS	
March 12:	Cascade @ Ephrata; 11 a.m.
March 15:	Cascade at Ellensburg; 4 p.m.
GIRLS TENNIS	
March 12:	Cascade at Ephrata; 11 a.m.
March 15:	Cascade at Ellensburg; 12 a.m.
GIRLS GOLF	
March 15:	Cascade at Lake Chelan Municipal Golf Course; 2 p.m.
BOYS GOLF	
March 15:	Cascade at Desert Canyon Golf Course; 2 p.m.



SUBMITTED PHOTO.

Jason Reynolds



SUBMITTED PHOTO.

Larry Harala

Memorial Service
Freeman Moore, Sr.

The Moore family invites you to a Memorial Service for Freeman Moore, Sr. at 11 a.m. on March 18, 2022, at the Cashmere Presbyterian Church, Cashmere, Washington.

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An Obituary is a way for family member(s) to commemorate a loved one's life and to notify the community of the passing of the loved one. Obituaries are also used for historical and ancestral data.

Memorials are another way to let the community know about the life and memories of the person who has passed. A Memorial is different from an Obituary. An Obituary is usually current, while a Memorial can be written later.

Obituaries and Memorials need to be typed and emailed as a Word Document. They can be placed in one or more papers - all publish weekly on Wednesday.

Obituaries are priced by the number of words and include one color photo and go online at no extra charge. Memorials are priced per column inch. Please call for cost. *Payment is due at the time of placement. *Exception: Chapels, funeral homes who have an account, can be billed. There is no charge for a Death Notice - information is limited.

Deadline is 4 p.m. on Friday - some exceptions may apply.

Please call 509-548-5286 for more information
Or email classifieds@leavenworthecho.com

UPPER VALLEY CHURCH GUIDE

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The Russian Invasion in Ukraine

An Interview with our Graphic Designer in Romania

By: MEGAN SOKOL

Staff Writer

Writer's Note

As a reader, you may be asking why we would be covering a situation that is seemingly so far removed from our upper valley region. If you are reading our paper in print or online, then it can be speculated that you are also aware of the situation that is plaguing Ukraine and its citizens.

Since Feb. 24, news broke that tens of thousands of Ukrainian refugees have rushed to the borders of Poland, Moldova, and Romania due to the Russian invasion.

Context:

According to Reuters, Romanian Defence Minister Vasile Dincu estimated that Romania could hold 500,000 Ukrainian refugees if needed. However, after swaths of Ukrainian refugees came to the northern Ukrainian-Romanian border, the Romanian government expressed hesitancy to permanently hold Ukrainian refugees.

Washington politicians Sen. Patty Murray provided a statement on Feb. 24

highlighting her support for the citizens of Ukraine:

"The Ukrainian people are being plunged into a deadly and devastating war because of the cruel ambition of one dictator—make no mistake, the death and destruction of this conflict will lie solely at the feet of Vladimir Putin.

"This conflict is totally fabricated but its human toll will be very real. Swift measures must be taken to inflict severe and devastating sanctions—Russia must pay a crippling price for invading a sovereign democracy unprovoked. This is a time for our country and the world to stand united—in strong support of Ukraine and firmly against Putin and his cronies.

"I'm thinking of my constituents with friends, family, and loved ones in Ukraine—and my heart is with the Ukrainian people who only want peace, but are being forced to endure a brutal war. I will continue to do everything in my power to ensure the United States is doing its utmost to provide the necessary support for the Ukrainian people."

Interview:

In this article, we will be sharing an interview that was conducted with our graphic designer Catalin Daniel

Ciolca, who currently resides in the Romanian capital of Bucharest.

Megan Sokol:

Let me just start by asking how everything has been?

Catalin Daniel Ciolca:

Well, here in Romania, as far as I'm concerned we don't feel anything. Except the people at the northern border where alot of refugees from Ukraine came [from], but otherwise we don't feel the world. They didn't attack us. I doubt they will because they have nothing to do here. Their main concern is about Ukraine and their business with them.

MS: So have you personally seen an influx of Ukrainian refugees near where you live?

CDC: No, because, I'm in Bucharest. Bucharest is a capital city and it's in the southern part of the country. The Ukrainian border is northwest and there's something like 500 or more kilometers from here to the border. We are watching on television, like the rest of the world.

MS: Do you believe that the Romanian government is going to get involved at all?

CDC: I truly hope not, but I don't believe anything. I have no information either way or

another. I really hope they stay out of this because it's none of our business, it's the Russians. The easiest way to live with the Russians, because we have a long history with the Russians, is to lay low.

MS: How is NATO helping to protect Romania from this conflict?

CDC: Well, I don't know. They're sending troops over here and this is starting to worry me because it's very easy to protect someone when the war is not on your soil. We've been in this situation in the past. We were caught because of the geographic [location]. We're a small country and we always ended up being caught between the battles of the big ones. I strongly fear [that this] might be the case this time too. Otherwise, I don't know, [but] I don't think they will. Honestly, if Putin is crazy enough to attack Romania, which I strongly doubt, but let's say he attacks, I strongly doubt that NATO will start a worldwide war only to protect us. It happened before in the second world war, the French and the UK were warranting powers for Poland and then Hitler invaded Poland and they did nothing. Apart from the rhetoric and the speeches and the

slogans, I don't think they will. This is my opinion, I could be wrong.

MS: When you say that troops are getting deployed, are those Romanian troops or Ukrainian troops?

CDC: No, they started to send some, as far as I [could] read [from] the news, they started to send some French planes and also some U.S. planes and some troops, but not heavily dispatched as far as I understood. So it is not a massive war mobilization so far, but they have sent some troops. Frankly, this started to worry me for the reasons I have told you earlier.

MS: How do your friends and family feel about the situation?

CDC: Everything here is normal. We are worrying of course, but everybody lives life as usual. So far nothing has changed. We



are more troubled about the raise of prices of energy and natural gas, which happened worldwide. But we fear that this war will increase those prices even further. So this is our main concern for now, at least that is mine.

MS: Does Romania use Russian natural gas?

CDC: Strangely enough, we have reserves and we are using about 80% of the gas from the natural resources in Romania. Despite that, we have the highest prices in Europe, so we have some marvellous leaders.

Update Note: According to Al Jazeera's article on the situation from March 3, "Romania's Prime Minister Nicolae Ciuca, as of last Thursday morning, 118,461 Ukrainian refugees had entered neighbouring Romania. Many passed through to other countries, but Ciuca said at least 46,435 remain in Romania." Romanian cities such as Cluj, Timisoara, Constanta, and Bucharest have been trying to meet the needs of the Ukrainian refugees. On Feb 28 - March 1, NATO reported that nearly 500 French troops were deployed to Romania.

Washington must continue its focus on wildfires

SUBMITTED BY SEN. BRAD HAWKINS

In recent years, the communities in North Central Washington have sadly experienced a significant impact from catastrophic wildfire. Our district has endured many devastating fires, including back-to-back years of the state's largest wildfires, in 2014 and 2015. In 2020, the state Department of Natural Resources responded to nearly 1,640 fires, including the Cold Springs and Pearl Hill fires in Okanogan and Douglas counties. This past year, wildfires continued to impact our region. Included among them were Wenatchee's Red Apple Fire and the Cedar Creek and Cub Creek fires in the Methow Valley. Our risk of wildfire has been increasing, which is why proactive measures for forest management and fire response are necessary. These two areas will continue to be important priorities for me as I advocate for our district and adequate wildfire funding.

A stronger, more comprehensive approach

Washington state has been working toward a stronger, more comprehensive approach to reducing our risk of wildfires. That's why I'm encouraged by the Wildland Fire Protection 10-Year Strategic Plan by Public Lands Commissioner Hilary Franz. I've worked closely with Commissioner Franz and DNR staff over recent years and am very proud of the bill we passed together in 2017, Senate Bill 5546, to direct the state DNR to set up a framework for assessing and treating fire-prone lands. The law sets a specific goal

of assessing and treating 1 million acres over 16 years, most likely through prescribed fire and strategic thinning. This process is now underway, but it will likely take several years of aggressive thinning and responsible prescribed fire in order to minimize our risk of catastrophic fires. As we've learned from the Era of Megafires discussions that originated in Wenatchee, we must take a proactive approach with wildfires in all neighborhoods and at every level of government. This includes responsible thinning and prescribed burning on state and federal forestlands, along with taking aggressive steps to create defensible space around your homes and neighborhoods through the Firewise Program. We must also ensure the state's firefighting capability is as effective and efficient as possible.

Increasing state support for wildfires

For the 2021-23 biennium, the state budget significantly increased its support for forest health and wildfire response. Positioning additional resources in strategic locations across the state has shortened the response time when new blazes are spotted and has helped us put out fires soon after they start rather than just "managing" the fires once they begin burning. The state has recently converted to year-round wildfire staff, funded more seasonal staff, acquired additional firefighting air assets, and has contracted for priority private aircraft response. The Legislature also approved House Bill 1168 to direct investments of \$500 million over the next eight

years for wildfire response, forest restoration, and community resilience.

I was proud to join my legislative colleagues in supporting this bill last session. Passing this expanded policy was a multi-year effort by Commissioner Hilary Franz and her DNR staff. I was very proud to support this effort. These new investments are important because the state has already spent hundreds of millions in recent years reimbursing the costs of wildfires. And that does not even factor in the negative long-term economic impact that wildfires have had on communities in our district, including the impact on our all-important tourism or recreational opportunities. There are also emotional costs and losses that cannot be quantified, as courageous firefighters from our area, sadly, have lost their lives or been severely injured battling these blazes. Finally, there is a quality-of-life impact caused by wildfires, as smoke can blanket a region, making it dangerous for people to be outdoors and difficult for many to breathe.

Legislature approved my Senate Bill 5158

After the Electric Utilities Wildland Fire Prevention Task Force released its recommendations to the Legislature, I began partnering with Chelan PUD and DNR to boost funding for the group and help implement its recommendations. My Senate Bill 5158, signed into law by the governor in 2021, directs Commissioner Franz to work with a Utility Wildland Fire Prevention Advisory Committee to implement recommendations. These recommendations involve ways to prevent utility-caused wildfires, including model agreements to remove dangerous trees, developing communications protocols, and considering investigation recommendations. The group's work would be maintained and periodically updated on DNR's website to benefit utilities and our state. This work is very important to many of our local utilities, especially considering the 12th District's recent history of catastrophic wildfires.

History of my sponsored wildfire bills

During my years of work in

the Senate, I have developed a strong partnership with my legislative colleagues and the DNR. During my first term as 12th District senator, three of my bills related to forest health or wildfire prevention were passed by the Legislature and signed into law, and last year, my first year of my second term, I sponsored and helped pass Senate Bill 5158. Commissioner Franz and her DNR staff worked diligently alongside me for each effort. Below is a summary of these four approved bills:

1. Senate Bill 5158 (approved, 2021) establishes the Utility Wildland Fire Prevention Advisory Committee to implement recommendations. The group's work includes establishing model agreements to remove dangerous trees, finalizing communications protocols and investigation recommendations. This work is very important to many of our local utilities.

2. SB 6211 (approved, 2018) provides DNR authority to handle revenue and authorize spending under the Good Neighbor Authority agreement signed by DNR and the U.S. Forest Service in 2017. The Good Neighbor Authority is a partnership between governments to streamline management of national forestlands.

3. Senate Bill 6032, Sec. 303 (approved, 2018) directs funds to the Washington State Parks, at the request of the Forest Ridge Wildfire Coalition, for forest management activities at the Squilchuck State Park in Chelan County.

4. Senate Bill 5546 (approved, 2017) directs DNR to set up a framework for assessing the health of fire-prone lands and treating them. It sets a specific goal of assessing and treating 1 million acres over 16 years, most likely through prescribed fire and mechanical thinning. The bill also includes a stakeholder process and biennial progress reviews to the Legislature.

5. Senate Bill 5270 (approved, 2017) was passed unanimously by both legislative chambers and signed into law by the governor to remove the "temporary" label from the contract-timber harvest program operated by DNR. The program allows the agency to hire someone to harvest timber and sort the logs, after which DNR can sell them. It began in 2003 and was expanded by

lawmakers in 2009.

Looking ahead on wildfire issues

The state wildfire season is unfortunately growing longer. It is not even a wildfire "season" anymore because fires are occurring as early as April and some aren't totally extinguished until a heavy rain or snowfall late in the year. Wildfires are no longer just impacting areas in central or eastern Washington. We're seeing wildfires west of the Cascades, also. This is having a significant and growing impact on our state budget and local communities. The Legislature has taken positive steps forward recently on wildfire policy with my bills and others. One bill of particular interest this session is Senate Bill 5803, sponsored by Sen. Christine Rolfe, directing utilities to develop wildfire mitigation plans. As part of this process, the Utility Wildfire Advisory Committee associated with Senate Bill 5158 would have input in the planning. Each session going forward, there likely will be one or more wildfire bills of interest. As we move ahead identifying state priorities, the issue of wildfires and wildfire suppression should continue to be high on our list. In addition to state efforts, the federal government is also stepping up funding for wildfire prevention, which is expected to complement the state's strategy.

Marco Aurilio's Statement on Wildfire Prevention

Leavenworth City Councilmember Marco Aurilio is a former volunteer Lieutenant Firefighter for Chelan County District 3. One of his chief priorities for the Leavenworth community is to help fortify the upper valley region against the threat of wildfires destroying the neighborhood.

"Leavenworth is in a very high-risk category in terms of Washington. I think we're top three and we have a lot of infrastructure that's at risk in terms of houses and other things. As recent as the fires we saw in Colorado that destroyed a thousand homes in a very short period of time. I think we're behind the game and we need to get way more proactive in terms of getting this fuels and potential for what they call extreme fire

behavior. That potential is so big that when it hits, it's going to be too late.

Part of our biggest problem is that we are surrounded by Forest Service land, so creating that cooperative agreement between the forest service and the state is one of our biggest challenges. I believe Hillary Franz is working hard on that, but most of the land around Leavenworth, which is my primary concern, is actually forest service land. The DNR is going to have a hard time."

Aurilio references Research Ecologist Dr. Paul Hessburg, who delivered a TedTalk regarding future prevention from "megafires." The theory Aurilio cites is one where trees must be safely burned in order to reduce the risk of the tree spreading embers to neighboring ecosystems via wind gusts.

"It reaches what's called a healthy state where the forest will run into previous old burn scars and put itself out. Whereas if we have a high fuel forest burning, the 80% of the homes that burn from wildfire run from embers that are emitting from the wildfire. It's not usually direct flame impingement and those embers can come from miles away."

Aurilio states that wildfire prevention will require both state and federal efforts and hopes that North Central Washington can become the chief authorities on the discussion of wildfire prevention. He also states that retrofitting older homes to be more fire-resistant can help reduce the negative loss from wildfire spread.

"We have the Chumstick Wildfire Coalition and Cascadia Conservation District that have been working with the DNR to do what's called small landowner fuels reduction, and they've been doing what's called a cost-share program. So they come out and do chipping and they will come out and, and cost share. So if that person who lives in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) and they have a lot of land depending on the land size, [i.e. Rattlesnake Hill in Leavenworth] if they want to reduce fuels and reduce ladder fuels specifically (fuels that cause a ground fire to go up into the grounds) if you can reduce that, that's actually extremely effective that reduces fuels in town on private land."



Leavenworth City Councilmember Marco Aurilio



Sen. Brad Hawkins

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Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

My first colonoscopy was 11 years ago, at age 55. I was due for another one 10 years later, in early 2021. Due to the COVID pandemic, the clinic doing colonoscopies in my community was forced to cancel all but the most urgent procedures. When I saw my family doctor last month, he mentioned I was overdue for my next colonoscopy.

"They called me last week to schedule it, but I haven't called them back."

He reminded me that by avoiding getting tested, I was gambling with my life.

March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

Colon and rectal cancers are the second leading cause of death from cancer in the United States, behind lung cancer. According to the National Cancer Institute, nearly 150,000 new colon or rectal cancer cases were discovered last year. That's one out of 23 men and one out of 25 women. Colon and rectal cancers are often lumped together and called

colorectal cancer or CRC. CRC is the cause of 10% of all cancer deaths. Colorectal cancer was rare in 1950 but is now the fourth most commonly diagnosed cancer in the United States. You are more likely to develop CRC if you are older, smoke cigarettes, are obese, get minimal exercise, or eat a diet high in meat and refined carbohydrates and low in fiber.

Colon cancer is more common among women, but rectal cancer is more common in men. The incidence of CRC increases starting at age 40 and peaks between 60 and 75 years of age. 20% of CRC cases are related to genetic factors. Having ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease increases your risk of developing CRC.

Polyps are clusters of cells that grow on the inside lining of your colon. Colorectal cancer can occur when the tissue clump called a polyp turns normal cells

into cancer. Without polyps to change into cancer cells, there's no colorectal cancer.

When should screening for colorectal cancer start? It depends on estimating your risk of developing this reasonably common cancer. If you have an average chance of getting CRC, screening tests should begin at age 50 and continue until age 75.

What type of screening is best?

A colonoscopy is considered the "gold



standard" for screening for colorectal cancer. If no polyps are found, it should be repeated in 10 years, sooner if you have other characteristics

that increase your risk of developing CRC.

During a colonoscopy, your surgeon looks for polyps by inserting a tiny camera mounted to the end of a long, narrow, flexible tube. This tube snakes through your rectum and up and around your colon and intestines, inspecting the tissues as it goes by. For a successful colonoscopy, enough fecal material must be flushed out so that the lighted scope can see the inside of your intestines clearly. Small and medium-sized polyps are removed during the procedure by the surgeon. Larger polyps can require additional surgery.

Another option for CRC screening is a sigmoidoscopy. Less invasive than a colonoscopy, it checks just the lower part of your colon instead of its entire

length. The third CRC screening option doesn't require a procedure. Called a fecal immunochemical test or FIT test, it involves testing a

sample of your feces for blood.

Since no polyps were found at my last colonoscopy, my doctor said I could do a FIT test at home instead of waiting for another procedure.

"I don't have to chug a gallon of weird-tasting liquid? Count me IN!"

Smiling, I carried home my FIT test packet: a small squeeze bottle with tape wrapped around it. Following the instructions, I dropped off my sample last week. Whoo-hoo!

Here are 4 Final Facts about Colorectal Cancer Screening:

1. Don't put it off. Despite advances in the treatment of colorectal cancer, the rate of survival and percentage of people cured has remained the same. This is why screening is so essential to detect cancer at the most curable stage.

2. Watch for bleeding from your rectum.

Rectal bleeding when going Number 2 is the most common initial symptom of colorectal cancer. Don't assume it's from your hemorrhoids.



Ask... Dr. Louise

3. Chill out. Mix up your gallon of colonoscopy preparation fluid the day before, and chill it overnight. Drinking it cold reduces the "soapy" taste reducing the "yuk" factor.

4. Don't fall behind. Keep to the schedule of drinking your liquid colonoscopy preparation. I fell asleep, then tried to catch up by drinking a double dose. If I thought it tasted weird going down, it tasted even worse, coming back up!

Dr. Louise Achey, Doctor of Pharmacy, is a 43-year veteran of pharmacology and author of Why Dogs Can't Eat Chocolate: How Medicines Work and How YOU Can Take Them Safely. Get clear answers to your medication questions at her website and blog TheMedicationInsider.com. ©2022 Louise Achey

The Washington Outdoors Report



Mike Carey and Duke with a pheasant

PHOTO COURTESY JASON BROOKS.



The author in the act of missing a flying rooster

PHOTO COURTESY JASON BROOKS.

Private Ranch Pheasants

BY JOHN KRUSE

As far as I'm concerned, there are few things more enjoyable in life than watching a dog catch the scent of a pheasant, track that bird down and then watching that rooster

explode out of the brush into the air in front of you. As for knocking the bird down? That's a big bonus too, though I struggled in that regard during my recent trip to the Cooke Canyon Hunt Club near Ellensburg.

I went to this hunting club at the invitation of member

Mike Carey, the man behind Northwest Fishing Reports TV and the NWFR Reel Life magazine. Also with us was well known writer and editor Jason Brooks. He spent the morning following the two of us and Mike's springer spaniel, Duke, with his camera from flush to flush, laughing merrily

every time I shot holes into the sky.

The Cooke Canyon Hunt Club is a non-profit club north of Ellensburg with 1,000 acres to hunt. Doug and Alice Burnett are the affable owners and they are assisted by several friendly employees who will plant pheasant or chukar you pay for in a designated 80 to 100 acre plot you and your party will exclusively hunt. This is nice because you are not competing with other hunters like you often do hunting on public land or state pheasant release sites. The birds come in packages of either five roosters, seven hens or seven chukar though you can add on to those packages with more birds if you choose too.

A dog is required and many of the hunters here, including

Mike, use the hunting club as a way of training their dogs to be better hunters before taking them to places where they'll hunt wild pheasants during the regular season. Steel shot is also required and if you don't have a dog, you can hire a guide with a dog so that you can hone your shooting and hunting skills.

There are real advantages to private ranch pheasant hunting, especially in Washington State where wild pheasant populations cratered due to habitat loss and changing farming practices. Whereas you might walk several miles with your dog and maybe flush a pheasant on public land, here you are assured of several flushes at close range during a hunt that usually lasts two or three

hours. The terrain at Cooke Canyon is good too. It's not a big open flat field. Instead, where we hunted, there was a of different types of brush for the birds to hide in and for you to navigate through as well as a creek and two draws separated by a ridgeline. Much to my surprise, we actually covered close to three miles hunting back and forth behind the dog.

Another big advantage to private ranch hunting in Washington is that you can go after pheasants both before and after the regular hunting season which runs from mid-October thru mid-January in Eastern Washington. At the private hunting preserves, the season starts September 1st and continues until March 31st.

I am happy to report that despite my shooting woes we did end up hitting a couple of birds during our morning hunt. I had to leave after that but Jason and Mike went out for an afternoon shoot after lunch where there was a lot more hitting than missing and several tasty pheasant ended up going home for supper.

If you are looking for a Central or Eastern Washington pheasant hunting opportunity on a private ranch near you here are a few options:

Cooke Canyon Hunt Club - Ellensburg - www.cookecanyon.com - Tel. 509-933-1372

Hidden Ranch Outfitters - Coulee City - www.hiddenranchoutfitters.com - Tel. 509-681-0218

Miller Ranch - Cheney - www.millerranch.com - Tel. 509-990-6575

Double Barrel Ranch - Rockford - www.uplandbirdranch.com - Tel. 509-270-5518

Limits Game Farm - Mesa - www.limitsgamefarm.com - Tel. 509 265-4578

Private ranch pheasants. Don't turn up your nose at this opportunity. If you enjoy hunting pheasant this can be a productive training experience for your dog as well as a fun day for you and your friends.

John Kruse - www.northwesternoutdoors.com and www.americaoutdoorsradio.com

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The Contract

Unveiling the healing power of forgiveness

A novel by local writer William E. Forhan.

Nobel Prize winning author Gabriel García Márquez was quoted as saying, "All human beings have three lives, public, private and secret." In our modern world of the Internet search engines and DNA testing, keeping our private and secret lives separate is increasingly difficult. Sometimes they can come crashing in on our public lives when we least expect it.

Father Robert McCarthy is a middle-aged priest who is suddenly and unexpectedly confronted with his secret past. How he deals with the revelation of that past with his family, his congregation and the impacts of that secret life is inspirational. How McCarthy discloses the news of his college indiscretion requires him to take everyone involved on a journey of confession. That journey forces him to deal with issues of homosexuality, judgementalism, divorce and pride.

His pastoring skills and the depth of support from his wife help him bring forgiveness and restoration to many broken relationships.

The bonds of three families are ultimately restored through celebrations of life experiences including fishing, holiday gatherings, the discovery of unknown family connections and a wedding.

Bill's Book is available online through Amazon.com, BarnesandNoble.com and Apple iBook. The paperback is \$16.99 and the ebook is \$8.99. You can also pick up a copy of the book or order the book directly from Carol Forhan at The Leavenworth Echo (509-548-5286), or the Lake Chelan Mirror (509-682-2213), or by emailing your contact information to Carol@leavenworthecho.com. Sales tax applies and if you request mail delivery add \$3.00 for postage. There is no extra charge if your order is picked up at the Echo office, 215-14th Street, Leavenworth, WA 98826 or Lake Chelan Mirror office 131 S. Apple Blossom Dr. Suite #109, Chelan, WA. 98816

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Employment

Help Wanted



Even our team members are winners here
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Scan the QR Code to see all open positions
12 Tribes
Lake Chelan Casino
455 Wapato Lake Road
Manson, WA 98831
800-648-2946
509-687-6911

Help Wanted



Three Rivers Hospital is currently accepting applications for the following positions:

ER Nurse – FT Nights (Sign-on Bonus \$10,000)

Med-Surg RN – FT Nights (Sign-on Bonus \$10,000) – 2 open positions

Med-Surg/ ER RN – FT Days (Sign-on Bonus \$10,000)

OR Circulator Nurse - FT (Sign-on Bonus \$10,000)

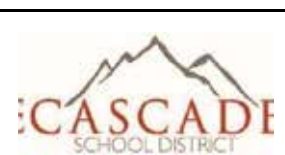
OR Circulator Nurse – PT

OR Manager – FT (Sign-on Bonus \$10,000)

Radiology / Mammography Tech – PT

Ultrasound Technologist – PT

Interested Candidates may apply online or by mailing their resume to: Three Rivers Hospital Human Resources Dept. PO Box 577 Brewster, WA 98812 (509) 689-2517 www.threerivershospital.net opportunity@trhospital.net EOE



The Cascade School District is seeking qualified applicants for the following positions:

Cascade High School Resource Teacher

Peshastin-Dryden Elementary Counselor

Fast Track application process and information can be found on our website at: www.cascadesed.org EOE



ER TECH Full-Time

Three Rivers Hospital is seeking an ER Tech to provide limited direct patient care under the supervision of a licensed nurse. Will assist when needed with patient registration duties including interviewing patients to collect required registration data and enters patient information into computer database for in-patient and outpatient services. Must have NA-C or MA license. Spanish bi-lingual is preferred. Interested Candidates may apply in person or by mailing their resume to: Three Rivers Hospital Human Resources Department PO Box 577 Brewster, WA 98812 (509) 689-2517 x 3343 www.threerivershospital.net opportunity@trhospital.net EOE



Windermere Real Estate/NCW Leavenworth/Lake Wenatchee Specialists

Looking for real estate in the Upper Valley?

Give us a call today!

Carmen Bagdon - 237-2060
Momi Palmieri - 433-2211
Geordie Romer - 679-8958
Allyson Romer - 630-9898

See all available properties at windermereleavenworth.com

Help Wanted

Operations Manager Organization: Okanogan County Transit Authority (TranGO)

TranGO is seeking an Operations Manager. Office location is Okanogan, WA. This is an exempt position according to FSLA and Washington Wage Act. Compensation range is \$81,057 - \$87,672 DOE. Benefits include health insurance (including dental and vision), life insurance, retirement, sick leave, vacation. Must have a Bachelor's Degree and five years progressive experience in transit and/or operations with at least five years supervisory experience in both fixed-route and demand response services. Must have a minimum Class B CDL with Passenger Endorsement or ability to obtain within 90 days of hire. Please visit www.okanogantransit.com for full job announcement, required qualifications, application, and job description. A complete application including a resume and cover letter must be submitted in order to be considered for the position. E-mail your completed application to financehr@okanogantransit.com Application Deadline: Application review will begin March 25, 2022 and will continue until the position is filled. Okanogan County Transit Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Help Wanted



Certified Coder Full-time

Three Rivers Hospital is seeking a Certified Coder. This position is responsible for timely, accurate and comprehensive review of services. Abstracts, analyzes, and assigns ICD-10-CM, CPT, HCPCS codes and appropriate modifiers for evaluation and management (E/M), minor procedures, and diagnostic tests by using either computerized or manual systems. Required: Associate degree, bachelor's degree, or equivalent years of experience as coding specialist. Current professional coding credentials such as AAPC, (CPC), (CCA), (COC), PMI, (CMC), or AHIMA (CCS-P), (CCS), (RHIA), (RHIT) or be able to obtain credentials within 6 months of hire. Interested Candidates may apply in person or by mailing their resume to: Three Rivers Hospital Human Resources Dept. PO Box 577 Brewster, WA 98812 (509) 689-2517 www.threerivershospital.net opportunity@trhospital.net EOE

Help Wanted

Earn Some Extra \$\$ money

Working a few hours for 1-2 days per week delivering newspapers to dealers and racks. We are looking for a reliable, responsible individual to pick up and deliver our newspapers Early Wednesday mornings. Other duties include collecting and counting money. Keep newspaper racks cleaned and maintained. Must have good driving record and proof of insurance. Apply in person at 215-14th St., Leavenworth call 509-548-5286 to schedule an interview. 10-5 weekdays. EOE

Receptionist-Administrative Assistant

The Lake Chelan Mirror newspaper is looking for an outgoing person for this full-time job, Monday-Friday. Qualified applicant will answer phones, take ad orders, keep circulation records up to date, prepare the daily cash receipts journal, make deposits, prepare affidavits and tear sheets for advertisers and assist with other administrative activities. Must have good customer service skills, adept at utilizing computer systems and software including Excel and Word, and have good math skills. If you're looking for a fun job where you get to work with talented people and be involved in the daily activities of the Lake Chelan area communities, this is the job for you. Dependability and dedication are important work skills for this rare opportunity. Interested applicants can apply at the Lake Chelan Mirror office, 131 S. Apple Blossom Drive, #109, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. or send your resume to: publisher@leavenworthecho.com EOE



The Cascade School District is seeking qualified applicants for the following positions:

Cascade High School/Icicle River Middle School Choral Director

Icicle River Middle School STEM/Honors Math Teacher

Cascade High School Spanish Teacher

Track application process and information can be found on our website at: www.cascadesed.org EOE

The Bridgeport School District is seeking qualified individuals for the following positions for the 2022-23 school year:

Psychologist
Speech Language Pathologist
Elementary Music Teacher
Secondary Music Teacher
HS Foreign Language Teacher
HS CTE/Computer Applications Teacher
All positions are open until filled. Apply on-line: <https://bridgeportjobs.hrmplus.net/Home.aspx>. For further information, please contact the HR office at 509-686-5656 or email jobs@bsd75.org. BSD is an equal opportunity employer.

Bartenders wanted. Full-time and part-time positions available immediately. Brewster American Legion. Applications available at Post or on our Facebook page: American Legion Columbia Post 97, (under jobs, open jobs click the bartender, click view applicant). Call 509-689-3307 after 1 p.m. Thursday-Friday or call 509-733-2700 after 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Employment Opportunities City of Chelan Parks & Recreation

is accepting applications for seasonal employment positions covering General Parks maintenance, night security, parking enforcement and landscaping, RV Park, Marina, and Putting Course attendants, and Golf Course staff. See www.CityOfChelan.us/employment for job application instructions or pick-up application at the Chelan Parks & Recreation Office at 619 W Manson Hwy, Chelan.

Chelan Valley Hope

Do you want to join an organization that works to further positive changes in people's lives? Chelan Valley Hope is looking for a Spanish/English speaking part-time administrative assistant to work 15-20 hours per week. Answer phones, greet people, assist with office duties, translate, and work with some of the best volunteers in the valley! Pay starts at \$16.00 per hour. Send resumes to director@chelanvalleyhope.org or in person to 417 S. Bradley St.

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Leavenworth/Cashmere 509-548-5286 or email classifieds@leavenworthecho.com or Lake Chelan Mirror 509-682-2213 or Quad City Herald 509-689-2507 or email mirrors@lakechelanmirror.com
Deadline Noon on Friday for the next week's papers

Need to promote your event?
Have you thought about NCWMarket.com
the best online promotion available



The Cascade School District is seeking qualified applicants for the following positions:

Cascade High School Fall and Winter Cheer Coach(es)

Fast Track application process and information can be found on our website at: www.cascadesed.org EOE



LAB TECHNICIAN / TECHNOLOGIST Full-time

Three Rivers Hospital is seeking a Lab Tech to perform various technical, clerical and information systems related procedures in Chemistry, Hematology, Microbiology, Blood Bank. A.S Degree in Medical Laboratory Technology or related scientific field with a one-year internship or one year of clinical experience. Professional certification as a MLT (ASCP) or equivalent is highly recommended. Sign-on Bonus: \$5,000. Interested Candidates may apply in person or by mailing their resume to: Three Rivers Hospital Human Resources Dept. PO Box 577 Brewster, WA 98812 (509) 689-2517 www.threerivershospital.net opportunity@trhospital.net EOE

NCW MEDIA NEWSPAPERS IS HIRING

We are looking to hire a Knowledgeable leader, manager-editor for our 4 weeklies and our monthly Business Journal. You need to know about small community newspapers. You can write and proof articles, meet deadlines, evaluate and motivate the current staff needs. Please send a resume to Publisher, PO Box 39, Leavenworth, WA. 98826. No phone calls please. An interview time will be scheduled. EOE.

Help Wanted




The Cascade School District is seeking qualified applicants for the following position:

Icicle River Middle School
Bilingual Secretary

Fast Track application process and information can be found on our website at:
www.cascadesd.org
EOE

Looking for a part-time job?

The Leavenworth Echo Newspaper is looking for a part-time front office receptionist. Greet customers. Have computer knowledge, math, and phone skills. We will train you on our computer software. Pay depends on experience. Please email a resume to Carol@leavenworthecho.com or stop in with a resume 215-14th St. Leavenworth. Monday-Friday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Or call 509-548-5286 for an interview time. Equal Opportunity Employer.




The Cascade School District is seeking qualified applicants for the following position:

Cascade High School
Day Shift Custodian

Track application process and information can be found on our website at:
www.cascadesd.org
EOE

PUD No. 1 of Okanogan County is seeking customer service rep.

The primary purpose of the position is to provide superior customer service to the district's internal and external customers by handling a variety of customer account and billing issues, including answering calls, cashiering duties, and performing account analysis in terms of credit/collections and payment arrangements. Please see www.okanoganpud.org for job description, requirements and submit application with resume. Okanogan PUD is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Looking for a home for your Furry friend?

Try the pet section on NCWMarket.com

For Sale

Apparel

A Variety of Bavarian Clothing for Sale: PRICES REDUCED!

3 Bavarian-styled vests, sizes small & medium, 2 woolen and one velvet. \$15 each.

One Beautiful Bavarian, Loden-grey and green wool suit, size 44. A steal at only \$40

One pink and green dirndl with apron. \$15.

2 aprons, satin light blue and 1 copper-colored. \$5 each. One medium-sized long-sleeve white dirndl blouse. \$5.

3 girls' dirndls, sizes 6, 8 and 10. \$10 each.

Stop in to see items at The Leavenworth Echo 215-14th St. or call 548-5286 or Carol's cell:670-1723.

Real Estate

Rentals

Two bedroom apartment at the Chelan Airport area. Includes parking, electricity, laundry, and garbage, \$1,300 month. 509-860-6400.

IN TOWN LEAVENWORTH

3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, washer, dryer. No garage, shared patio, and small tool shed, 2 car parking limit. No ATVs, motorcycles, snowmobiles, trailers, etc. No pets, or smoking. Available Mid-February or March 1. \$1600 plus \$100. flat utility fee. References required. \$1000 security deposit. 509-860-4564.

IN TOWN CASHMERE

3 bedroom, 2 bath, private backyard. Cute, clean available mid-February - March 1. 2 vehicle parking limit. No campers, trailers, ATVs, etc. \$1750 per month. Garbage included. one year lease required. References. \$1000 deposit. Cats ok, no smoking. Call 509-860-4564.

Vacation Rentals

LAKE CHELAN Sunset Marina



40 ft. slip B 10 for rent \$600 month. Power, water, clubhouse. **808-298-1031**

Vacation Property

\$149,000



Sunset Marina, Chelan, 40 ft. deep water slip with electric and water to slip. Waste dump. Clubhouse with showers, lounge with TV, bar, and kitchen for members use. Lanai seating with fire pit and barbecue. Slip B10 is best location. Secure parking. **808-298-1031**

Legals

Public Notices

Superior Court of Washington for Chelan County

In the matter of the estate of **James D. Willems**, Deceased. No. 22-4-00033-04

Notice To Creditors (RCW 11.40.030)

The person 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 his 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 this 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: March 2, 2022.

Wesley Jennings, Personal Representative
Attorney for the Personal Representative: Joseph C. Brown, Jr., WSBA# 17991
Address for Mailing or Service: J.C. Brown Law Office, PLLC 200 Aplets Way, P.O. Box 384 Cashmere, WA 98815 (509)782-1111
Court of probate proceeding and cause number: Chelan County Superior Court, Cause Number: 22-4-00033-04
Published in the Cashmere Valley Record / Leavenworth Echo on March 2, March 9, and March 16, 2022. #3677

Public Notices

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR CHELAN COUNTY

In the Matter of the Estate of **R.J. REILLY**, Deceased. No. 22-4-00104-04

PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS RCW 11.40.030

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

Date of First Publication: March 2, 2022

Personal Representative: Patrick J. Reilly
Attorney for the Personal Representative: Russell J. Speidel
Address for Mailing or Service: Speidel Bentsen LLP 7 North Wenatchee Avenue, Suite 600 P.O. Box 881 Wenatchee, WA 98807-0881
Court of Probate Proceedings and Cause Number: Chelan County Superior Court Cause No. 22-4-00104-04
PATRICK J. REILLY
Personal Representative
Attorneys for Personal Representative: **SPEIDEL BENTSEN LLP**
By: **RUSSELL J. SPEIDEL**
WSBA No. 12838
7 North Wenatchee Avenue, Suite 600 P.O. Box 881 Wenatchee, WA 98807
Published in The Leavenworth Echo/Cashmere Valley Record on March 2, 9, and 16, 2022. #3689

Public Notices

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF GRANT

No. 22-2-00062-13

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

FARRAH WARDENAAR (f/k/a FARRAH BROWN), a married woman.

Plaintiff, vs

JOHN R. WERST and VIRGINIA WERST, husband and wife; the UNKNOWN HEIRS OF JOHN R. WERST; the UNKNOWN HEIRS OF VIRGINIA WERST; ALBERT DIEDE and BERNICE DIEDE, husband and wife; the UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ALBERT DIEDE; the UNKNOWN HEIRS OF BERNICE DIEDE; HENRIETTA GRIFFITH, a single woman; KERRY JOHN GRIFFITH and JANE DOE GRIFFITH, husband and wife; LAURIE ANN GRIFFITH, as her separate property; and ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY, Defendants.

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO THE SAID DEFENDANTS: UNKNOWN HEIRS OF JOHN R. WERST and VIRGINIA WERST, the UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ALBERT DIEDE AND BERNICE DIEDE, and ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY


You are hereby summoned to appear within sixty (60) days after the date of the first publication of this summons, to wit, within sixty (60) days after the 2nd day of February, 2022, and defend the above-entitled action in the above-entitled court, and answer the complaint of the Plaintiff, FARRAH WARDENAAR (f/k/a FARRAH BROWN), a married woman, and serve a copy of your answer upon the undersigned attorneys for Plaintiff, FARRAH WARDENAAR (f/k/a FARRAH BROWN), a married woman, at their office below stated; and in case of your failure so to do, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the complaint, which has been filed with the clerk of said court.

The object of Plaintiff's action is to quiet title in and to Grant County Parcel No. 15-0956-000, which is more particularly described as follows:


Those portions of the Southwest quarter and the West half of the Southeast quarter of Section 4, Township 17 North, Range 24, E.W.M., Grant County, Washington, not included within the boundaries of Irrigation Block 79, Columbia Basin Project, Grant County, Washington, according to the plat thereof filed April 17, 1956.

DATED this 27th day of January, 2022.

STW LAW, PLLC
By: **Stephen W. Reagan**, WSBA #41328 Attorney for Plaintiff
Published in The Cashmere Valley Record/Leavenworth Echo on Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, and Mar. 2, and 9, 2022. #3551.



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Public Notices

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Pursuant to the Revised Code of Washington 61.24, et seq.108 1st Ave South, Suite 202 Seattle, WA 98104 Trustee Sale No.: WA-19-869580-BB Title Order No.: 191110974-WA-MSW Reference Number of Deed of Trust: Instrument No. 2488741 Parcel Number(s): 222129880125 Grantor(s) for Recording Purposes under RCW 65.04.015: ANDREA C BROOKS AND TRISTAN A BROOKS, WIFE AND HUSBAND, AND CYNTHIA M ST VINCENT, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN, ALL AS JOINT TENANTS WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP AND NOT AS TENANTS IN COMMON, AND NOT AS COMMUNITY PROPERTY Current Beneficiary of the Deed of Trust and Grantee (for Recording Purposes under RCW 65.04.015): PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC Current Trustee of the Deed of Trust: Quality Loan Service Corporation of Washington Current Loan Mortgage Servicer of the Deed of Trust: PennyMac Loan Services, LLC I. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Quality Loan Service Corp. of Washington, the undersigned Trustee, will on 4/8/2022, at 9:00 AM AT THE Main Entrance to the Chelan County Courthouse, located at 350 Orondo Street, Wenatchee, WA 98801 sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder, payable in the form of credit bid or cash bid in the form of cashier's check or certified checks from federally or State chartered banks, at the time of sale the following described real property, situated in the County of CHELAN, State of Washington, to-wit: LOT 3, BLOCK 2, THREE LAKES COUNTRY CLUB ESTATES DIVISION NO. 3, CHELAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN VOLUME 7 OF PLATS, PAGE 23 AND 24 More commonly known as: 3168 Monterey Dr, Malaga, WA 98828-9731 Subject to that certain Deed of Trust dated 11/29/2018, recorded 12/3/2018, under Instrument No. 2488741 records of CHELAN County, Washington, from ANDREA C BROOKS AND TRISTAN A BROOKS, WIFE AND HUSBAND, AND CYNTHIA M ST VINCENT, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN, ALL AS JOINT TENANTS WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP AND NOT AS TENANTS IN COMMON, AND NOT AS COMMUNITY PROPERTY, as grantor(s), to CENTRAL WASHINGTON TITLE SERVICES INC., as original trustee, to secure an obligation in favor of MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR FINANCE OF AMERICA MORTGAGE LLC., ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, as original beneficiary, the beneficial interest in which was subsequently assigned to PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC, the Beneficiary, under an assignment recorded under Auditors File Number 2499719 II. No action commenced by the Beneficiary of the Deed of Trust as referenced in RCW 61.21.030(4) is now pending to seek satisfaction of the obligation in any Court by reason of the Borrower's or Grantor's default on the obligation secured by the Deed of Trust/Mortgage. III. The default(s) for which this foreclosure is made is/are as follows: Failure to pay when due the following amounts which are now in arrears: \$73,181.01. IV. The sum owing on the obligation secured by the Deed of Trust is: The principal sum of \$281,502.21, together with interest as provided in the Note from 1/1/2019 on, and such other costs, fees, and charges as are due under the Note, Deed of Trust, or other instrument secured, and as are provided by statute. V. The above-described real property will be sold to satisfy the expense of sale and the obligation secured by the Deed of Trust as provided by statute. Said sale will be made without warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession or encumbrances on 4/8/2022. The defaults referred to in Paragraph III must be cured by 3/28/2022 (11 days before the sale date), or by other date as permitted in the Note or Deed of Trust, to cause a discontinuance of the sale. The sale will be discontinued and terminated if at any time before 3/28/2022 (11 days before the sale), or by other date as permitted in the Note or Deed of Trust, the default as set forth in Paragraph III is cured and the Trustee's fees and costs are paid. Payment must be in cash or with cashiers or certified checks from a State or federally chartered bank. The sale may be terminated any time after the 3/28/2022 (11 days before the sale date) and before the sale, by the Borrower or Grantor or the holder of any recorded junior lien or encumbrance by paying the principal and interest, plus costs, fees and advances, if any, made pursuant to the terms of the obligation and/or Deed of Trust, and curing all other defaults. VI. A written Notice of Default was transmitted by the Beneficiary or Trustee to the Borrower(s) and Grantor(s) by both first class and certified mail, proof of which is in the possession of the Trustee; and the Borrower and Grantor were personally served, if applicable, with said written Notice of Default or the written Notice of Default was posted in a conspicuous place on the real property described in Paragraph I above, and the Trustee has possession of proof of such service or posting. The list of recipients of the Notice of Default is listed within the Notice of Foreclosure provided to the Borrower(s) and Grantor(s). These requirements were completed as of 10/22/2021. VII. The Trustee whose name and address are set forth below will provide in writing to anyone requesting it, a statement of all costs and fees due at any time prior to the sale. VIII. The effect of the sale will be to deprive the Grantor and all those who hold by, through or under the Grantor of all their interest in the above-described property. IX. Anyone having any objections to this sale on any grounds whatsoever will be afforded an opportunity to be heard as to those objections if they bring a lawsuit to restrain the sale pursuant to RCW 61.24.130. Failure to bring such a lawsuit may result in a waiver of any proper grounds for invalidating the Trustee's sale. X. NOTICE TO OCCUPANTS OR TENANTS – The purchaser at the Trustee's Sale is entitled to possession of the property on the 20th day following the sale, as against the Grantor under the deed of trust (the owner) and anyone having an interest junior to the deed of trust, including occupants who are not tenants. After the 20th day following the sale the purchaser has the right to evict occupants who are not tenants by summary proceedings under Chapter 59.12 RCW. For tenant-occupied property, the purchaser shall provide a tenant with written notice in accordance with RCW 61.24.060. THIS NOTICE IS THE FINAL STEP BEFORE THE FORECLOSURE SALE OF YOUR HOME. You may be eligible for mediation. You have only 20 DAYS from the recording date of this notice to pursue mediation. DO NOT DELAY. CONTACT A HOUSING COUNSELOR OR AN ATTORNEY LICENSED IN WASHINGTON NOW to assess your situation and refer you to mediation if you are eligible and it may help you save your home. See below for safe sources of help. SEEKING ASSISTANCE Housing counselors and legal assistance may be available at little or no cost to you. If you would like assistance in determining your rights and opportunities to keep your house, you may contact the following: The statewide foreclosure hotline for assistance and referral to housing counselors recommended by the Housing Finance Commission: Toll-free: 1-877-894-HOME (1-877-894-4663) or Web site: http://www.dfi.wa.gov/consumers/homeownership/post_purchase_counselors_foreclosure.htm The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development: Toll-free: 1-800-569-4287 or National Web Site: <http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD> or for Local counseling agencies in Washington: <http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/hcc/ftc/index.cfm?webListAction=se&arch&searchstate=WA&filterSvc=dcf> The statewide civil legal aid hotline for assistance and referrals to other housing counselors and attorneys: Telephone: 1-800-606-4819 or Web site: <http://nwjustice.org/what-clear> Additional information provided by the Trustee: If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the noteholders rights against the real property only. The Trustee's Sale Number is WA-19-869580-BB. Dated: 11/23/2021 Quality Loan Service Corp. of Washington, as Trustee By: Jeff Stenman, President Trustee's Address: Quality Loan Service Corp. of Washington 108 1 st Ave South, Suite 202, Seattle, WA 98104 For questions call toll-free: (866) 925-0241 Trustee Sale Number: WA-19-869580-BB Sale Line: 800-280-2832 or Login to: <http://wa.qualityloan.com> IDSPub #0175631 3/9/2022 3/30/2022
Published in The Cashmere Valley Record/Leavenworth Echo on March 9, & 30 2022. #3130



Community

CHS Science Bowl Team Competes Virtually



Marlene Farrell
Correspondent

On Saturday, February 26th, Cascade High School had a Science Bowl team compete in the virtual state tournament for the first time in three years. Team members Haakon Scheibler and Quentin Farrell were in one room, while Tillie Leroy, Chase Runions and

Olivia Cappellini, were in a second room per health safety requirements. The team set up a total of ten required cameras to ensure fair play. The competition consists of rounds of toss up and bonus questions covering physics, astronomy, chemistry, math, molecular biology, ecology, geology and more.

Science and math teacher, Dayle Massey, has been the coach for over 20 years, and he also coaches Knowledge Bowl. All of the students are in both organizations. Unlike Knowledge Bowl, which has many competitions, the Science Bowl has only one,

and the regional winner goes to Nationals in Washington, D.C. The CHS team had practiced informally and was not experienced with the testing format, so they did not become a finalist team against teams from much larger schools, including some STEM magnet schools.

However, there were perks. “The competition is sponsored by the Department of Energy and is well-funded with free t-shirts and other miscellaneous swag,” said Massey. “Competitions are run by professional scientists from the Tri-Cities area. The students are inspired to see

these nuclear physicists, chemists, environmental engineers, etc. as real, friendly, encouraging people. Plus, the competition itself is fun—working with your team and getting the answers to tough questions is always fun and rewarding.”

The students thought the experience will help them with Knowledge Bowl, for which they are more competitive, and they will be able to do better at next year’s Science Bowl with the new knowledge of format and topics. They all hope and expect it will return to being in-person next year.



SUBMITTED PHOTO.

From left, junior Tillie Leroy and seniors Chase Runions and Olivia Cappellini prepare for the second round of the virtual regional Science Bowl competition.

School Board

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Two students are becoming ASL mentors to students at Alpine Lakes Elementary. Johnson also noted that Kodiak Cubs preschool is award-winning for integrating high school child development students as helpers and accommodating students of differing ability levels. “It’s a model of inclusivity,” said Johnson.

He reminded the board of the success of the daily symptomatic COVID testing for students and family. The district hired two medical assistants to aid the school nurses in drive-up testing and other related procedures.

Two school counselors shared updates as well. Meche Grace, who works at Peshastin Dryden Elementary and Alpine Lakes Elementary (ALPS), led the board in a short calming exercise involving breathing and focusing on the senses. She uses such techniques at the beginning of her lessons with students. She has a full schedule working with classes, small groups, individuals, other staff and families. She has been working with students experiencing anxiety, teaching them coping mechanisms, and there’s been documented improvements for students.

Grace pointed out a need for more regular, weekly counseling lessons with classes, which is not possible while she’s in two schools. Superintendent Tracey Beckendorf-Edou shared that the district will be hiring a second elementary school counselor for next school year, which will allow for implementation of Grace’s suggestion.

Grace also hopes to see the district work toward improved attendance and decreased truancy through data-driven strategies and working with families to improve outcomes.

Dani Steele, counselor for Icicle River Middle School (IRMS) and Beaver Valley School, spoke next, first sharing the data from a universal mental health screener that surveyed all students at Cascade High School (CHS) and IRMS in the fall. Eleven percent of IRMS respondents required intervention based on varying levels of suicide ideation. Response was immediate and tiered to match wraparound services with the level of risk.

Work in this area is progressing because Steele and Katie Schmitt, district social worker, and two staff at Cascade Medical, are in the process of suicide prevention training at all schools and all support staff. Steele also mentioned a NCEF teacher grant funded “Peace Corner” at IRMS. This is a place, located near the nurse’s station, where a student can check in for up to fifteen minutes with approval. It’s a place for a “brain break” and has art supplies, fidget spinners and posters with breathing exercises to help the student.

Steele shared that currently only 42% of her time is spent in direct services to students because she has to spend time with indirect services, non-school counseling tasks and program planning. She recommended finding ways to allow her to spend a higher percent of time in direct services, preferably by lowering her unrelated tasks.

Johnson wrapped up the

presentation by mentioning the Afterschool Ski and Snowboard program was again successful, in part because they received a Cascade Education Foundation grant to update ski equipment that was no longer serviceable. Johnson is also passionate about Rattlesnake Hill trail improvements to make it even more of an asset for the schools. He applied for a \$66,000 lodging tax grant through Chelan County to cover the next steps of trail development, and will learn the outcome soon.

Under personnel, the school board approved multiple resignations that will trigger at school year’s end. Beckendorf-Edou said that the timing reflects an incentive to staff to let the district know now to enable a longer hiring period. Noteworthy among the resignations were CHS principal Elia Ala’ilima-Daley, who moves on to be the executive director of secondary education for the Olympia School District, after serving CSD for 27 years. Additionally, Alita Guzman, CHS Spanish teacher, Mandi Wickline, drama director, and Keisha Smith, school nurse, are also resigning at the end of the school year.

The school board approved a number of policies and procedures on second reading, and they briefly discussed the first reading of a policy about service animals in the school. Beckendorf-Edou said the policy is in alignment with state statutes, and refers to an animal, such as a dog or miniature horse, that is trained to help a student, who has a disability, complete a task. This does not include animals deemed emotional support or a

companion animal.

It’s important to have this policy in place so a student who needs a service animal feels welcome in school. School administrators cannot require documentation of service certification because that puts extra onus on the student. It clarifies that the animal must be kept under control and its waste must be handled. If there’s a complication such as another student having an allergy, the school would do what is necessary to allow both parties to have a safe and successful learning environment.

For the good of the order, Beckendorf-Edou shared that a video about CSD’s use of federal COVID funding was requested and highlighted by Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona as an example of how districts utilized the dollars creatively and productively. The video, which can be found on CSD’s homepage, has Beckendorf-Edou narrating how the COVID funds helped with support for students and staff, including hiring a social worker, intervention staff and more substitutes, initiating summer school, tutoring and Saturday school, as well as supplies including outdoor heaters, picnic tables, plexiglass barriers and PPE, and running daily COVID testing for staff, students and families.

When asked about her attendance at the National Superintendents Conference in Nashville, Tennessee, Beckendorf-Edou said it was apparent that the issues resulting from the pandemic were similar across the nation. She enjoyed comparing strategies

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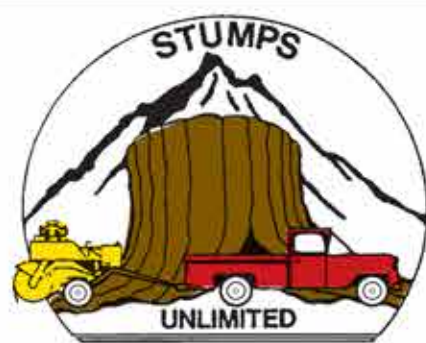
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Artist Walter Graham’s white horses charging out of the mist on the panels formerly displayed at the Visitor Center/ Rocky Reach Dam were always a draw for visiting family and

friends. To me, putting Graham’s horses into a PUD high security area privatizes a local public art treasure. Maybe the Tacoma architects didn’t know that generations

of Central Washington citizens in school buses or family cars were proud of that display.

I hope our Chelan County PUD commissioners would appeal to the Tacoma

architects to keep those beautiful horses coming out of the mist available for public viewing.

Joe Bissonette,
Cashmere

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