



School Board puts off any decision on Beaver Valley property until June

By IAN DUNN
EDITOR

After two highly contentious school board meetings, the Cascade School Board has

Wenatchee Fire and Rescue) to seek common ground and agreement on design planning and proposed activities on the site," Motsenbocker wrote.

Motsenbocker also encouraged respectful behavior be-

interest in standing against the LWFR plans over the intervening time, this is not the case," Bottoms wrote, in Jan. 31 email.

He wrote the Hill Street neighbors would be very active in trying to prevent a sale to the fire district.

"We Hill Street Neighbors are continuing to pursue every avenue we can to prevent this land parcel in the midst of our neighborhood from being used in ways that would detract from the rural residential nature of our neighborhood, and we expect to offer the residents of Plain some ideas on positive alternative uses for this property in the near future," Bottoms wrote.

LWFR Chief Mick Lamar said this is a complex issue.

"We're trying to plan for the future. I understand the neighbors had some concerns. We've met with them and have addressed four of their concerns. I don't know if we're every going to be able to address all their concerns, but we'll do the best we can," Lamar said.

It's really up to the school district, Lamar said. If they decide to surplus the property, the fire district would be interested.

"It would be for some future expansion. I see no harm in them delaying their decision to take some of the heat out and give us an opportunity to talk, see if we can come to some agreements on what it might look like or how it can be used up until the time that

it was expanded on by the fire district," Lamar said.

Lamar said they met with Hill Street neighbors recently and agreed to address some of their concerns.

"We're going to relocate our training props. We're going to paint and put some coverage on the containers that we have to have for storage. We're going to dress up our sign out front," Lamar said. "With these kinds of issues, it seems like if you address three, there might be three more, so we're just going to continue to meet and talk and try to be good neighbors. I think we've always been good neighbors to the community. It's unfortunate it got to this point, but it often happens with public works projects."

Certainly, the fire district is

going to a lot of effort for some property they may not even be able to purchase. Lamar said it's their commitment to the neighbors to be good stewards of the property.

The job of the fire district is to not only respond to calls today or tomorrow, but planning for the next 10 years, he said.

"I think most parties recognize that land is not going to be readily available in the future. We're kind of land restricted up here with the amount of property owned by the Forest Service or private property," Lamar said. "That parcel is perfect for development, but who develops it will have to be determined by the school district when they decide if and when and who they want to sell it to."

Lamar said they have been able to address some of the concerns of some of the residents.

"There's some of them I don't know if we'll ever be able to resolve all their concerns, but as a public safety agency, and it's harsh to put it in these terms, we have to think for the greater good and not just a few people right around there," Lamar said. "It's a tough deal because we've always been good neighbors and good friends, trying to do the right thing. We're just a little taken back by the acrimony this brought up, but we're trying to work our way through it."

Ian Dunn can be reached at 548-5286 or editor@leavenworthecho.com.



File photo

Lake Wenatchee Fire and Rescue has tried to negotiate with Hill Street residents without a great deal of success. LWFR is considering buying the neighboring surplus Beaver Valley property, if the school board decides to sell it.

decided to put off any decision on the excess Beaver Valley School property until the June 26 meeting. Residents of Hill Street came to two meetings expressing their deep concerns about the next door Fire District 9 from acquiring the property for future expansion.

On Dec. 20, Cascade School Superintendent Bill Motsenbocker wrote an email to both parties informing them of the delay in making a decision.

"This delay will allow for thorough communication between Plain residents, Fire District 9, and the Cascade School District. In the meantime the District encourages dialog between the Hill St. community and LWFR (Lake

tween the parties, something that was an issue at the two school board meetings.

"I would also like to encourage rational and respectful communication among all parties with interest in a potential sale of the Beaver Valley property. Personal attacks and the distribution of outdated or inaccurate information has no place in this matter," Motsenbocker wrote.

Hill Street resident Don Bottoms said the school board asked for the "cooling off" period so the Hill Street issue would not be a distraction at every board meeting in the coming months.

"If there was any thought on the part of CSD that we Hill Street Neighbors would lose

New contract approved for Pacific Security

Patrol, parking enforcement, overnight rental investigations

By IAN DUNN
EDITOR

The Leavenworth City Council has approved a new professional services agreement with Parker Corporate Services, which does business as Pacific Security. There are three items for this contract, said City Administrator Joel

and surrounding residential areas," Walinski said. "We also have the officers from Pacific Patrol do the parking enforcement. The final thing is, we've used Pacific Patrol to do investigations and enforcement of overnight rentals."

The total of the contract for 2018 is \$62,000, which is a not-to-exceed amount. The

Waterfront, Enchantment.

"We also have them, two or three times a night, jump in their car and drive through the residential neighborhoods and also the school areas. They perform that task, definitely Friday and Saturday nights," Walinski said. "The first officer starts about 5 p.m. The second officer comes on at 10 p.m. and they work until 2 or 3 a.m."

This project started as a way to break up the after hours drinking in parking lots in the downtown area after the bars closed. Walinski said that was successful.

"We've also noticed since we've had security patrols, we've reduced the amount of nuisance damage, pulled down flower baskets, tipped over trash cans and those types of things. That's a good thing," he said.

Pacific Security also does parking enforcement, both for pay parking lots and also enforcement for parking in yellow zones, timed parking zones, parking on the sidewalk, basically to assist Chelan County Deputies.

The cost of the enforcement actually pays for itself through



File photo

Pacific Security provides a lot of service to the city of Leavenworth, including patrol, parking enforcement and overnight rental investigations.

Walinski, at the Jan. 23 city council meeting.

"One is for onsite security services in the Leavenworth downtown commercial area

contract runs from May 1 to Sept. 30. Walinski said they patrol the downtown primarily, but two years ago, they also had them patrol the parks,

Leavenworth Summer Theater Auditions



Submitted by Susan Huffman

Leavenworth Summer Theater will hold adult auditions for their summer shows Feb. 17 and 22-25 at the Icicle River Middle School stage in Leavenworth. For a performance calendar, audition and show information, visit the theater web site at www.leavenworthsummertheater.org. Returning LST veteran stage directors this year are Tiffany Mausser and Phil Lacey. All roles in all three shows are open to audition. Adult auditions are by appointment only. Each auditioner will have up to 10 minutes to sing a song from one of this summer's shows, in the original key, music provided in advance by Leavenworth Summer Theater, and to present cold readings, provided at the audition. In addition dance auditions for some roles are Saturday afternoon Feb. 24. Callbacks are Sunday, Feb. 25. Children's auditions are Feb. 17 and 22. Two shows have roles for boys and girls. Call 548-7324 to make an adult audition appointment and request materials and music for both adults and children.

tickets and fees, Walinski noted. There are six, three-hour shifts, which are randomized. There are at least one or two patrols every single day.

"The final one is we set aside \$10,000 to assist the city with the overnight rental enforcement. That provides us with a 24-hour hotline if anyone wants to report overnight rental activity. Then it provides us with investigative services," he said.

If the city gets a tip or report on overnight rental activity, they can send it to Pacific Security.

"They do internet search, do a drive by, then whatever search to collect information. We also have dollars set aside if we need to take the next step to do undercover observation or undercover rental," Walinski said.

Last year, the city set aside \$60,000 to combat illegal overnight rentals.

"We didn't spend hardly any of that. I think more credit goes to Nate (Pate, Development Services Manager) and

his crew in terms of sending out lots of public education to homes or properties we thought were doing overnight rentals," Walinski said. "I think it changed them to long term rentals or they went very deep underground. That's what we have set up for the year. This is a one year contract. It starts Feb. 1 and runs through Jan. 31."

Councilman Jason Lundgren asked if there had been any kind of bid process to select Pacific Security. Walinski said they did a few years back, but not recently. Mayor Cheri Kelley Farivar said the bid process is difficult because there is only one local service.

Lundgren asked if Ram would be a viable option.

"There is another company called Ram. That might be something to look into next year, which might help with the pricing," Walinski said.

Councilman Elmer Larsen said their first year, Pacific Security apprehended somebody in the parking lot of Der Hinterhof with a couple of

expensive bikes in the back of a pick-up. Larsen said they also get good feedback from the merchants.

"They walk into businesses and say hi. They go to the motels and check in. They do what we would want the local law enforcement to do. The sheriff provides some of that," Larsen said. "Basically, we're talking about somebody stretched out between Stevens Pass and Blewett Pass. They are spread so thin. This gives a presence in town, gives a real feeling of security."

Farivar said Pacific Security reports on the activity, something the sheriff's department does not do.

Pacific Security sends reports every month about what they did while they were in town, she said.

"They saw where they were, what they observed in the park, observed in the school ... and what they did about it. We've never, as much as we've tried, been able to get

SEE PACIFIC SECURITY ON PAGE 2

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Corrections

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Pacific Security: Overnight rental enforcement to continue

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the Chelan County Sheriff's Department to report to us where they really do spend their time," Farivar said. "It's a refreshing difference. It feels to me this has been money very well spent."

The chamber has started using them for festivals, like around the Glüvein tent at Christmas time, Farivar said. "They have become an important part of Leavenworth's face," Farivar said.

Councilwoman Mia Bretz asked if the \$10,000 set aside would be enough if the city had to pursue legal action to stop overnight rentals.

"We would do the investigation and do the initial enforcement, in terms of notifying them of possible fines. Then, if we are going to take some serious steps, we would have a conversation with council because that's where we would take court action," Walinski said. "I think this \$10,000 gives us enough. I don't

anticipate spending it all. If we get that one that wants to push back, it's give us enough of a start."

After having things go "swimmingly" last year, Bretz said she did not want to back off.

"I think that's why it's important to maintain the continuity. I've asked to reconsider sending out the information through our newsletter," Walinski said.

Councilwoman Sharon Walters asked if letters should be

sent to realtors, so they can tell people that overnight rentals are illegal.

"I think it is fair to say there are a lot of overnight rentals in the county and people have been purchasing those with expectation they can be used for overnight rentals. The realtors were not disabusing them on this, telling them it can be done inside the city limits too," Farivar said. "We felt it was important to send that out to the realtors so they are on notice as well."

Walinski said they've also sent notices to property maintenance companies.

"I've had a conversation with Almost There Property Care. They told me, 'we had clients inside the city limits but we dropped them. We are not going to get crossways with the city.' It helps to have that attitude. It's okay to do it in the county, but not in the city limits," Farivar said.

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Council approves street projects for 2018

By IAN DUNN
EDITOR

The Leavenworth City Council has approved advertising a pair of street projects for 2018, on Commercial Street, 3rd to Joseph and Whitman Street, Ski Hill Drive to Woodward.

"Projects are for grinding the existing asphalt, raising or adjusting the catch basins and manholes. Then, a 3-inch overlay. On the Commercial Street project, there is a small section of Enchantment Parkway that we're also going to do, just from Commercial Street to Scholze Street," said City Public Works Director Herb Amick, at the Jan. 23 city council meeting.

The funding for the project is coming from the state Transportation Improvement Board grant of \$477,000 with a 5 percent city match, which came from Transportation

Benefit District funds.

The bids will be open three weeks. Once a low bidder is chosen, it will be brought back to council for approval. The project was advertised last week.

"The upper one is Whitman Street, from Ski Hill to Woodward. The bottom one is from Third, all the way to Joseph with the extension for Enchantment Parkway. This doesn't include any sidewalks, only asphalt with transitions to driveways," Amick said.

Mayor Cheri Kelley Farivar asked if this is like the recent street projects.

"No, this is three inches of asphalt. This actually went to bid last year but the bids came in a little high, so we're trying again," Amick said.

"The reason last year was so high was because there was so much damage throughout the entire state that all the

contractors had already got WSDOT and other jobs," said Chantell Steiner, city finance director.

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Empty Bowls is an annual event for Harriet Bullitt



Left, Harriet Bullitt. Right, Harriet's bowl from last year. SUBMITTED BY JANE ZANOL

Harriet Bullitt remembers when she bought a kiln and installed it in her Boston kitchen to make a pottery studio. She had two young children, and they all made and fired pottery animals. Her first animal was a fox, standing on his hind legs. Making those clay animals in her kitchen is clearly a fond memory. Despite that experience with pottery, and taking a sculpture class as an undergraduate at Bennington College, and studying pottery with Ruth Allen in Wenatchee, Bullitt says she doesn't consider herself an artist. I asked about her Snowy Owl bowl, which is displayed in the reception area at Sleeping Lady Mountain Resort. I told her it was pretty good for a person who wasn't an artist. She replied, "I was pleased with that one." She went on to say that she is proud of all her artwork. She works hard at it because she would like to be good at whatever she does.

Bullitt, the owner and founder of Sleeping Lady Mountain Resort, enjoys it when someone buys her bowl at the Empty Bowls Artists' Auction. The Leavenworth Empty Bowls Festival is in its 22nd year, and she has participated as an artist since the fundraiser began. Bullitt feels strongly that the event is worthwhile. For years, Sleeping Lady has donated the use of Woodpecker Hall where people buy and paint their bowls alongside other artists who paint bigger bowls, which they donate to the popular Artists' Auction. Bullitt remembers at the very first Empty Bowls, there were only Artists' Bowls. All the bowls were auctioned to the highest bidder. The individual

Photos submitted by Jane Zanol bowls painted by community members came a few years later. Bullitt points out that it is the money raised that is the most important part of the festival, money that feeds hungry people in the Upper Valley. She wants people to be aware that in the midst of all the beauty and prosperity in Leavenworth and the surrounding area, there are many people who do not have enough to eat.

As for her 2018 Artists' Bowl, Bullitt says potter Terry Porlier has created a flat, platter-like porcelain bowl for her. She likes to paint her bowl at home and will take several days to complete it. When I asked her about the challenges of painting the concavity of the bowl, she said she takes that surface into account when she plans her bowl design. She is influenced by the work of other artists, such as artist and master naturalist Tony Angell. This year her bowl will feature the top line of the nearby mountain known to me as Sleeping Lady. To see the work of Harriet Bullitt and more than 20 other local artists, visit the Upper Valley MEND website at vumend.org. The online auction of these bowls begins at 8 a.m. March 7 and ends at 10 p.m. March 21. Buyers may bid in the online auction or choose to "buy it now" to secure their choice of bowl. The Artists' Auction bowls will also be displayed in the windows of local businesses after March 5. Proceeds from the online auction and the rest of the Empty Bowls festival support the Community Cupboard food bank. A \$1,000 goes to local arts education to fund small grants for youth art programs.

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Dan's New Sign

Dan's Food Market

Photo by Ian Dunn
Dan's Food Market has been sporting a new wood sign above the door in recent weeks, crafted by Gibbs Graphics.

Kodiaks play a competitive game against league champs



Photo by Ian Dunn

Cascade freshman Isaac Cortes works for room against Okanogan last Friday at Cascade High School. The Kodiaks dropped a close one to the league champs, 62-56.

By IAN DUNN
EDITOR

The season has come to an end for the Cascade Kodiak boys' basketball team, short of the postseason. In fact, Cascade managed just one win in the Caribou Trail League. Cascade played perhaps their best game of the season against Okanogan last Friday.

Okanogan, which won the league title, led 19-10 in the first quarter. The Bulldogs opened up a 16 point lead in the second quarter but the Kodiaks were able to rally behind 3's by seniors Dillon Samuel and Jose Mendoza. The Bulldogs led 38-26 at half. Cascade cut the lead to six midway through the third quarter behind a Hans Schlyer three, 40-34. The Kodiaks won the quarter 12-8, but trailed 46-38.

In the fourth quarter, Cascade kept fighting, cutting the lead to two points at 49-47, but every time the Kodiaks would draw close, Okanogan would rally. After a Schlyer bucket cut the lead to 51-49 with under three minutes remaining, the Bulldogs rallied for eight points to lead 59-49 with 1:29

to go.

Samuel hit a shot to cut the lead to 59-52, then Mendoza hit a pair of free throws to cut the lead to 59-54. Then, Samuel scored on a fast break to cut the lead to 59-56 with 50 seconds to go. Okanogan turned it over.

Cascade had a chance to tie with a three with 21 seconds left. Schlyer drove then passed to wide open Isaac Cortes for a three shot, but he missed. The Bulldogs hit free throws in the final seconds to ice it, winning 62-56.

"It was a great game, great atmosphere. Those two seniors played their tails off tonight, Samuel with 21 and Mendoza with 18. They just played unbelievable and carried us tonight," said Cascade Head Coach Paul Fraker. "We were forcing them to take some awkward shots. They did get a lot of offensive rebounds, but we got our share of defensive rebounds. We made them earn it tonight. We held them to 62 points. They are a high scoring team."

Okanogan had won handily in previous games against Cascade. Fraker said they just showed up to play.

"Those seniors were really aggressive to the basket. I thought we pushed the ball really well, trying to get some transition points. That helped us," Fraker said. "We were down 17 in the second quarter, then went on a 5-0 run. I told the first few minutes of the third quarter was crucial. We outscored them 12-8 in the quarter which was huge to get us in the game. Then we outscored them by 2 in the fourth."

Cascade finished the season 1-11 in the Caribou Trail League and 5-15 overall. Okanogan and Omak finished 9-3, Cashmere 8-4, Chelan 3-9.

"It's unfortunate it took us so long to get here, but we're playing well. That team has beat us up the previous two times. For us to come out before that crowd and really play inspired basketball on both ends was very rewarding. I'm real proud of the guys tonight," Fraker said.

Fraker said he'll do a lot of reflecting the next couple weeks, putting a plan together for summer.

"As a coach, you move everybody up the depth chart and see where you're at mov-

ing forward," Fraker said. "I saw a lot of good things. We were young, starting a sophomore and two freshmen. Only having two seniors on the team. I wish we could have turned it around sooner. Maybe we could have got into the district tournament. We came up short. That was our goal this year. Real proud of how we ended the season, trending up, in my opinion."

How does Cascade take the next step?

"Guys have to commit to off season work, which these guys don't have a problem doing. Been laying foundation here for a couple years. We're losing two major players, important guards who take care of the ball. They'll be big shoes to fill," Fraker said. "Our front line will have experience. I think those guys will grow a little bit, so we should have some height. We need to have our guards step up and fill the void. Some guys from JV will have to come up and make some plays. Really looking forward to it."

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Cascade girls' basketball team finishes season with spirited effort against Okanogan

By IAN DUNN
EDITOR

The Cascade girls' basketball team finished their season last Friday at home against Okanogan. Cascade trailed 19-8 in the first quarter, but rallied to win the second quarter 14-12. They trailed 31-22 at the half.

The Bulldogs outscored the Kodiaks 25-12 in the third quarter to take a 56-34 lead. The resilient Kodiaks fought to win the fourth quarter 20-19, but obviously fell short 75-54. Still Cascade Head Coach Dane Lewman was pleased his team played hard the whole game.

"Our focus was just leaving everything out on the court just one last time this year. They did. They played hard. They did not back down. It was a good Okanogan team. They are 14th in state right now. For us to play them that close is really good," Lewman said.

Lewman was pleased his team won the two quarters.

"The second we did a defensive change and did a box-and-one on their best player. They didn't know what to do so it caught them off guard. Fourth quarter we just kept coming

after them. We didn't back down. Putting that intensity together is our next step forward building for the future," Lewman said.

Junior Bekah Francis had her best game of the season with 19 points. Junior Kaija Lovelady had 14 points, including all eight Kodiak points in the first quarter.

"Bekah had her best game of the year. She was getting a lot of good, open looks. People penetrating, kicking it to her. That was a focus this week. We're not taking the silly shots. We're penetrating pressure, then kicking it to the open person. She benefited from it tonight. She was hitting her shots," Lewman said.

Cascade finishes the season 0-12 in the Caribou Trail League and 4-16 overall. Lewman said he has seen big improvement during the course of the season.

"Looking where we came from to where we are now, there's huge improvement. Even from the first game to now is a huge improvement. To finish off with something like this just shows this next year is going to be really important for us," he said.



Photo by Ian Dunn

Cascade sophomore guard Kascia Muscutt drives the lane against Okanogan in action last Friday at CHS. The Kodiaks lost their last game of the season, 75-54.

How does Cascade take the next step?

"Just off season, make sure we get all the girls out in the off season, make sure we build up for skills. Get new blood rolling through then set up a competitive summer program like we've been doing. Just come after people," Lewman said.

Ian Dunn can be reached at 548-5286 or editor@leavenworthecho.com.

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Cascade wrestlers finish second at Districts

By IAN DUNN
EDITOR

The Cascade Kodiak wrestling team is a team on the rise. After a second place finish in the regular season in the Caribou Trail League, the Kodiaks finished second in the District Tournament last weekend in Omak.

"It was a good tournament for us. We had 10 guys in the finals. I was hoping for about nine, so it was nice to have that extra one in there," said Jesus Sandoval, Cascade head coach.

Cascade had four district champions, Juan Carlos Martinez at 106, Danny Sandoval at 126, Daniel Claros at 145 and Arthur Drake at heavyweight. The Kodiaks had six wrestlers place second, Axel Martinez at 120, Austin Curry at 132, Aiden Eseo at 138, D'Andre Vasquez at 145, Connor Head at 160 and Esai Claros at 182. Octavio Ramirez finished fourth at 152.

Chelan won the tournament with 285 points. Cascade was second with 216, Cashmere was third with 130, Omak was fourth with 91 and Okanogan 5th with 64.

"Overall, it was a good day. We came in second to Chelan. Their numbers definitely helped on that," Sandoval said. "Chelan had two guys in every weight class. In 170, there were only wrestlers from Chelan in that bracket."

Several Cascade wrestlers

lost to a Goat in the finals, Axel Martinez, Curry, Eseo, Head and Esai Claros. Kodiaks Daniel Claros and D'Andre Vasquez wrestled in the finals at 145.

So, 10 wrestlers advance to regionals at Medical Lake on Saturday. Octavio Ramirez is an alternate at 152. Sandoval said it will tough challenge to get to state out of this region.

"Our region is definitely the toughest region in 1A. We have some really tough teams on the NEA (Northeast A League) side. It's going to be really tough to move onto State. I'm hoping we can have a few guys moving onto State," Sandoval said.

Sandoval feels their best chance to make State will be at 106, 126, 145 and heavyweight.

"If everything goes the way I'm hoping, we should have a few guys at state," he said. "Every year is really tough. They have almost a state champion in every bracket. They are tough everywhere. This is just a chance for improvement."

The top four wrestlers in each weight class advance to State. At Districts, Cascade received sportsmanship award and Sandoval was named coach of the year in the CTL.

Ian Dunn can be reached at 548-5286 or editor@leavenworthecho.com.

Cascade Scoreboard

CASCADE BOYS BASKETBALL	
Feb. 2	Okanogan 63, Cascade 56
UPCOMING GAMES	
Season concluded	
CASCADE GIRLS BASKETBALL	
Feb. 2	Okanogan 75, Cascade 54
UPCOMING GAMES	
Fri, Feb. 2	Season concluded
CASCADE WRESTLING	
Feb. 3	CTL Districts Cascade- Second place
UPCOMING MATCHES	
Sat, Feb. 10	CTL-NEA Regionals at Medical Lake, 10 a.m.
Feb. 16-17	Matt Classic at Tacoma Dome, TBA

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Opinion

The unemployment rate isn't phony



BRAD BLACKBURN

Financial Opinion

In 2016, Donald Trump called the official 4.9% unemployment rate "phony," and claimed the "real" unemployment rate was more than 35%. However, now that he's President, he's changed his tune and is celebrating the unemployment rate.

Trump should absolutely be celebrating - a 4.1% unemployment rate is a wonderful thing. But it was never phony. Hopefully, he's learned his lesson and will show more respect to government number-crunchers in the future (the instant the numbers look bad, they'll be phony again).

But what exactly does a 4.1% unemployment rate mean? It

all comes down to how you define "unemployed." We can all agree that a baby who doesn't have a job shouldn't be counted in the official unemployment rate, but an able-bodied adult who can't find a job should absolutely be included. It's where to draw the line in between that is the tricky part.

The official unemployment rate we hear about most in the headlines is called the U3. For the U3 unemployment rate, you're considered unemployed if you've looked for a job at any time over the last 4 weeks. So, when you hear that our current unemployment rate is 4.1%, that means 4.1% of Americans were actively trying to find a job over the last 4 weeks.

The problem is that the U3 rate leaves out a lot of people. What if you've searched diligently for a job, but became so discouraged that you stopped looking? Or what if you have a part-time job, but want a full-

time job? Thankfully, there are other official unemployment rates that cover those people. The U5 rate includes "discouraged workers," and the U6 rate includes part-time workers who want to be full-time. The U6 rate is the broadest measurement of unemployment we have. While it was never 35% like Trump said, it has dropped from a high of 17% in 2010, down to 8% now.

So, no matter how you define it, we've made a lot of progress in creating jobs here in America since the Financial Crisis. Trump should absolutely be proud. However, so should Obama.

Brad Blackburn, CFP®, is the owner of Blackburn Financial, Registered Investment Advisor. Blackburn Financial is located at 121 Cottage Ave, Cashmere. He can be reached at 509-782-2600 or email him at brad@blackburnfinancial.net

Russiagate vs Watergate

IN MY OPINION
Bill Forhan
Publisher

Watergate is ancient history to most American voters.

Apparently, it has also been forgotten by some of those who lived it. Carl Bernstein was the Washington Post Reporter who was made famous by the "worst political scandal of the twentieth century." Now he dismisses the greatest political scandal of the twenty-first century as ushering the darkest days of America since McCarthy.

Bernstein wasn't condemning the actions of the FBI, Justice Department or the Democrats. No, in fact he called the Nunes memo a "disingenuous partisan document."

Bernstein went on to say, "In the whole Cold War, the Russians were not able to do what Putin has done through Donald Trump to destabilize the U.S. and its Democratic institutions."

Really? If the allegations made through the Nunes memo are true then the damage done to our democracy through the corruption of the FBI and Justice Department did far more to endanger our great Democracy than even Nikita Khrushchev could have envisioned (look him up). And it's not Putin or Trump that did the damage. It is the Democrat Party machine and their weaponization of our American law enforcement and intelligence agencies against any and all political opponents.

Let's review.

Bernstein's Watergate scandal involved illegal activities undertaken by members of President Nixon's administration. Those illegal activities included bugging the offices of political opponents. Nixon and his closest aides also ordered investigations of activist groups and political figures using the FBI, CIA and IRS as political weapons. The scandal resulted in the indictment of 69 people with trials or pleas resulting in 48 being found guilty.

What the Nunes memo claims is that the Clinton campaign with the support of the Obama Administration paid for a dossier about President Trump that was then used to support a "legal" effort to wiretap Trump's telephones.

The problem is the dossier has been largely discredited. Yet according to the Nunes memo that memo was used to petition the FISA Court (Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act) for legal authority to tap an American citizen's phone. The memo also claims the petition left out key facts about the FISA application that were material to the courts decision to authorize the surveillance. Facts like the dossier was paid for by the opposition party. Facts like the dossier was never independently corroborated.

At this point one could question why the FISA court judge, whoever that might have been, didn't question the application. The identity of the judge is not to be released for security reasons, but that individual would have to be living on a different planet not to know Trump was a Presidential contender.

We may never know who

the judge was or why that individual didn't question the documents supporting the application.

What we do know is that given the tainted nature of the FISA Court application the entire matter is legally flawed.

Think of it like you are charged with a crime but never read your Miranda rights. The result is your case is thrown out. Those laws are written to protect us from abuse by the government.

This scandal is another case of how easy it is for the party in power to abuse that power. It is no different than Watergate. It's just another party at another time in our history trying to hang onto their power any way they can.

It is also time to end this ridiculous "Russia Conspiracy" probe. It has been a year with no evidence and only a handful of people being indicted for such heinous crimes as "lying to the FBI." Apparently, the FBI can lie and distort the truth with impunity.

That is not how our American justice system is supposed to work and all of those who were involved in this scandal need to be removed from office and permanently barred from public service. They need to lose their government pensions and many need to go to jail for breaking the laws they were charged to uphold.

Future government employees need to understand they are not above the law. It was true for the Republicans involved in Watergate and it must also be true for the Democrats involved in this scandal.

Bill Forhan can be reached at 509-548-5286 or publisher@leavenworthecho.com.

Q: What kinds of cough medicines are out there?

Ask...

Dr. Louise



Yesterday, my husband came home complaining, "They don't make plain Nyquil anymore. They've got everything BUT just plain Nyquil on the shelf. There's Nyquil and Nyquil that, but I just want the stuff I've always used. Is that too much to ask?" He's definitely not the only one who feels that way. At my appointment last week, my hairdresser grumbled, "When I went to the grocery for Mucinex last week, they had all these OTHER kinds, instead. You don't feel good, and then you're faced with having to figure out which one to get. It's crazy."

The original Mucinex tablets are still out there, containing only one ingredient: guaifenesin, pronounced gwey-FEN-ah-SIN. Guaifenesin works as an expectorant and has been sold for decades as the main ingredient in Robitussin cough syrup. Guaifenesin was discovered in 1949 and introduced as a prescription cough syrup called Robitussin after A.H. Robbins, the company manufacturing it. By the time I graduated from pharmacy school 30 years later in 1979, Robitussin was the most popular prescribed cough medicine in the country, with various formulations like Robitussin PE, Robitussin AC, and Robitussin DM. Robitussin was a best seller both as a prescription and non-prescription cough medicine.

Guaifenesin is an expectorant, and works by increasing the fluid in your sinuses, throat, and lungs, liquefying sticky phlegm and mucus so that you can cough it up and out. Although both are called "cough medicine", an expectorant works differently than a cough suppressant. Cough suppressants dampen down your cough, helping you get much needed rest at night but don't deal with stubborn, gunky phlegm like an expectorant can. As the main ingredient of the prescription medicines Entex, Entex LA, and the combination medication Entex PE (containing pseudoephedrine, the same

as the original formulation of Sudafed), guaifenesin effectively relieved symptoms of lung congestion and sinusitis for up to 12 hours without causing drowsiness. As the patent protection on them expired, the company applied to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to sell the exact same formulations over-the-counter, and Mucinex and Mucinex-D were born.

Adding a decongestant to guaifenesin can help with sinusitis and a stubborn, non-productive cough. Mucinex-D is the non-prescription equivalent of Entex PE. It's still available, but like Sudafed you'll need to sign for it. Robitussin and Robitussin DM cough syrups both contain guaifenesin, but at lower doses than Mucinex tablets. Most formulations of Robitussin DM have 100mg guaifenesin per teaspoonful, compared to 600mg in Mucinex tablets and 1200mg in each tablet of Mucinex Maximum Strength.

Another type of cough medicine contains dextromethorphan, which suppresses

cough. Robitussin DM (the DM stands for dextromethorphan) contains 10mg per teaspoonful, while Delsym is more concentrated, containing three times that and longer acting, suppressing cough for up to 12 hours at a time.

If you need an expectorant, avoid Mucinex Allergy. More than ever before, companies are taking advantage of the familiarity of popular brand names and using those names on related and sometimes even completely unrelated products. This is called "extending the product line" and can create lots of confusion. Mucinex Allergy doesn't have any guaifenesin in it AT ALL. Instead it has fexofenadine, the same antihistamine you'll find in Allegra.

Dr. Louise Achey, Doctor of Pharmacy is a 39-year veteran of pharmacology and author of *Why Dogs Can't Eat Chocolate: How Medicines Work and How YOU Can Take Them Safely*. Your questions and comments are always welcome at www.AskDrLouise.com

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Here are six tips for choosing a cough medicine:

1. Be sure to drink plenty of fluids; it helps liquefy your secretions making it easier to cough them up.
2. Suppressing a cough is not always the best approach. If you have stubborn thick or sticky mucus in your throat or lungs, use an expectorant like Mucinex to liquefy your phlegm and making it easier for you to cough it up and out of there. An expectorant works by increase fluid in your sinuses, throat and lungs to liquefy thick sticky mucus, but it doesn't suppress a cough.
3. If you need to cough less, take a cough suppressant like dextromethorphan (Delsym) or Robitussin 12 Hour Cough Relief. It's okay to take an expectorant at the same time.
4. Adding a decongestant like pseudoephedrine (Sudafed) to an expectorant like guaifenesin can help it work better. Mucinex-D contains both pseudoephedrine and guaifenesin; to get the most effective version you'll have to go to the pharmacy counter to sign for it.
5. When taking Mucinex, start with 1 or 2 of the 600mg long-acting tablets every 12 hours and drink of water to help it work. If your stomach bothers you, decrease the dose.
6. Avoid Mucinex Allergy unless you have allergies. It doesn't contain any expectorant or cough suppressant at all, just an allergy medicine.



Mountain Meadows residents at the Autumn Leaf Parade

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Meadows.
11:51 Court order violation reported at Cascade School District.
11:51 Juvenile problem reported at Osborn Elementary.

18:14 Alarm reported at 18800 Beaver Valley Rd.

Friday, Feb. 2

10:56 Property issue reported at Louie's Diner.

For full Sheriff's report check out our website at

www.LeavenworthEcho.com



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.

Leavenworth
Monday, Jan. 29

08:42 Civil issue reported at 19420 Evergreen Ave. Lake Wenatchee.
08:56 Scam reported at 10460 Ski Hill Dr.
09:31 Suspicious activity reported at 9851 Saunders Rd. Peshastin.
09:46 Welfare check requested at 8555 Orchard St. Peshastin.
10:01 Harass/threats reported at 10184 Main St. Peshastin.
11:04 Parking/abandoned vehicle issue reported at 3432 Hansel

Ln. Peshastin.
12:16 Theft reported at Post Office Tavern.
14:45 Juvenile problem reported at 330 Prospect St.
15:45 Suspicious activity reported at 802 Pine St.
16:14 Vehicle prowl reported at Ingalls Creek Trailhead.
18:58 Suspicious activity reported at Big Y Junction Rd.
21:27 Hazard reported at Beaver Valley Rd. Plain.

Tuesday, Jan. 30

11:46 Traffic offense reported at Central Ave. & Ash St.
12:16 Harass/threats reported at

CHS.
14:38 911 call reported at Der Ritterhoff.

Wednesday, Jan. 31

06:15 Animal problem reported at 12689 Prowell St.
15:39 Agency assist requested at US2, MP102.
16:52 Fraud/forgery reported at 9984 Lee St. Peshastin.
21:52 Suspicious activity reported at 3165 Hansel Ln. Peshastin.
23:29 Traffic offense reported at 10610 Chumstick Hwy.

Thursday, Feb. 1

11:02 911 call reported at Mountain