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UPPER VALLEY NEWS SINCE 1904

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July

Extreme Heat Affects Fire Danger, Fruit, and Personal Health

By: Erin Mullins

Record high temperatures have been recorded across the state and the country as the valley faces an unprecedented heat wave with multiple days of tripledigit temperatures. Far before the normal summer heat surge, extreme temperatures are weathered daily. This heat wave is unique not only in its extreme temperatures but for the duration of the heat wave.

"Well what I'm surprised at is the strain and the amount of time that the heat wave has occurred," said Chelan County Fire District #3 Fire Chief Kelly O'Brien.

This extreme heat increases fire danger, is a risk to personal health, and affects orchardists' crops. O' Brien said that the fire season will be in swing much earlier than normal because of the heatwave. Currently, outdoor burning and fireworks are not allowed until conditions improve.

Firewise, the biggest risk to Leavenworth is burning embers, O'Brien said. For example, if there was a fire on Tumwater mountain that dropped burning embers on Leavenworth it could start many spot fires and burn down multiple homes.

Cascade School Board Race By: Erin Mullins

Many candidates are running for school board for 2021 as there are three positions open in Districts 1, 3, and 5. Cindy Puckett is the current school board member for District 1, which covers the Icicle Road and East Leavenworth Areas. Zachary Miller is the current school board member for District 3 which covers Chumstick area, Lake Wenatchee, and Plain.

Trey Ising is the current school board member for District 5, which covers the Dryden and Blewett pass area. All of the incumbents are running for re-election. Additionally, Many residents have wondered what will happen to the property that was formerly Osborn Elementary. Resident feedback has been sought for the future of the property.

To some, it isn't clear what part of the property has been purchased.

One common misconception is that the city has purchased the entire Osborn block. The city has only purchased the elementary school, playground and grassy area near the playground, Christie Voos, Communications Analyst for the City of Leavenworth said. The administration building, tennis courts and little grassy area by the administration building is school district property.

It hasn't been decided yet whether the existing Osborn structure will be used or demolished. Voos could not confirm whether the playground would be preserved or renovated into something new. There are no current plans to demolish the existing Osborn building.

August

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance announces completion of Ski Hill trails

BY: YVONNE KRAUS

Executive Director

Leavenworth — After more than 20 years of local effort to develop the trails on the hills surrounding the Leavenworth Ski Hill the end is in sight. On July 15, 2021, USFS officials, Evergreen Staff, local Evergreen Chapter leadership and local supporters celebrated the approval of the final section of trail with a small gathering at the historic Ski Hill Lodge.

The final section of trail will connect with the recently completed N.U.T. (New Uphill Trail) trail which created a more direct and relatively easy climb to the ridge above the historic Ski Hill Lodge. Riders who use this trail find it a much more enjoyable climb than the alternative of Ranger Road, a steep and very rough forest service road. The final trail section will connect the top of the N.U.T. with the top of the very popular Rosy Boa trail and offer another 1-2 miles of distance over approximately 300 feet of elevation.

New Chelan County Grant Program Awards \$740,000 to local agencies

BY: BLAKE BALDWIN

Chelan County

The Chelan Board of County Commissioners recently awarded nearly \$740,000 in grant funding to local agencies that support economic development in Chelan County.

The Cascade Public Infrastructure Fund, or CPIF, is a grant program that was created earlier this year to help finance public projects that facilitate the creation or retention of businesses and jobs in the county.

The newly established grant program had its first call for projects this spring.







New Transportation Director for Cascade School District

SUBMITTED BY: JULIE WINTERS

Cascade School District is pleased to announce the hire of our new Transportation Director, Lori Duncan. Lori Duncan is a local resident who enjoys solving the daily and sometimes hourly challenges required for the Transportation Department to run safely and efficiently. Lori has been interim director of the Transportation Department since the resignation of long-time Transportation Director Tim Bentz. Lori has also served as a bus driver and trip board coordinator for the Cascade School District. Prior to her service in Cascade, Lori

worked for UPS as a full-time driver. She also has supervisory experience with UPS. Lori attended high school in Snoqualmie, Washington and has attended college at North Idaho College in Idaho and Thomas



Edison College in New Jersey. Lo

Lori Duncan

Simply Found Boutique's HVAC System Catches Fire

BY: MEGAN SOKOL

When owner Carlos Bernal got an urgent call from his manager, he could sense that things might be hectic at his Pavz Tacos Restaurant on Front St. in Leavenworth. But on Tuesday evening around 5 p.m., he did not expect the smell of burning plastic and smoke billowing into his establishment.

PHOTO SUBMITTED.
August 4. Evergreen Chapter members examine some of the new trails available
to mountain biking enthusiasts.
PHOTO BY TRACEY AND KIRK
BECKENDORF:
August 25.
Student Deisy
Medina Regelado
and teacher

Misha Whitefield and Mike Worden are running for District 1. Cody Burgess-Bench is running for District 3. Marty Young is running for District 5.

Marty Young, Cindy Puckett, and Misha Whitefield were not available for comment by press time but their answers will be included in a future edition.

Mike Worden said that he is running for District 1 school board because he loves children. He is retired and feels there is no higher calling than to invest time in our children. He is married to a retired school teacher which he says taught him a lot.

Osborn Visioning Process By: Erin Mullins David Harvill cut the ribbon for the renovated Career and Technical Education building at Cascade High School.





July 7. Cherry growers are optimistic that they will have a good harvest despite the unseasonably hot weather.



After searching all over Pavz, both the restaurant crew and firefighters discovered that the cause of the smoke was due to their neighbor business, Simply Found Boutique's HVAC system catching fire.

Bernal and his staff called their building manager who then called the Leavenworth Fire Department.

At approximately 6:21 p.m., Fire Districts #3 and #6 arrived in search of the source of the fire within the boutique. Firefighters evacuated everyone within the area. Assistant Chief Glenn Brautaset states that firefighters were confused as to why so much smoke, which made it harder for them to find the source of the fire.

"The building manager and the building owner arrived and at that

Continued to page B4

Petition against Stevens Pass Resort Gains 20k Signatures



PHOTO SOURCE: STEVENS PASS 2021/22 WINTER MAP

Vail Resort Accused of Violating the WA Consumer Protection Act

BY: MEGAN SOKOL

The once cozy and treasured gem of Stevens Pass has recently caught controversy after multiple patrons accuse Vail Resorts of violating the Washington Consumer Protection Act. The resort has been accused of severe mismanagement of their ski area, underpaying their employees and for not refunding a portion of the Epic Pass after multiple trail closures. In 2018 Veil Resorts accurred

In 2018, Vail Resorts acquired Stevens Pass for \$64 mil. Since then, the corporate atmosphere that they bought has left a sour taste in people's mouths. In protest to these claims, unsatisfied patrons of Stevens Pass Resort have signed a petition called "Hold Vail Resorts Accountable" on Change.org. It was published on Dec. 28 and has already surpassed its 15k signature goal.

The creator of the petition is Jeremy Rubingh, Colorado native and avid winter sports enthusiast, who moved to Washington back in 2019. Since moving, he has been skiing at Stevens Pass Resort, but was quickly dismayed when he learned of their acquisition from Vail resorts.

"[Customers] not getting the product that they thought they were buying and the staff is miserable. It's just completely an unsustainable situation," Rubingh said. "It's either, if they don't change, I think they will be facing a lot of people who are not interested in supporting their services in the future."

The petition claims that customers

only have access to 40% of the trails, with customers still paying the full price of an "Epic Pass." Vail Resort Communications Director Sara Roston states the following regarding trail access closure:

"We acknowledge the frustration expressed in this petition, and want to reiterate that we are listening to feedback carefully. Stevens Pass is working hard to address operational challenges, including staffing shortages, to open more of the mountain as quickly – and safely – as possible". Stevens Pass is a unique mountain with very specific challenges, which include its remote location, variable and often intense weather patterns that impact travel, and its positioning separate from

Continued to page B4



In	side The ECHO this week		
Section A	Section B	Inserts: Safeway	
Community Calendar2	Classifieds 2-3	Dan's Market	a 08803
Sheriff Reports2	-		215 14th St.
	Outdoors Report4		Leavenwort
Church Guide4		👝 💆 💆	Phone: 509-3 www.leaver



215 14th St. • P.O. Box 39, Leavenworth, WA 98826 Phone: 509-548-5286 www.leavenworthecho.com

Community

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

A2

Local, Regional News & **Events**

📚 Any non-profit 501(c)-(3) group, person(s). 🎭 Must provide: full name, city, phone number. Community ${}^{\bullet}$ Items pertaining to local events that are free or minimum charge.



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Friday
Friday

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SERVICES:

Back Issues are available up to one year after publication for a fee. Archive Research: \$25 per hour Includes mail or email copies.

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@qmail.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 Chelan Fire Department #9, 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.)
- helan Dougl as Republican Women, Meetings at Red

Leavenworth

Adult Social Walking in the Festhalle

This season's winter walking exercise program in the Festhalle will begin on Tuesday, January 4, 2022. The Festhalle will be open on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 7:15-9:00 a.m. for those interested in walking a few laps. There is no charge, all you need to bring is your smile and a pair of dry walking shoes. Please enter through the side doors on Front Street. Unfortunately we cannot accommodate children at this time. For further information please call Sharon Waters, 509-548-7939.

Christmas tree recycling

For those people living in the apple maggot quarantine area of Chelan County, the county's Leavenworth brush drop-off

site will be open Friday, Jan. 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The site is at the intersection of East Leavenworth and Icicle roads. Cost is \$15 per yard, or \$5 per tree. If you live in the city limits of Leavenworth, you can take your tree to the city recycling yard. Details are online. Limbs must be removed and cut to no more than 4 feet in length. When dropping off your tree, please make sure it is free of all tinsel and decorations. No flocked trees are taken for recycling.

Want to place Your Community News Online? Go to NCWMARKET.COM 24/7

classifieds@leavenworthecho.com or place online at NCWMARKET.COM

S For info call: Leavenworth: 509-548-5286, email: reporter@leavenworthecho.com

Serage and Yard Sale Ads are paid events, please email:

Scashmere: 509-782-3781, email: reporter@leavenworthecho.com

NCW Libraries' annual Winter Reading Program

The district that operates 30 libraries and two bookmobiles across North Central Washington has set a community goal of reading 300 books by Jan. 13. Register at www.ncwlibraries.org and log the number of books read to get into a drawing for prizes. The prize packages are:

Kids: Two Family Movie Night sets (popcorn, candy and a DVD set)

Teens: Two Cozy Reading sets (mug, hot cocoa, blanket, and book)

Adults: Winter Thriller set (two books, a mug, and a tote), Cozy Winter Reading set (two books, winter socks, and a mug), and a Winter Puzzle set (a puzzle, short story collection, and mug). Paper reading logs are also available in every library location. Kids who return their reading logs to the library will earn a prize of a rubber ducky!

The Wenatchee Area **Genealogical Society**

Will meet via Zoom at 2 p.m., Monday, January 10. Ohio-based researcher Dana Palmer will present "Connect Your Family: Useful Research Strategies." Contact WAGSLibrarian@gmail.com to receive Zoom information; or call 509-782-4046 for more information. Free and open to the public.



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.

December 23

- 00:30 Non-Injury Accident, US Hwy. 2 and Dryden Ave.,
- Dryden. 00:35 Domestic Disturbance, 301 Ward Strasse.
- 09:10 Hazard, 19572 Nason Rd., Lake Wenatchee.
- 12:39 Suspicious Activity, Leavenworth.
- 12:50 Parking/Abandon, 8800 Josephine Ave., Dryden.
- 14:21 911 Call, 920 US Hwy. 2. 14:25 Traffic Offense, 10395 Chumstick Hwy.
- 17:37 Property, Leavenworth. 18:46 911 Call, 213 9th St.
- 19:17 Alarm, 12611 Icicle Ln. 20:49 Trespassing, 19957 Gill
- Creek Rd., Lake Wenatchee. 22:43 Warrant, Saunders Rd. and US Hwy. 2.
- 23:33 Noise, 8746 School St., Dryden.

December 24

- 09:05 Assist Public, 6326 Campbell Rd., Peshastin. 09:32 Traffic Offense, US Hwy.
- 2 and Stemm Rd., Peshastin. 2 #B.

12:55 Juvenile Problem. 425 Pinedrop Ln., Lake Wenatchee.

14:44 Non-Injury Accident, 505 US Hwy. 2. 16:54 Assist Public, 21207

- Stetson Rd., Plain. 18:56 Unknown Accident, 700
- Blk., Commercial St. 19:45 Assist Public, 3290 Allen
- Ln., Peshastin. 21:00 Civil, 700
- Blk.,Commercial St.
- 21:16 Assist Agency, 305 US Hwy. 2.
- 22:39 Suspicious Activity, 2600 Blk., Cottonwood Ln., Lake Wenatchee.
- 22:49 Malicious Mischief, 405 US Hwy. 2.

December 26

- 02:32 Welfare Check, 11202
- North Rd. 09:02 Burglary, 690 US Hwy. 2.
- 09:05 Welfare Check, 122 Morning Star Ln., Plain.
- 09:36 Diversion, 11202 North Rd.
- 10:08 Property, 707 US Hwy.

15:47 Vehicle Theft, 10020 School St., Peshastin. 16:15 Assist Public, 7828 E. Leavenworth Rd.

- 16:25 Parking/Abandon, Brown Rd. and Bruce Ln., Lake Wenatchee.
- 19:21 Robbery, US Hwy. 2 and 12th St.
- 23:03 Noise, 9694 Embroden Rd.

December 28

Hwy.

06:05 Alarm, 829 Front St. 11:04 Civil, 11722 Bartlett Ln.

11:37 Parking/Abandon, Lake

12:35 Theft, 12465 Chumstick

13:37 Property, 820 Front St.

6:01 Parking/Abandon, 16605

22:08 Vehicle Prowl, Ski Hill Dr.

00:53 Welfare Check, US Hwy. 2

Brown Rd., Lake Wenatchee.

15:47 Civil, 920 US Hwy. 2.

18:05 Property, 217 9th St.

& Prospect St.

December 29

& 9th St.

Wenatchee Hwy. MP 9.

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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 daytime 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.

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.leaveworthmasons. 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.

- 10:45 Juvenile Problem, 8784 School St., Dryden.
- 10:52 Assist Public, 810 US Hwy. 2.
- 14:08 Parking/Abandon, 800 Blk Commercial St. 16:05 Suspicious Activity, W.
- Whitman and Mill Sts. 16:11 Property, Evans and
- Sherbourne Sts. 16:18 Extra Patrol, 7898 Icicle
- Rd. 16:27 Extra Patrol, 11007 US
- Hwy. 2.
- 18:47 Alarm, 16863 N. Shore Dr., Lake Wenatchee.
- 19:17 Parking/Abandon, Commercial and 8th Sts. 22:15 Vehicle Theft, 202 West
- **December 25**

St.

- 08:37 Malicious Mischief, 100 Ward Strasse 09:26 Hazard, Lake Wenatchee Hwy. ad N. Shore Dr., Lake Wenatchee. 12:52 Parking/Abandon, US Hwy. 2 and 9th St.
- Your Future, Planned with Care.



Brad Blackburn, CFP®

11/12 509-782-2600 121 Cottage Ave Cashmere, WA 98815 Blackburn Financial

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

- 10:44 911 Call, 590 US Hwy. 2. 12:26 Injury Accident, Chumstick Hwy. and Eagle
- Creek Rd. 12:37 Parking/Abandon, 335
- Whitman St. 15:48 Property, 820 Front St.
- 20:34 Assist Agency, 320 Park Ave.
- 22:31 Assist Public, 8200 E. Leavenworth Rd. 23:25 Alarm, 10680 Fox Rd.

December 27

- 01:01 Domestic Disturbance, 435 Pinedrop Ln., Lake Wenatchee. 01:20 Hazard, 9th St. and US Hwy. 2. 10:04 Hazard, Lake Wenatchee Hwy. MP 8. 11:21 Alarm, 20711 Pelton Pl., Lake Wenatchee. 11:36 Assist Public, 12160 Detillion Rd. 12:57 Non-Injury Accident, 700 A US Hwy. 2.
- 13:43 Parking/Abandon, 13000Blk Chumstick Hwy.

Stephen Allen, CWS®



- 14:00 Assist Agency, 116 River Bend Dr.
- 14:13 Assist Public, Chiwawa River Rd. and FS 6200.
- 15:13 Non-Injury Accident, 9501 Jeske Rd.

December 30

05:33 Alarm, 15255 US Hwy. 2. 06:30 Alarm, 817 Commercial St. 08:04 Hazard, BNSF Xing 09:41 Non-Injury Accident, 12750 Chumstick Hwy. 10:02 Parking/Abandon, 8807 Josephine Ave. 10:21 Non-Injury Accident, 18632 Beaver Valley Rd. 12:07 Property, 940 US Hwy. 2 #B. 12:41 911 Call, 309 8th St. 12:59 911 Call, 309 8th St. 12:59 Hazard, 17595 Chumstick Hwy. 15:04 Parking/Abandon, 11001 US Hwy. 2. 15:27 Fraud/Forgery, 15233 Chumstick Hwy. 15:51 Non-Injury Accident, US Hwy. 2 and Main St., Peshastin. 16:14 Parking/Abandon, 100 Ward Strasse.

- 16:40 Suspicious Activity, 8469 Larson Rd., Peshastin.
- 19:47 Non-Injury Accident, US Hwy. 2 and Chumstick Hwy.
- 20:12 Parking/Abandon, 9th and Front Sts
- 20:14 Assist Public, Leavenworth area.
- 23:55 Suspicious Activity, 22582 Chiwawa River Rd.



Go online at Cascadesd.org or all menu updates.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Commissioners awarded grants to six agencies: Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority, Lake Chelan Reclamation District, the Peshastin Water District and the cities of Cashmere, Leavenworth and Wenatchee.

"The Chelan County Board of Commissioners is excited about this new program and the ability to provide these funds to assist with infrastructure improvements throughout Chelan County," said Commissioner Kevin Overbay. "This program will provide much needed financial resources to our partner agencies for years to come, which will not only improve the economic vitality of our communities but also the quality of life for our citizens."

Career and Technical Education Building Ribbon Cutting

By Cyndi Garza and Tracey Beckendorf-Edou

August 19, 2021, On Cascade School District (CSD) held a ribbon cutting for the renovated Career and Technical Education (CTE) building that is located on the Cascade High School (CHS) campus. CTE has grown over the past several years. The list of courses of study just keeps growing. There is something for every child, the one who wants to go to college, the one who doesn't, the one who wants to learn a trade, the one who wants to be an entrepreneur, and the one who wants to be an artist. The renovation of this building will service the district for many years. It can now accommodate students in 7th and 8th grade as well as those in high school. It is important to have facilities that are efficient, spacious and conducive to learning. This building is certainly those things. The courses to be taught in the renovated building include middle school pre-engineering and robotics, as well as high school engineering design (CAD), robotics and materials engineering (woods and metals).

September

City begins turning on parking meters By: BILL FORHAN

DI. DILL FURHAN

The contract for installing the new parking meter system

was signed in March of 2020 and installation began in the fall. Activation of the system has been delayed because of COVID. The city announced last week that they will begin turning on the meters this week in what they call a "soft opening."

Meters on the streets that are currently closed to traffic will not be turned on at this time. Primarily that is on Front Street from Highway 2 to the Festhall. The city will not be issuing tickets during the soft opening for violations at paid parking stalls on downtown streets. Instead they will be placing warning infraction cards on car windows explaining the changes in parking regulations.

Parking in the downtown parking stalls is limited to 3 hours. Individuals will be required to vacate their current parking spot and move their vehicle at the end of 3 hours.

October

Cascade School Board Elections

BY: MEGAN SOKOL

Chelan County Elections are looming toward us at a shockingly fast pace, with General Election day landing on Nov. 2nd. If you want to be prepared, read up on the following candidates for Cascade School Board Districts #1, #3, and #5, and stay tuned for Leavenworth City Council elections in the following issues.

Cascade School District No. 228--School Board Member Director District #1

Misha Whitfield:

Media contacted Misha Whitfield, but was unavailable to give comment before publishing. If you would like to read more on her position when she talked with us back in July under article "Continued School Board Interviews," please check out our website at leavenworthecho.com.

Mike Worden:

Mike Worden is a former Air Force Major General and retired Seattle Director of Citywide Mobility Operations Coordination. He is personally involved with Leavenworth Rotary, American Legion Post 10 in Wenatchee, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars in East Wenatchee. Cascade School District No.

228--School Board Member Director District #3

Leavenworth Rotary Supports Alpine Lakes Backpack Food program

Cody Burgess-Bench:

Cody Burgess-Bench is a self-described hometown person who values community and relationships. She grew up in Leavenworth alongside opponent Zachary Miller. Her passion lies within local athletics, youth teams, and operating kids camps, along with volunteering for reading camps and foodbanks.

Zachary Miller:

Zachary Miller is the current sitting director for Cascade School District #3. As was mentioned earlier, Miller grew up with opponent Cody Burgess-Bench.

Cascade School District No. 228--School Board Member Director District #5

Trey Ising:

Trey Ising is the current sitting director for Cascade School District #5. He is also on the chair for the Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA) Resolutions Committee and owner of Cascade Quality Water.

Marty Young:

Marty Young has an MBA from the University of Oregon in engineering and was an engineer for over 40 years.

Weidner Apartment Homes Buys Meadowlark for \$2.7 mil.

By: Megan Sokol

Upper Valley MEND sold the Meadowlark property to Weidner Apartment homes for \$2.7 million. After several years of frustration and financial issues with the Meadowlark property, MEND hopes to reinvest the proceeds towards future affordable housing ventures.

MEND started buying the 26-acre property between Titus Road and Chumstick Highway in 2001, and had started production on it after MEND finished building 10 homes for their Aldea Village project. It was only after March of 2016 that the group concluded that Meadowlark was financially out of their hands after construction costs started to skyrocket and the Washington State Housing Trust Fund Grant, that they were counting on, fell through.

November

William "Bill" Forhan By: Forhan Family

William "Bill" Edward Forhan, age 74, passed away suddenly at his home in Leavenworth, WA. on Sunday, November 21, 2021.

Born on March 20, 1947, in Butte, Mont. to Rudi and Alice (Mehrens) Forhan. He attended and graduated in 1965 from Butte High School where he met his wife, Carol, as a freshman. Graduated from the University of Montana, Missoula, in 1969 with a degree in Business Administration. Bill served in the Army ROTC in college, then was stationed at the Field Artillery Training Command at Fort Sill, Okla. where he earned the rank of First Lieutenant. He was then deployed to West Germany as a battery commander with the 4th Missile Battalion, 41st Artillery Regiment during the Vietnam era.

After serving overseas, Bill became an Army Reserve Commissioned Officer at Fort Carson, Colo., while working as a CPA in Denver, Colo. From Colorado the family moved to Davenport, Iowa where he worked as Controller for ITT Company and Carlon Plastics. He then accepted a job as the controller for The Billings Gazette in Billings, Mont. In 1992, Bill became the controller for the Antelope Valley Press in Palmdale, Calif. In 2000, he and Carol became the owners of Prairie Media - NCW Media, Inc. which currently publishes The Leavenworth Echo, Cashmere Valley Record, Lake Chelan Mirror, Wenatchee Business Journal, Quad City Herald, The Sonnenschein auf Leavenworth, and The Lake Chelan Visitor Guides Also, previously owned and published the Okanogan Valley Gazette Tribune.

December

Duplex and Zoning Amendments Remanded back to the Planning Commission

BY: MEGAN SOKOL

After a year and a half of back in forth between the City of Leavenworth and the Leavenworth Planning Commission, councilmembers concluded that the duplex amendment and the zoning amendments should be remanded back to the Planning Commission.

Since 2016, the City of Leavenworth have been trying to move forward on tackling the affordable housing crisis that has been plaguing the entirety of North Central Washington. The Planning Commission suggested they update coding on duplexes and ADUs, along with combining RL 10 and RL 12 into an RL 8 zone.

After the Nov. 23 Public Hearing, many residential community members noted their concerns with higher density housing encroaching their neighborhoods and how it may potentially affect quality of life.

Leavenworth Moms Upset by Krampus Seattle Cosplayers By: MEGAN SOKOL

After many years of attending Christmas Lighting as guests on their own, Krampus Seattle were formally invited by the Chamber of Commerce for Leavenworth's 2021 Village of Lights, Christmastown. Many guests were delighted to see the demons, posing for pictures and fist-bumping the cosplayers.

However, some were less enthused about their arrival and criticized both Krampus Kove and the Chamber of Commerce for inviting them For cultural context, Krampus is the "evil" alter ego of St. Nicholas derived from Central European folklore, with horns, long tongue.



October 27. Weidner Apartment homes has purchased a 26 acre property from Upper Valley MEND. Weidner has just completed their Leavenworth Haus project and is looking to do more apartment homes.







SUBMITTED BY BACKPACK FOOD PROGRAM

The Alpine Lakes Backpack Food Program bridges the gap between time in and out of school, providing meals for students outside of school. The Leavenworth Church of the Nazarene provides all of the volunteer labor involved in purchasing, storing, packing and delivering weekend food bags to the school. Thank you to our local Leavenworth Rotary

for their support of our children and donating funds to the Alpine Lake Backpack Food Program. Other clubs or groups that would like to financially support the program can contact the program at 509-548-5292.



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November 24. Bill Forhan

December 15. Photo is submitted by Angela Vitus who is also dressed as Krampus character and poses with Grinch (her) fiancé Ronald Swasey.

County's Community Development director resigns

BY: JILL M. FITZSIMMONS

Community Development Director Jim Brown handed in his resignation Monday, December 27th to Chelan County Commissioners.

Brown, who was hired to lead the county's planning department in April 2020, gave commissioners notice that his last day will be Jan. 31. He is leaving the county for a new position with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Bob Bugert, chairman of the Chelan County Board of Commissioners, thanks Brown for his time with the county and for leaving the department in a better place.

"Jim's resignation is very unfortunate. Under his leadership, the county has made great progress in restructuring the department," Bugert said. "This past year, there have been challenges that have led to a difficult work environment for Jim and his staff. I am hoping the building community partners with us in our continuing work toward building a healthy planning department."

In his letter of resignation, Brown wrote that among his accomplishments as director was the recruitment of highly competent and talented staff, the establishment of a new short-term rental code and division, the adoption of a new Critical Areas Ordinance and assisting with the creation of a new Code Enforcement Division that is now within the Chalan County Schariff? Office

Chelan County Sheriff's Office. "This position has afforded

me personal and professional growth and an opportunity to

have built new relationships that would have never happened had I not accepted this position," he wrote.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Commissioners have not yet determined a process for replacing Brown; they are expected to have that discussion next week when they are back in session.



SUBMITTED PHOTO CD Director - Jim Brown

Single-use utensils no longer automatically given after Jan. 1, 2022

BY: MEGAN SOKOL

Hospitality sectors all over Washington State will automatically stop serving customers single-use utensils after Jan. 1, 2022.

This law is part of a series of changes published in SB 5022 on July 25, 2021. This law is centered on reducing waste and littering for the foreseeable future.

Single-use utensils that will be limited include straws, cold

beverage cup lids (not including drive-thru beverages), forks, spoons, knives, and condiment packaging.

12th District Representative Keith Goehner (R) explains how this change is not a total ban on single-use utensils, and will still be provided upon customer request. "It will obviously be more of a responsibility on the patron to make the requests for the utensils." This change will focus on restaurants, food trucks, or any other commercial food venue. Hospitality sectors within healthcare or longterm medical facilities are not affected by this new change.

The next change will be enacted on June 1, 2023, prohibiting the selling and distributing of polystyrene void filling packaging products, or what is better known as packing peanuts.

Community

The CWSC and Chelan **County Fire District #3 Kick off a Water Tank Placement Project in** the Chumstick Drainage for Remote Firefighting



By Barbara Carrillo CWSC Director

Remote Firefighting up the Chumstick is getting a shot in the arm by The Chumstick Wildfire Stewardship Coalition. The Coalition is working with CCFD #3 on several water tank placements on private property in areas of the Chumstick where water is inaccessible saving precious resources for fire engine turnaround time. With tanks in place, fire trucks can refill their tanks quickly and closely to the fire, rather than making the trip to Lake Wenatchee or a local river. Remote locations such as Eagle Creek, Merry Canyon and the Little Chumstick are locations currently being reviewed for water tank placement on private property to further this effort.

Chumstick Wildfire The Stewardship Coalition and its partners, Chelan County Fire District #3, Washington State Department of Natural Resources. Cascadia Conservation District and the US Forest Service have been working consistently for many years to educate homeowners and conduct fuel reduction projects throughout the Chumstick drainage. However, one major problem has stayed at the forefront - water supply for fire protection purposes.

The Chumstick drainage in Chelan Fire District #3 has more than 600 homes and is considered one of the most fire threatened wildland vallevs in Washington State. It has not seen significant fire activity for more than 100 years and fuel loads are considered heavy and

District #3. "This is the largest area of the Fire District that doesn't have a water source for fire protection. A water source can mean the difference between saving homes or not and it could mean the difference in how aggressive firefighters will be while fighting the fire. Water for firefighting purposes shortens turn around times for the fire district water tenders, allowing firefighters to be more aggressive, and potentially lowering insurance rates for many in the community."

John Callahan, Chair of the Chumstick Wildfire Stewardship Coalition says, "getting water available to CCFD #3 in these remote locations is critical to saving homes and assisting CCFD #3 in their firefighting efforts. We need to act now to plan and implement placement of these containers in strategic locations." With the placement of these tanks, fires will be put out and managed quicker with larger quantities of water available closer to the fire with less smoke, creating quicker fire suppression, decreasing fire loss potential during wildland and structure fire operations, and providing increased community safety and protection. Each tank can cost up to \$35,000 so the Coalition is looking for ways to offset those costs.

This project will benefit the community with increased firefighting efforts in the Chumstick! No matter where we live in the Upper Valley or in Chelan County, the health of the Chumstick drainage is of vital importance to us all! То learn about this project, volunteer, donate or join the project, please call Barbara Carrillo, Chumstick Wildfire Stewardship Coalition Director at 509-860-0252 for more information.

Chelan PUD and Avista Announce Long-Term Clean Energy Contract

reliable and

by 2027."

usage times.

About Chelan PUD

provided by hydropower as

well as dispatchable capacity to

help Avista meet peak energy

needs during high customer

Chelan Public Utility District was created by a vote of the

people in 1936 and delivered

PUD is governed by a locally

elected five-member Board of

Commissioners. The general

and guiding principles set by

the commission to generate

and deliver electricity from

that serve customers across

the Pacific Northwest as well

as to more than 51,000 retail

water, sewer and wholesale

telecommunications services.

customers in the county.

The PUD also provides

About Avista Utilities

Avista Corp. is an energy

company involved in the

production, transmission

and distribution of energy as

businesses. Avista Utilities is

403,000 customers and natural

well as other energy-related

our operating division that

provides electric service to

our three dams to utilities

manager uses the policies

its first power in 1947. The

Agreement provides valuable carbon-free energy to Northwest electric customers

BY: RACHEL HANSEN

Chelan PUD Senior Communications Specialist **Wenatchee** - Avista and Chelan County Public Utility District (PUD) have finalized a contract for renewable hydropower from the PUD's two hydro projects on the Columbia River. The 20-year contract increases Avista's carbon-free resources toward its 2030 renewable energy goals, as well as contributes flexible capacity to identified needs in Washington and Idaho. The acquisition successfully closes out Avista's 2020 Renewable Request for Proposals.

The competitively priced contract provides Avista with 5% of the output from the PUD's Rock Island and Rocky Reach hydropower projects from 2026 through 2030; it increases to 10% of the output from these projects in 2031-2045.

"We see great value in this partnership with Avista as it delivers more clean, renewable, reliable hydropower to customers in the Pacific Northwest," said PUD General Wright. Manager Steve "Increasing commitment to decarbonizing the electric sector, particularly in the western U.S., is increasing the value of hydropower. This contract increases PUD wholesale revenues that supports low customer-owner rates and amenities like broadband services and our parks.'

"We are pleased to continue our partnership with Chelan



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gas to 369,000 customers. PUD to provide more clean, Our service territory covers affordable *30,000 square miles in eastern* hydropower to our customers," Washington, northern Idaho said Jason Thackston, Avista's and parts of southern and senior vice president of energy resources. "It's another eastern Oregon, with a population of 1.7 million. important step on our way to serving customers with 100% AERC is an Avista subsidiary clean electricity by 2045 and that, through its subsidiary AEL&P, provides retail electric 100% carbon neutral resources service to 17,000 customers The contract was negotiated in the city and borough of after a competitively bid RFP Juneau, Alaska. Our stock is process and includes both traded under the ticker symbol carbon-free energy attributes "AVA". For more information

about Avista, please visit www.avistacorp.com. This news release contains forwardlooking statements regarding

the company's current expectations. Forward-looking statements are all statements other than historical facts. Such statements speak only as of the date of the news release and are subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond the company's control, which could cause actual results to differ materially from the expectations. These risks and uncertainties include, in addition to those discussed herein, all of the factors discussed in the company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended Dec. 31, 2020.

Sports Schedule

BOYS BASKETBALL				
Jan. 8:	Cascade vs. Granite Falls; 5 p.m.			
Jan. 11:	Cascade vs. Chelan; 7:15 p.m.			
G	IRLS BASKETBALL			
G Jan. 8:	RLS BASKETBALL Cascade vs. Granite Falls; 2 p.m.			

Kodiaks Scoreboard					
Dec. 28:	Cascade 50, Manson 86; Loss				
Dec. 29:	Cascade 32, Highland 13; Win				
G	IRLS BASKETBALL				
Dec. 28:	Cascade 18, Manson 39; Loss				
Dec. 29:	Cascade 20, Highland 57; Loss				

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contiguous the entire length of the drainage.

"Water for firefighting purposes is of the utmost importance in the Chumstick drainage" says Kelly O'Brien, Fire Chief, with Chelan Fire



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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 • 509-782-2601 Virtual Zoom Service, Sunday, 11 a.m. until further notice. Pastor Lilia Felicitas-Malana

PESHASTIN

LIGHT IN THE VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH 8455 Main Street • 509-548-7517 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

www.newlifeleavenworth.com

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office@plaincommunitychurch.org



LEAVENWORTH COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 418 Evans Street • 509-548-5619 10 a.m.Sunday Service, Pastor Matt Gorman Leavenworthumc.org 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.

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"Reconciling Works Congregation" 224 Benton Street • 509-548-7010 Worship 9:30 a.m. w/coffee following www.faithleavenworth.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 www.LCN.org

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH 401 Elberta Ave. Morning Prayer or Holy Eucharist. Join us at 10 a.m. on Sundays. Pastor Rob Gohl 509-860-0736

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

222 Cottage Ave. Morning Prayer or Holy Eucharist. 9 a.m. on Sundays Pastor Rob Gohl, 509-860-0736 or Deacon Carol, 670-1723

DRYDEN

DRYDEN COMMUNITY CHURCH Hwy 2 at Dryden Ave. • 509-782-2935 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. 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.midvalley baptist.org

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

> **CORNERSTONE BIBLE CHURCH** Leavenworth Grange Hall 621 Front St. • 251-635-3435 Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

CASHMERE

CASHMERE BAPTIST CHURCH 103 Aplets Way • 509-782-2869 Worship 9 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 UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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In-person: Sunday Worship Service, 10 a.m. 5800 Kimber Road, Cashmere Online: christcentercashmere.com The UNDERGROUND: Sunday, Middle School, 5 p.m., & High School, 6:30 p.m. Steve Haney, Lead Pastor Tim Williams, Executive Director Andy Robinson, Director of Operations Joyce Williams, Pastor of Congregational Care Steffanie Haney, Director of Adult Discipleship Kelsie Folden, Director of Youth Ministry Heather Pflugrath, Director of Children's Ministry Amber Vaughn, Director of Production & Creative Carmen Gamble, Office









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communicating results of

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room setting with adequate supervision. Current WA State RN license and must have current BLS/CPR & obtain ACLS, PALS & TNCC certifications within six months. Rotating days and includes some weekends. 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

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DOWN 1. Flat-bottomed boat 2. Scottish lake 3. Antioxidants-rich berry 4. Popular primo dish in Italian restaurant, pl. 5. Bye, to Edith Piaf 6. Wanderer 8. *"Moby Dick" author 7. Garbed 9. Length times width 10. Call someone, in the olden days 11. Poetic "ever" 13. Apple invention 14. Food contaminant 19. Run off to wed 22. Jean of Dadaism 23. Out of style 24. Find repugnant 25. Burn with coffee, e.g. 26. *Ursula K. Le 27. Jargon 28. It happens at a certain time and place 29. First novel, e.g. 32. Near in space or time 33. Not a win nor a loss 36. *"Song of Solomon" author *"Chronicles" author and songwriter 40. *NY Times bestselling author Atkins or playing card 41. Gambling venue 44. Smidgins 46. Young swan 48. Eagle's nest 49. Young salmon 50. *"Miss Lulu Bett" author 51. Highest adult male singing voice 52. Snake's warning 53. Take as a wife 54. Got A+ 55. Desires or cravings 56. Sticky substance

row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Recreation

The Washington Outdoors Report



This exhibit at the Coastal Interpretive Center is about Mountain Goats on the Olympic Peninsula

PHOTO BY JOHN KRUSE

Good Reasons To Visit Ocean Shores this Winter

By John Kruse

Most people don't consider a trip to Ocean Shores and the beach during the winter months but there are actually all sorts of good reasons to do so!

BEACH TIME: Any day at the beach is a good day! There is something about the rhythmic crashing of waves, beachcombing, flying a kite, or just watching the sunset over a bonfire that will draw you to the beach no matter the time of year.

RAZOR CLAMMING: Another reason to go to Ocean Shores, especially this year, is the opportunity to go razor clamming. The clams are abundant here at Copalis Beach and they are bigger than usual too. As a matter of fact, Dan Ayres, the Coastal Shellfish Manager for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, says this season is the best he's ever seen. The daily limit is the first 15 clams you dig. You can find out more about razor clamming to include what days it's open,

Ocean Shores, and very visible during the winter months. A good number of bald eagles spend the winter here and can often be seen perched on logs or driftwood near the beach. Blacktail deer are thick around here, and can be easily seen in residential areas where they forage on the abundant brush that grows here. The deer, which are not hunted in the city, are not tame but are relatively unafraid of humans. There's marine life to be seen as well. Gray whales can often be spotted near the mouth of Grays Harbor and harbor seals will sometimes haul out on the beach or just watch you from the water as you stroll along the sand.

HIKING: Speaking of strolling, there are hikes to be had beyond the sandy beaches bordering the Pacific Ocean. One of my favorites is the four-mile hike around Damon Point at south end of Ocean Shores. In addition to seeing those seals and whales, you'll enjoy great views of Grays Harbor and of Westport which lies just to the south across the harbor. You can also take in the sight of private or commercial fishing boats

on the west side of Damon Point.

STORM WATCHING: Watching the fury of the sea on a stormy day from a safe place with a cup of coffee in hand is always a fun and aweinspiring experience. You can certainly do this from any of the beachfront hotels in town but if you want a true wave crashing experience head to the North Jetty and watch the waves smash against the rocks there. If you venture out onto the jetty or adjacent beach on a stormy day beware of sneaker waves which have the potential of taking you out to sea if you are not careful.

A VIST TO THE COASTAL INTERPRETIVE CENTER: If you visit Ocean Shores during the winter months, there's a good chance you'll have at least one day where it's raining hard and the wind is blowing sideways. Never fear though, the Coastal Interpretive Center, located at the south end of Ocean Shores near the marina, is a great place to spend an hour or two. The Center, run as a nonprofit organization, recently updated a number of exhibits

as on the Olympic Peninsula, the unique habitat of the area, as well as information about beachcombing and shipwrecks. Exhibits of note include one featuring the new **Olympic Coast National Marine** Sanctuary and an exhibit area full of activities just for the kids. The Coastal Interpretive Center is open Saturdays and Sundays from 10 AM to 4 PM. If you are there during the week and the weather is nice you can also check out the outdoor exhibits which include artifacts from shipwrecks and some unique fishing buoys that washed ashore from Japan. You can find out more information about this center that is definitely worth a visit at https://interpretivecenter. org/

SEAFOOD: One more reason to visit Ocean Shores is the great seafood available here! Emily's at the Quinault Beach Resort and Casino offers dining with oceanfront views. In the main part of town, Bennett's Fish Shack, Mike's Seafood and the Lighthouse are all popular options while the new Oyhut Bay Grill at the south end of Ocean Shores



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when low tides occur and even how to go about doing it at https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/ shellfishing-regulations/razorclams

WILDLIFE WATCHING: Wildlife is abundant around

Simply Found

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

point we were able to discover that there is a hidden heating and ventilation unit that is actually between the two floors."

Both Bernal and Brautaset stress how lucky everyone was that the situation did not heading over the bar into the open ocean or larger vessels like freighters heading to the marine terminals around Aberdeen. If you like agates you'll also find plenty of those

escalate into a more serious

investigate that and get into that

confined space, we discovered

that the heating ventilation

unit actually had a significant

malfunction and had started to

overheat and melt down on the

electrical components," explained

"When we were able to

disaster.

that now offer audio, video the and hands on experiences for visitors. The indoor exhibits to tell the tale of Ocean Shores and the surrounding area to include its human history, the wildlife found here as well

Brautaset. "We're extremely

fortunate that all the electrical

systems worked last night and

all the breakers tripped. It was

probably one of the first times

we've actually seen the main

breaker for the entire building

had actually tripped as well,

which is very rare." Bernal was

told that if the breaker did not

offers another, albeit pricier, alternative.

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

"pop up," then the building would be nothing but ash today.

Brautaset said that it was Pavz's quick actions that helped keep the situation manageable. The Simply Found boutique had suffered smoke damage and will need an electrician to come assess the extent of the damage done to their HVAC system.

Stevens Pass Resort

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

nearby towns. Vail Resorts and Stevens Pass has worked hard to ensure it is a positive place to work, and that operations continue, often despite tough weather conditions, and more recently, impacts from the ongoing pandemic. It is still early in the season – the resort opened on December 15 – and the team continues to work diligently to open more terrain and provide guests with an exceptional experience."

Rubingh believes that the current environment that Vail Resorts has created is not safe. He later explains that adding beginning skiers/ snowboarders with more advanced and faster patrons within a condensed terrain is hazardous.

"They are literally creating an unsafe situation on the mountain by not opening more terrain,by not having better experienced staff around," Rubingh said. "Vail comes in, they acquire a property and their model is to lay off everybody in HR or sort of like these career-type folks that work at these areas, so all the institutional and local knowledge goes out the door and it's either automated or handled by their corporate offices and the flatlands of the front range of Colorado."

Currently, Vail's starting wage for a non-certified Ski & Snowboard Instructor \$15 per hour. Roston notes that this was after Vail Resorts increased the starting wage to the current \$15/hour at several resort locations.

"We remain focused on attracting and retaining talent through competitive wages, comprehensive benefits, and a strong commitment to culture and leadership development. This year, our company's single biggest investment was into employee wages and benefits. We're actively hiring and looking for great talent to join us, and encourage anyone interested to please apply on our jobs site. All of these employee investments are also bolstered by our comprehensive benefits and perks, including our Epic Wellness program, employee and dependent ski/snowboard passes, and discounts on F&B, lodging, and retail."

Rubingh does state that Vail still has a chance to change for the better, but the near 20k signatures on his petition should be an indicator as to how consumers are feeling about management. "I think it's purely exploitation and eventually they're gonna have to react because they're a subscriptionbased business model and we are the subscribers," Rubingh said. "So you're telling me that all these people are completely wrong? I mean that's an overwhelming number."

Sue Potteiger has been skiing for as long as she could remember, with a skiing career that spans almost 70 years. She is confessedly very loyal to Stevens Pass Resort and has seen multiple owners come and go. Potteiger was excited to see Vail Resorts take the helm of her beloved resort, having skied at several of their other resorts.

I was really excited when they were gonna take over Stevens. I figured, 'okay, finally, they have the capital to do the improvements, to make this mountain really great,"'to have the services that are needed to make it a really great skiing environment," Potteiger said. "What I didn't expect was a total disregard for the existing culture."

She claims that Vail had laid off some of her longtime peers who were original management. She heard that they were given an ultimatum: either move to their headquarters in Broomfield, Colorado and stay in their current roles, or leave.

"They knew at the end of the year that they were going to be short-staffed because they couldn't even open the backside for a couple of days late last spring, because they didn't have the staff to run it," Potteiger said.

She recalls a time when some staff were laid off after they were caught smoking marijuana.

"Well, that's part of snow culture too, and it's legal in the state of Washington," Potteiger said. "When you visit a ski resort and there's a sense of community within the resort and on the mountain with the people who work there, there's a sense of belonging and a sense of welcome that just doesn't seem to be on the mountain anymore."

Even though she thinks that the resort is currently at its worst point, Potteiger said that she would never go to another resort. She even applied to work as a lift operator or a "liftee," having already worked there multiple times during the 60's and 80's.

"I'll stick through this, I'll go through this. We've never had it this bad before, but something good will happen and come out on the other side."

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