



City of Chelan to hold public briefing on TIF program to fund infrastructure improvements

CHELAN - The City of Chelan will conduct a Public Briefing regarding the proposed Tax Increment Financing (TIF) program to fund infrastructure improvements for the East Chelan area.

The briefing will be held on Tuesday, March 21, beginning at 4 p.m. in Chelan City Council Chambers at Chelan City Hall, 135 E. Johnson Avenue.

The briefing will include a description of the increment area, the public improvements proposed to be financed with the tax allocation revenues, and an estimate of tax revenues for the participating local governments and taxing districts, including the amounts allocated to the increment public improvements.

The public is invited to attend the meeting in person or by calling 1-253-205-0468, Meeting ID: 841 4310 0160 Passcode: 150293 United States, Tacoma. Written comments may also be submitted to publiccomments@cityofchelan.us with "TIF Comment" included in the subject line.

Written comments must be received no later than the time of the briefing. A quorum of Councilmembers is expected to be in attendance, but no City action will be taken.

Lake Chelan Valley Events, Things to do, Meetings

Chelan Museum: March 9-11

CHELAN - The Chelan Museum is open Thursday, Friday, Saturday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. The museum is located at the corner of Woodin Avenue and Emerson Street. For more information: 509-682-5644.

Free at home Covid-19 Tests

MANSON - Manson Fire District #5 has free at home Covid-19 tests available at the fire station, located at 250 Manson Blvd. For more information call 509-687-3222. They also have handouts on Covid exposure and what to do if you test positive for Covid-19.

SAIL Exercise Classes: March 8-9, 13-14

CHELAN - SAIL (Stay Active & Independent for Life) fitness classes are offered at Chelan Senior Center on Monday and Wednesday at 1 p.m. and are taught by Beth Shaw and Linda Hollier. Evening SAIL classes are Monday and Thursday evenings at 5:30 p.m., also at the Chelan Senior Center and are taught by Ann Cooper. A SAIL class is offered to residents of Heritage Heights Assisted Living in Chelan on Mondays and Fridays at 2 p.m. taught by Gaylen Willett and Steve Davis.

Household hazardous waste drop off: March 8-10

Latex paint now accepted - Drop off Saturday, April 1

WENATCHEE - Drop-off Saturday is April 1 at the Chelan County Moderate Risk Waste Facility on Highway 97A. The facility is open the first Saturday of the month, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Every week, they are open Tuesday through Friday the same hours. Drop off your household hazardous wastes and latex paint. This is a free service to Chelan County residents. For a full list of items that the facility does and does not accept, go to the facility's website: <https://www.co.chelan.wa.us/solid-waste-management/pages/household-hazardous-wastes>.

Chelan Senior Meals: March 8-10, 13-15

CHELAN - The Chelan Senior Center at 534 E. Trow Avenue, hosts Senior Meals Monday-Friday. Suggested donation for seniors over age 60 is \$4. Fee for persons under age 60 is \$10. Please call 509-888-4440 to reserve meals 24 hours in advance. For information about Home Delivered Meals call 509-470-0522. You can visit their website at www.octn.org and follow them on Facebook. Donations can be mailed to: OCTN P.O. Box 471 Okanogan, WA 98840. Menu: March 8: Chicken Fettuccine, Key West Vegetables, Caesar Salad, Tropical Fruit, Dessert; March 9: Pork Rib Sandwich, Sweet Potato Fries, Coleslaw, Mixed Fruit, Dessert; March 10: Biscuits & Gravy, Hash Brown Potatoes, V-8 Juice, Fresh Fruit, Blueberry Muffin; March 13: Sweet & Sour Chicken, Steamed Rice, Spinach Salad, Pineapple Tidbits, Egg Roll, Dessert; March 14: Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Broccoli Cuts, Tossed Salad, Mixed Berries, WW Roll, Dessert; March 15: Tuna Noodle Casserole, Peas & Carrots, Spiced Salad, Waldorf Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert.

Chelan Valley Hope: March 8-9, 13-16

Current need: blankets, diapers, travel-size toiletries

CHELAN - At Chelan Valley Hope donations are a gracious and essential support to our programs. With your help, we are able to provide locals in crisis with fuel cards, cold weather gear, non-food essentials, snack packs, and much much more. Your donations have been a significant help with the recent increased need for rental assistance, shelter for houseless families, and food and hygiene packs. If you wish to make a donation we are currently in need of diapers (all sizes), travel-size toiletries, pet food, and toilet paper. Donations are welcome and can be left during business hours, or give us a call and we'll gladly make arrangements. For monetary donations please visit our website chelanvalleyhope.org/donate. Call 509-888-2114 for more information or to schedule an appointment. Or visit our website and follow us on Facebook and Instagram for more information [@ChelanValleyHope](http://chelanvalleyhope.org).

Thrive Teen Center: March 9, 14, 16

CHELAN - The Thrive Teen Center is open at the Lake Chelan United Methodist Church, corner of Johnson Avenue and Emerson Street, every Tuesday and Thursday from 3-5:30 p.m. Email stefani@thrivechelanvalley.com if you have any questions.

CONTINUED ON PAGE A4

Sheriff Morrison lays out his vision for community service



Laura Husa/LCM

Phase one of The Community Center at Lake Chelan is the main building structure which includes an office wing and a six-lane pool, at a cost of just over \$18 million. The project's second phase costs around \$4 million and includes finishing the parking lot, landscaping and finishing the gym wing.

Update given on Community Center

By MATTHEW OCKINGA CORRESPONDENT

CHELAN - At the February 28 Chelan City Council meeting, Chelan County Sheriff Mike Morrison laid out his vision of community service. Elected in November of 2022, Morrison told Mayor Robert Goedde and the City Council that he eyed positive changes as he begins his term.

"We discussed throughout the campaign process areas where we can improve. We have identified them," Morrison told the Council.

"We structured our vision, our mission and our overall statement just to get more of a focus back to serving the community, which is what I aimed to do throughout the election process and now that it's in place, I'm in that position, we want to get back to serving our communities and not ourselves."

Morrison largely has administration in place. Dan Ozment will serve as Undersheriff while Ryan Moody is the new Chief of Special Operations.

Morrison is also bringing in Sergeant Rob Huddleston as



Sheriff Mike Morrison

the unofficial chief of Chelan. One of Huddleston's responsibilities will be revitalizing the department's marine program, which Morrison said has struggled in recent years. Last summer, only one marine patrol deputy supervised local waters and the department

was unable to fully utilize him due to unforeseen circumstances. That will change this summer. Chelan County currently has two trained deputies for Marine Patrol with another in training. The trio of trained deputies will aim to keep both locals and

tourists safe on both lakes and rivers.

Morrison mentioned that there will be an April 2 meeting to discuss some recent hazards on local waters, namely, the Wenatchee River.

"Under Sergeant Huddleston's leadership, I believe the program will start heading in the right direction," Morrison said. "If we can bring a little bit more order back to our waterways throughout the county, specifically lake Chelan, that's what we're aiming for."

Next on the agenda was a presentation concerning the North Central Washing-

SEE COUNCIL ON PAGE A2

Hawkins' 'Walking start to Running Start' bill clears key Senate committee

SUBMITTED BY LAUDAN ESPINOZA, SR. PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER, WASHINGTON LEGISLATURE

OLYMPIA - A bill sponsored by 12th District Sen. Brad Hawkins to modernize the Running Start Program has taken a key step forward. Senate Bill 5670, allowing 10th grade high school students to participate in online college

classes, was approved this past Friday by the Senate Ways & Means Committee.

Hawkins' bipartisan bill was unanimously approved earlier in the session by the Senate Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee, a new committee for Hawkins this year. Senate Bill 5670, as amended in the committee, allows 10th graders to participate in one college

course per quarter, if the class is entirely online.

Created in 1990, Running Start is a popular tuition-free "dual credit" program in Washington state that allows high school juniors and seniors to earn college credits while also working toward their high school diplomas. State funding that follows the student is shared between the K-12 school districts and high-

er education institutions.

Hawkins believes the rationale for only allowing 11th and 12th graders in the Running Start program when it began over 30 years ago had to do with lawmakers likely not wanting to mix high school and traditional college students on campus. Considering how institutions structure

SEE WALKING ON PAGE A2

Northern Lights show off their colors



Courtesy Diana Pronath

The Northern Lights, aka the aurora borealis, have been showing off their beautiful waves of light here in the Lake Chelan Valley recently. This photo was taken by Diana Pronath at 4:03 a.m. on Monday, February 27, from her home in Swanson Gulch in Manson. To learn more about the Northern Lights go to www.space.com and go to where to see the northern lights.

INSIDE THIS WEEK

Community	A1-A4, B1, B3-B4	Business & Services & Health Care Directory	A3	Classified Index	
Meetings/Events	A1, A4			Classifieds, Puzzles	B2-B3
Church News	A4			Public Notices	B2-B3
Obituaries/Death Notices	A4			Puzzles	B3
Sheriff/Fire/EMS Report	A3				
Outdoors	B1				

131 S. Apple Blossom Drive, Ste #109, P.O. Box 1922 Chelan, WA 98816-1922 509-682-2213 www.lakechelanmirror.com

2023 Lodging Tax capital requests now open

BY JILL FITZSIMMONS,
CHELAN COUNTY PIO

WENATCHEE - The Chelan County Lodging Tax Advisory Committee, or LTAC, has opened the grant application process for groups and municipalities seeking lodging tax dollars for capital projects, or capital improvement projects, that will help attract overnight visitors to the county.

County lodging tax revenues must be used for tourism promotion, acquisition of tourism-related facilities, or operation of tourism-related facilities. This application period is specifically for capital expenditures of tourism-related facilities owned or operated by a municipality.

Projects will be considered capital if the funds are used for land and improvements

to land, buildings and building improvements, parking lots, vehicles, machinery and equipment, works of art or historical treasures, infrastructure assets, such as roads, bridges, sidewalks, water lines, sewers, drainage systems and intangible assets, such as easements, water rights, timber rights and computer software.

The application period is

open until 5 p.m. on April 14. The current funding available for capital projects is \$560,000. The application must be downloaded and emailed to CM.LTAC@co.chelan.wa.us.

Lodging tax dollars are generated by local lodging establishments. In Chelan County, about half the money generated in a year is allocated to six local cham-

bers as well as the Cascade Loop, Ohme Gardens and TREAD. Another portion is used to operate the county's Visit Chelan County campaign. The remaining money is offered annually in the form of grants to tourist-related organizations. In December, commissioners approved the awarding of \$328,600 in lodging tax dollars to 22 tourist-related

organizations for marketing efforts.

For more information, including the application, go to www.co.chelan.wa.us/news/article/2023-lodging-tax-capital-requests-open-through-april-14. For more information about LTAC, go to www.co.chelan.wa.us/board-of-commissioners/pages/lodging-tax-advisory-committee.

Year of the Apple Art Contest for high school students

Deadline for art May 1

SUBMITTED BY WASHINGTON APPLE EDUCATION FOUNDATION

WENATCHEE - The Washington Apple Education Foundation (WAEF) invites all current high school students in the following counties to participate in the 21st Annual Year of the Apple Art Contest: Adams, Chelan, Douglas, Okanogan, Grant, Benton, Franklin, Kittitas, Yakima, and Walla Walla. The Washington apple-themed contest will grant over \$1,750 cash in student prizes. First place will receive \$1,000, 2nd place \$500, and 3rd place \$250. In addition to cash prizes for students, the top three winner's art class/teacher will win a \$150 Amazon gift card for art supplies.

Start working on your artwork today. The overall grand prize winner is awarded \$1,000 cash and the opportunity to see his/her artwork reproduced onto a poster-sized calendar.

Submit Artwork to: Washington Apple Education Foundation C/O Art Contest 2900 Euclid Avenue Wenatchee, WA. 98801. Deadline of May 1, 2023.

The Washington Apple Education Foundation (WAEF) is the charity of the tree fruit industry. The organization is best known for its scholarship program. Annually, WAEF

awards over \$1 million in scholarship aid to students raised in tree fruit industry communities. For more information on Foundation activities, please contact 509-663-7713 or www.waef.org.

Sen. Hawkins Regional Sports Complex bill approved by Senate

SUBMITTED BY LAUDAN ESPINOZA, SR. PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER, WASHINGTON LEGISLATURE

OLYMPIA — After successfully advancing through three Senate committees this session, Senate Bill 5001, sponsored by Sen. Brad Hawkins, has been approved unanimously by the Washington State Senate.

"This bill would give us the option of forming a second Public Facilities District, which would provide our region a legal structure for both financing and governance," said Hawkins. He added, "If we can advance this bill through the rest of the process, we will have the ability to construct and operate a regional sports complex, if that is what our community leaders and voters decide to do."

Senate Bill 5001 would amend the existing Public Facilities District statute to allow com-



Courtesy Sen. Hawkins

Stakeholders are interested in potentially locating any project in the Wenatchi Landing area near East Wenatchee, 283 acres of regionally accessible land near the Odabashian Bridge.

munities in the region to form a second district and ultimately seek voter approval of a regional sports complex.

Hawkins hosted several meetings last fall with local mayors, county commissioners, regional port, chamber, community leaders, and swimming groups. Stakeholders are interested in potentially locating any project in the

Wenatchi Landing area near East Wenatchee, 283 acres of regionally accessible land near the Odabashian Bridge.

Hawkins believes development of a facility in Wenatchi Landing would help meet an aquatic and recreational need in the region while also serving as a catalyst development project, potentially leading to significant economic activities

in that area, including hotels, restaurants, and retail shopping.

The Chelan-Douglas Regional Port Authority is currently administering a feasibility study to analyze the project and its economic benefits. The study group is comprised of numerous local officials and is chaired by East Wenatchee Mayor Jerrilea Crawford.

WALKING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

classes for Running Start students and the rise of on-line only classes, Hawkins says it's time to modernize the program.

"Many classes at community colleges are almost entirely high school students participating in Running Start so allowing sophomores who are academically ready to explore a limited number of online classes would be a very good thing,"

Hawkins said.

Hawkins added, "You need to walk before you run, so I call my bill a walking start to Running Start."

His bill directly aligns with state goals related to post-secondary attainment, which involves students earning

credentials beyond a high school diploma. Hawkins said, "Many juniors and seniors work really hard to earn a two-year community college degree by the time they graduate from high school, which can be both overly stressful and impact

their social opportunities."

"Many students work really hard but don't quite earn their college degree by the time they graduate from high school, yet they never go back to finish due to tuition cost and life circumstances." He added, "My

bill would allow 10th graders to chip away a bit at their two-year degree online and position themselves better to complete their college program."

Senate Bill 5670 now heads to the full Senate for consideration.

NCW Media Newspapers



is looking for a part-time reporter to join their team. This is a great opportunity for anyone wanting to get a foothold into journalism, communications, or wanting to strengthen their resume. This office is based in Chelan.

Applicants would be covering meetings and events in the Chelan and Manson and surrounding area for the Lake Chelan Mirror each week. Responsibilities would include:

Use a camera to take photos of local events including schools and sports.

Applicant needs to have reliable transportation. Pay will be based on experience.

Email your resume and writing examples to publisher@leavenworthecho.com

or call for an appointment to interview 509-548-5286. 10-5 p.m. weekdays. EOE

COUNCIL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

ton Economic Development District Supernova Business Lunch Competition. Alyce Brown, EDD executive director, gave an update on this community-based 11-week contest where budding entrepreneurs and new small businesses compete for \$10,000 in grants. Applicants come from businesses looking to expand or start in the counties of

Chelan, Douglas, Okanogan, Ferry, and the Colville Reservations.

The competition, which is in its fourth year, starts in February and goes until August. The EDD received 32 applications and three businesses from the Chelan/Manson area are vying for the funds.

When the program started in 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic dramatically affected commerce of all kinds. Yet Brown mentioned that all the businesses are still open

and some are even looking to expand. Over the past three years, the competition has helped open the doors to 17 small businesses and connected them with over \$800,000 in grants.

"There is a demand. There is an interest to open small businesses. They've been all successful," Brown said. "We're making sure we're connecting these small businesses with grant dollars so they're not obligated to pay it back, setting them up for

success."

The third main item on the agenda was an update on the Seven Acres Foundation Community Center. Maribel Cruz, a member of the Seven Acres team, mentioned that phase one of the project has included the main building structure which includes an office wing and a six-lane pool. The cost of the first phase was just over \$18 million. Cruz said that about 90 percent of that cost, roughly \$16.2 million dollars, has come from generous

donors. The project's second phase costs around \$4 million and includes finishing the parking lot, landscaping and finishing the gym wing.

After giving the update, Cruz revisited a request the EDD made to the City Council last July for funds that would pay for an outdoor play structure designed for children under eight. The playground, which has an estimated cost of \$189,000, would be free to the public. While Mayor Goedde and the Council supported the playground project, they mentioned that they first needed to see if there were any surplus costs on the Anderson Road construction project. This endeavor is in cooperation with the Chelan Valley Housing Trust and will provide 45 homes for mixed income households. Goedde told Cruz that he hoped to have more information in the coming months in order to make a final decision.

Lasty, Deputy City Clerk Cailey Couch proposed that Goedde finalize and execute the DocuSign Services Agreement for Electronic Signatures. DocuSign is a program that allows organizations to manage electronic agreements. Couch mentioned that the city's Technology Fund would cover the first-year cost of \$2,760. The motion passed unanimously.

Are you at risk?
Get Screened for Risks of Stroke and Cardiovascular Disease
5 Screening Package for \$149
Call 833-585-2518

LIFE LINE SCREENING
The Power of Prevention

Prepare for power outages today
WITH A HOME STANDBY GENERATOR
\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS
REQUEST A FREE QUOTE
CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE
(877) 330-1491
FREE 7-Year Extended Warranty* - A \$695 Value!

© NCW Media Inc. 2023
131 S. Apple Blossom Drive #109,
P.O. Box 1922, Chelan, WA
98816-1922
Phone: 509-682-2213

Office Hours
Mon. to Fri. 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

On the Internet
Website: www.lakechelanmirror.com
News e-mail: lcmeditor@gmail.com
Advertising e-mail: ruthk@lakechelanmirror.com

Services
Back Issues are available up to one year after publication for a small fee.

Contact Information
Publisher
Carol Forhan • 509-548-5286
publisher@leavenworthecho.com
Bill Forhan, Publisher, Ex Officio
Reporter/Photographer
lcmeditor@gmail.com

Reporter/Photographer
Michael Maltais
qchreporter@gmail.com

Advertising Sales Director
Carol Forhan • 509-548-5286
carol@leavenworthecho.com

Advertising Sales Chelan
RuthEdna Keys • 509-682-2213
ruthk@lakechelanmirror.com
Lindsay Timmermans
509-860-7301
adexec1@ncwmedia.net

Contact Information
Classifieds/Legals
Laura Husa
mirrorads@lakechelanmirror.com
Circulation: 509-293-6780
Laura Husa
circulation@lakechelanmirror.com

Classifieds/Legals
Classified/Legals ads can be placed during normal office hours by calling 509-682-2213, email: mirrorads@lakechelanmirror.com

Weekly rates:
\$15.00 for the first 30 words
10 cents per word over 30 words

Borders, bold words, headlines, logos, photos subject to additional charges.

Place your ad online 24/7
www.ncwmarket.com

Deadlines
Letters to the Editor: Noon, Friday
Calendar Listings: Noon, Friday
News Submissions: Noon, Friday
Display Advertising: 5 p.m., Thurs.
Legals: Noon, Friday
Classified Ads: Noon, Friday
Obituaries/Death Notices: 4 p.m., Friday

Subscriptions
Chelan/Douglas Counties (yearly) print \$40
Chelan/Douglas Counties (yearly) print & web \$45
In State (yearly) \$50
Out of State (yearly) \$52
Online only (yearly) \$40

The Lake Chelan Mirror does not refund subscription payments except to the extent that it might fail to meet its obligation to publish each week, in which case the cost of the issues missed would be refunded as an extension. Subscriptions may be transferred to another individual or organization.

Letters policy
The Lake Chelan Mirror 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: ruthk@lakechelanmirror.com or publisher@leavenworthecho.com

News Tips
Have an idea for a story? Call the Mirror at 509-682-2213

Corrections
The Lake Chelan Mirror regrets any errors. If you see an error, please call 509-682-2213. We will publish a correction in the next issue.

Lake Chelan Mirror (USPS 101-620) is published every Wednesday by NCW Media, Inc.
131 S. Apple Blossom Drive #109, Chelan, WA 98816
Telephone: 509-682-2213

Periodical postage paid at Chelan, Wash. 98816
Postmaster: Send address corrections to: Lake Chelan Mirror, 131 S. Apple Blossom Drive, #109, Chelan, WA 98816

NCW Media Inc. prints on recycled newsprint with soy ink. Please Recycle

Bringing the community to your door

Lions Club to hold golf tourney May 12

SUBMITTED BY CRAIG BOOTHE, LAKE CHELAN LIONS CLUB

CHELAN - The 17th Annual Lake Chelan Lions Golf Tournament Fundraiser is scheduled for Friday, May 12.

This year's tournament will again be held at Lake Chelan Golf Course and we've been working with them the past few weeks to coordinate the details.

Our schedule for the event is: 8 a.m.: Registration begins; 8:30 a.m.: Putting contest; 9:30 a.m.: Foursome Scramble, shotgun start;

12 p.m.: Lunch provided and Post tournament. Awards presentation and raffle prize drawing.

During the tournament

we'll have two Hole-in-One prizes, the largest of which is a \$25,000 prize, courtesy of Antonio's Landscaping, and \$10,000 prize from Cascade Auto Center. We also have prizes for Best Foursome and Men's and Women's Longest Drive. Other Par 3 bonus prizes include a \$500 Mastercard, Steaks for a Year from Omaha Steaks and a Set of Callaway Irons. Some of the Raffle prizes so far include free lodging, dinners, lake Chelan wines, and local gift certificates, just to name a few.

The cost is \$135 per golfer and \$540 per foursome. For that each participant will get 18 holes of golf, golf cart, lunch and two beverage tick-

ets. We have more than 25 local businesses and organizations so far who've committed to either sponsoring the tournament directly or have pledged to provide Raffle prizes. (Hard Row to Hoe Vineyards, Antonio's Landscaping, Cascade Autocenter, Apple Cup Cafe, Kelly Allen Agency, Chelan Auto Parts, Jess Auto and Lake Chelan Casino).

We still have need for several tee and hole sponsors. Sponsorships for a Tee or Hole are \$200.

If anyone would like to be a sponsor you can do so online at the website we have set up for the tournament. www.lakechelanlionsgolf.com

Any questions about sponsorships can be directed to Mike Tipton at 253-263-9406.

So you golfers out there this is the time to dust off your clubs and joins us in beautiful Lake Chelan. Golfers interested in participating can register online at this website, www.lakechelanlionsgolf.com

The Lions Club is in over 200 countries and 1.4 Million members strong. The largest service organization in the world.

Our local Lake Chelan Lions Club Provides Vision and Hearing for those less fortunate along with four technical scholarships for graduating seniors.

House Page Program – open to youth 14-16 years old

SUBMITTED BY STATE REP. MIKE STEELE, 12TH DISTRICT

OLYMPIA - About the House Page Program: The page program is an excellent opportunity for students to take part in the legislative process. Students assist the House of Representatives with duties including serving on the chamber floor, making deliveries throughout campus, supporting member offices, and attending page school.

Youth from 14 to 16 years old can take part in the program. Pages earn a stipend of \$50 a day and can also earn up to 20 hours of community service.

Page School supplements the hands-on learning experience with a classroom component

geared toward understanding the legislative process.

How to apply: The legislative session runs for 105 days, ending on April 23. When applying, potential pages can select which weeks they are available to work.

Financial assistance is available for those who qualify. By reducing the financial burden and raising awareness of the program, the Legislature hopes to make participation in this great educational opportunity economically feasible for more students across the state.

If you have any questions about my bills or other concerns about state government-related topics, don't hesitate to reach out to me: RepresentativeMikeSteele.com

What you need to know about upcoming Medicaid changes

SUBMITTED BY CAITLIN DUFFY, DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, COMMUNITY HEALTH PLAN OF WASHINGTON

NCW - On April 1, the Washington State Health Care Authority anticipates returning to normal operations and begin to mail renewal notices to confirm the eligibility of Medicaid (Apple Health in Washington state) recipients in Washington state. This is after nearly three years where Apple Health members had continuous enrollment due to the Federal Public Health Emergency in 2020.

As a result, an estimated 300,000 Washingtonians will be required to complete a renewal form that will determine if they still qualify for Apple Health coverage or if they need to shop for a new health plan.

Here's what you need to know about recertification and how it could affect you.

Why is Recertification Happening Now?

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, individuals provided their annual income information to confirm eligibility during their annual renewal of Apple Health coverage. However, that process was temporarily waived under the federal Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA). This allowed individuals covered by Apple Health to continue receiving coverage during the

COVID-19 public health emergency period regardless of changes to their income, assets or other eligibility criteria. At the end of December 2022, the federal Consolidated Appropriation Act, 2023 separated

the declaration of Public Health Emergency from the continuous enrollment extension set for Medicaid.

How Does This Impact Me?

If you or your family are currently covered under Apple Health, you may be required to go through this renewal process within the next 12 months. Your exact review timeline will be based on your current renewal end date and when you last supplied your eligibility information. This recertification or redetermination process will include a review of the annual income of the individuals or families receiving Apple Health. Those who still meet the eligibility requirements will be able to retain their existing coverage.

Three Ways to Prepare for

the Recertification Process

Normally, Apple Health renewal takes place every year. But if you started getting Apple Health during the COVID-19 pandemic, this may be the first time you're being asked to do this. To help prepare and to simplify the process, take these steps:

Update your contact information: Ensure that your mailing address, phone number, email and other contact information are up to date in your Washington Healthplanfinder account. This will enable them to contact you about your Apple Health eligibility.

Check your mail frequently: You should watch for mail alerting you to take action to renew your coverage. If you receive a notice, it will let you know what you need to

do next.

Complete your renewal: If you receive a request from Washington, reply right away to avoid any delay or interruption in your coverage. You may be asked for information about your income, ages of household members, or citizenship status.

What to Do If You Lose Apple Health Coverage Eligibility

If you are one of the 300,000 who could lose coverage in this process due to not meeting the requirements, you will have a number of options available to you. Upon losing coverage, a special enrollment period will open to allow you to purchase other plans, such as Cascade Care, a Washington plan subsidizing individual and family plans on the Health Insurance Mar-

ketplace Washington Health Benefit Exchange. These plans are an affordable, comprehensive option that can cover prescription drugs, doctor visits, urgent care, hospital visits, and more. To learn more about Marketplace plans, visit www.wahealthplanfinder.org or HealthCare.gov.

For more information, view the Apple Health and the public health emergency.

To learn more about Apple Health and the public health emergency (PHE) period, visit the Public Health Emergency FAQ.

Community Health Plan of Washington is a not-for-profit that serves over 300,000 people across the state through Apple Health (Medicaid), Medicare and Individual & Family.

CHELAN COUNTY SHERIFF/FIRE/EMS

Chelan County Sheriff's

Feb. 24

- 02:21 Suspicious Circumstance, 14909 US Hwy. 97A, Entiat
- 10:24 Agency Assist, 202 Lenore Dr., Chelan
- 12:27 Traffic Offense, 485 W. Manson Rd., Don Morse Park, Chelan
- 13:22 Extra Patrol, 516 N. Bradley St., Chelan
- 13:50 Suspicious Circumstance, US Hwy. 97A MP 217, Entiat
- 15:19 Non-injury Accident, S. Apple Blossom Dr., Chelan
- 18:13 Burglary, 212 Walnut St., Chelan Falls
- 18:32 Parking/ Abandoned Vehicle, 14335 US Hwy. 97A, Entiat
- 19:38 Domestic Disturbance, E. Woodin Ave. and N. Sanders St., Chelan
- 19:53 Suspicious Circumstance, 5163 Manson Blvd., Manson
- 20:46 Fraud/ Forgery, 219 E. Gibson Ave., Chelan
- 21:37 Non-injury Accident, 2331 Albin Dr., Entiat

Feb. 25

No report available.

Feb. 26

- 11:20 Welfare Check, Beebe Bridge west, Chelan
- 14:36 Non-injury Accident, 104 W. Woodin Ave., Cmapbell's Resort, Chelan
- 15:08 Alarm, 585 SR 150, Chelan
- 15:26 Traffic Offense, Bella Ln. and SR 150, Manson
- 18:19 Parking/ Abandoned Vehicle, Boyd and Purtteman Gulch Roads, Chelan

Feb. 27

- 01:16 Alarm, 490 Boyd Rd., Chelan
- 14:24 Parking/ Abandoned Vehicle, 509 E. Gibson Ave., Chelan
- 15:01 Miscellaneous, 105 Wall St., Manson
- 15:23 Alarm, 4102 US Hwy. 97A, Chelan
- 15:52 Court Order Violation, 133 E. Woodin Ave., Stormy Mt. Brewery, Chelan
- 18:13 Non-injury Accident, 108 N. Apple Blossom Dr., Walmart, Chelan
- 21:00 Alarm, 110 S. Bennett Rd., Manson

Feb. 28

- 03:03 Domestic Disturbance, 332 E. Nebraska St., Chelan
- 04:00 Non-injury Accident, Golf Course Rd. and SR 150, Chelan
- 07:33 Hazard, 600 block N. Bradley St., Chelan

- 08:05 Burglary, 273 Crooked Mile Ln., Chelan
- 10:50 Malicious Mischief, 417 S. Bradley St., Chelan
- 15:34 Sex Offense, Chelan
- 18:48 Disturbance, 418 E. Woodin Ave., Chelan
- 23:17 Suspicious Circumstance, 322 W. Woodin Ave., Grandview on the Lake, Chelan

March 1

- 14:32 Domestic Disturbance, 212 Walnut St., Chelan Falls
- 14:41 911-call, 503 E. Highland Ave., Chelan
- 14:56 Burglary, 10 S. Madeline Rd., Manson

March 2

- 01:29 Alarm, 110 S. Bennett Rd., Manson
- 02:36 DUI Arrest, 1002 E. Woodin Ave., Apple Inn Motel, Chelan
- 11:47 Suspicious Circumstance, 4620 Navarre Coulee Rd., Chelan
- 12:08 Civil Dispute, 14425 Olin St., Entiat
- 15:09 Domestic Dispute, 212 Walnut St., Chelan Falls
- 15:17 Welfare Check, 5163 Manson Blvd., Manson
- 15:57 911-call, 503 E. Highland Ave., Chelan
- 16:48 Theft, 128 E. Woodin Ave., Kelly's ACE Hardware, Chelan

- 18:58 Theft, 200 Green Ave., Manson
- 19:40 Suspicious Circumstance, 210 W. Gibson Ave., Chelan

Fire/ EMS

Feb. 24

- Chelan Fire District #7
- 10:24 Structure Fire, 202 Lenore Dr., Chelan
- 10:39 Injury Accident, 7580 Upper Ridge Rd., Chelan
- 11:15 Abdominal Pain, 421 W. Webster Ave., Chelan
- 16:03 Commercial Alarm, 104 E. Woodin Ave., The Landing, Chelan
- 16:11 Structure Fire, 900 Willmorth Dr., Chelan

Chelan EMS

- 10:24 Structure Fire, 202 Lenore Dr., Chelan
- 10:39 Injury Accident, 7580 Upper Ridge Rd., Chelan
- 11:15 Abdominal Pain, 421 W. Webster Ave., Chelan
- 16:11 Structure Fire, 900 Willmorth Dr., Chelan

Entiat Fire District

- 01:27 Commercial Fire, 1505 5th St., Wenatchee
- 10:24 Structure Fire, 202 Lenore Dr., Chelan

Manson Fire District

- 10:24 Structure Fire, 202 Lenore Dr., Chelan

- 16:11 Structure Fire, 900 Willmorth Dr., Chelan

Feb. 25

- Entiat Fire District
- 03:07 Unknown-injury Accident, US Hwy. 97A MP 220, Entiat

Feb. 26

- Chelan Fire District #7
- 05:28 Fall-1, 320 E. Nixon Ave., Chelan
- Chelan EMS
- 05:28 Fall-1, 320 E. Nixon Ave., Chelan
- 23:31 Cardiac, McNeil Canyon Rd. and Corral St., Chelan

Feb. 27

- Chelan Fire District #7
- 11:19 Hemorrhage-1, 330 E. Nebraska St., Chelan
- 17:30 Unknown-injury Accident US Hwy. 97 MP 242, Chelan
- Chelan EMS
- 11:19 Hemorrhage-1, 330 E. Nebraska St., Chelan
- 17:30 Unknown-injury Accident, US Hwy. 97 MP 244, Chelan
- Entiat Fire District
- 17:18 Sick Person, 2331 Albin Dr., Entiat

Feb. 28

- Chelan Fire District #7
- 18:58 Convulsions, 511 E. Wapato Ave., Chelan
- 23:56 Convulsions, 511 E. Wapato Ave., Chelan

Chelan EMS

- 18:58 Convulsions, 511 E. Wapato Ave., Chelan
- 22:46 Breathing Problem, 101 W. Marine View Dr., Orondo
- 23:56 Convulsions, 511 E. Wapato Ave., Chelan

Entiat Fire District

- 09:29 Fall-1, 14608 Diamond

Ave., Entiat

March 1

- Entiat Fire District
- 00:49 Fall-1, 14610 Diamond Ave., Entiat
- 09:19 Fall-1, 14610 Diamond Ave., Entiat

March 2

- Chelan Fire District #7
- 17:44 Overdose/ Poison, 309 E. Gibson Ave., Chelan
- Chelan EMS
- 17:44 Overdose/ Poison, 309 E. Gibson Ave., Chelan



SPEIDEL BENTSEN LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW | EST. 1986



Estate Planning
(509) 662-1211

7 North Wenatchee Avenue, Wenatchee
www.SpeidelBentsen.com



We provide excellent legal services in estate and tax planning, trust and estate administration, and nursing home planning.

Business & Services Directory

INSURANCE

You're healthy ... until you're not



- Got questions about Medicare?
- or Health Insurance?
- Turning 65?
- Retiring soon?

Give Kelly Allen a call
509-888-9038




Kelly@KellyAllenAgency.com • www.KellyAllenAgency.com

Add your Business or Service to this Directory
Call Today! Ruth, 509-682-2213
Lindsay, 509-860-7301



FOSSIL FORTUNE

Pick a spot and dig on our fossil filled game board for your chance to win CASH

SELECT DAYS IN MARCH



455 WAPATO LAKE ROAD | MANSON, WA 98831 | 509.687.6911 | COLVILLECASINOS.COM

OBITUARIES

Duane L. Hubbard

Duane L. Hubbard passed away peacefully on February 11, 2023 as the result of injuries sustained from an automobile accident.

Duane was born January 23, 1940 to Elbert A. Hubbard and Aliene (McKnight) Hubbard. As a kid growing up in the little town of Manson, he fully embraced his adventurous childhood. He and his brothers would often load their aluminum boat with supplies and spend hours getting to the family cabin at Lightning Creek, near the north end of Lake Chelan. He and the neighborhood kids cre-



ated make-shift hydroplanes, homemade water skis, and



deep-sea diving in Lake Chelan using a bucket and hose.

During his senior year of high school, Duane escaped death from a hunting accident. His grandfather, "Doc Hubbard," worked on his

hand and leg injuries, the attending nurse would later become his mother-in-law.

He went on to graduate from Manson High School in 1958. He married Karon Goodwin on September 26, 1959 and bought their first home and orchard in 1960 with the insurance settlement from that hunting accident. As a career orchardist, he was most proud of successfully raising and delivering 62 crops to the warehouses during his life. He won numerous grower awards throughout his farming career. Apple growing was not only his livelihood, but also his passion.

Dad enjoyed restoring cars, trucks and vintage wooden boats with his brothers, Elbert Jr., and Gary. For his

wife Karon's 50th birthday, he restored a baby blue 1967 Mustang convertible. Duane served on the local ESD board, Reclamation Board, as well as the Manson School Board. Dad always reminded us kids that he stayed on the school board just long enough to make sure we graduated.

In 1985, Duane and his wife, Karon bought a cabin in Stehekin. Together they spent three months that first year finishing the cabin's construction. Our families have completed many projects and enjoyed vacation time at the cabin for the past 38 years.

Almost daily, Dad went to town for coffee hour to visit with numerous friends. They discussed farming, current events and local history. He

really looked forward to these daily and weekly gatherings, the friendships he gained and the stories they shared.

Duane leaves behind three children, Cindy Deatherage (Jack), Rod Hubbard (Leslie), Kimberly Loomis (Bob), seven grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. He is survived by his brother, Jon Hubbard, and was preceded in death by his wife, Karon, of 53 years, his parents, brothers, Elbert Jr., and Gary, and sister, Sandra.

Services for Duane will be held on March 11, 2023, at the Chelan Fraternal Cemetery beginning at 10 a.m., followed by a Celebration of Life and Lunch at 11 a.m. at the North Shore Bible Church, 123 Wapato Point Parkway, Manson.

DEATH NOTICES

Marcy Parks

Marcy Parks, 69, of Chelan, Washington, passed away on February 25, 2023.

Please leave any thoughts and memories for the family at Prechtrose.com. Services are under the direction of Precht Rose Chapel of Chelan.

Edward Eckberg

Edward Eckberg, 86, of Wenatchee, Washington, and formerly of Manson, Washington passed away on February 26, 2023.

Please leave any thoughts and memories for the family at Prechtrose.com. Services are under the direction of Precht Rose Chapel of Chelan.

The Rev. Tony Green steps into the pulpit

Experienced and beloved supply priest leads St. Andrew's worship services

SUBMITTED BY TERRY LABRUE, ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CHELAN - As many of you have noticed, the Rev. Anthony (Tony) Green has joined the congregation as the Bishop's Committee seeks a new, permanent priest after the retirement of previous priest,

the Rev. Linda Mayer.

With 17 years of experience as a supply priest in the Diocese of Spokane, as well as at many different parishes in various dioceses, including Atlanta, Georgia, Rev. Green has demonstrated excellent skills, an articulate voice, and unique observations.

"Tony is a very real and practical person whose big heart shows in everything he does and touches," businessman Robert James said in LinkedIn.

Rev. Green studied at Wenatchee Valley College, Central Washington Univer-

sity, and the Toronto School of Theology, where he gained his Doctor of Divinity degree. In addition, he obtained a Nursing Assistant Certificate from the Washington State Dept. of Health. Plus, Tony is a CASA volunteer guardian ad litem in Chelan and Douglas counties to advocate for children in the juvenile justice and family court systems.

"We are so blessed to have Tony Green temporarily join our liturgical team at St. Andrew's Chelan," Senior Warden Linda Cox said. "He brings us a new perspective to Sunday services that is

forthright and illuminating. I for one enjoy his homilies. And, I believe I speak for other parish members as well."

Rev. Green lives with his family in Wenatchee.

St. Andrew's Church, built more than 114 years ago, is the oldest permanent structure in Chelan. Now on the National Register of Historic Places, the authentic log church attracts many visitors. The public is welcome at Sunday services held at 10 a.m. Located at 120 E. Woodin Avenue, P.O. Box 1226 Chelan, WA 98816 the church may be contacted at 509-682-2851.

Obituaries & Death Notices appear online at lakechelanmirror.com

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

- Local, Regional, Community News & Events
- Any non-profit 501 (c)-(3) group, person(s).
- Must provide: full name, city, phone number.
- Items pertaining to local events that are free or minimum charge.

Want to place Your Community News Online? Go to NCWMARKET.COM 24/7
 Garage and Yard Sale Ads are paid events, please email those to mirrorads@lakechelanmirror.com or NCWMARKET.COM
 For more info call: Lake Chelan Mirror at 509-682-2213
 Email to: ruthk@lakechelanmirror.com

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Cancer Support Group: March 9

CHELAN - The women surviving/thriving cancer support group will meet Thursday, March 9, 1 p.m., at the Chelan Library on Emerson Street. Whether you are newly diagnosed, going through treatments, a support to someone who is, or been thriving for years, please join them for this casual gathering. They will be meeting the second Thursday of each month. For more information call Anne Brooks, 509-682-8718.

Mobile Food Pantry: March 9

MANSON - The Mobile Food Pantry will be at North Shore Bible Church on Thursday, Feb. 9, noon-2 p.m. All are welcome. It is a walk thru format and guests pick their own food. This is a regular stop every second Thursday of the month.

Chelan Valley Republican Women: March 10

Manson - Chelan Valley Republican Women (CVRW) will hold their March 2023 club meeting at Radiance Winery, Downtown Manson location, 71 Wapato Way, Friday, March 10 at 12 p.m. The guest speakers include Cary Condotta, presenting for Restore Washington; Aaron Young, Chairman of the Wenatchee GOP, and Chelan County PUD Commissioner Kelly Allen. Winery Hosts, Jen and Jeff Crowder are offering a delicious luncheon buffet for \$25 including tax and tip. Please contact Pam James, club president, for questions at 425-343-2911.

VFW #6853 Post Coffee/Donuts: March 10

CHELAN - Every Friday VFW Post #6853, located at 427 S. Bradley Street is open 9-11 a.m. for donuts and coffee and conversation. Veterans are invited to join them every Friday.

Food Bank food distribution: March 11, 14, 18

CHELAN - The Lake Chelan Food Bank food giveaway is on Saturday and Tuesday, 9-10 a.m. Distribution is drive-thru. They are located at 417 S. Bradley Street. Beginning this week families will be limited to one box per week. Nonperishable food donations can be dropped off at the Lake Chelan Mirror office, 131 S. Apple Blossom Drive, Ste. 109 (Chelan Business Center.)

Glass recycle: March 11

Winter Hours: 10 a.m.-Noon

CHELAN - Rotary of Lake Chelan 911 Glass Rescue is open on Saturday mornings from 10 a.m.-noon, at 23235 Highway 97A across from Walmart. They are charging a small fee per pound for glass drop-off. Buckets of the materials produced, sand and aggregate, will be available for purchase at \$5 per 5-gallon bucket. City of Chelan residents are asked not to put glass into their blue recycle bins, but to bring it out on Saturday mornings. Their all-volunteer team relies on support from members of the community to make the operation run smoothly every week. They have tasks suitable for all ages and abilities. To volunteer go to www.911glassrescue.org, and click on the volunteer tab on the home page.

Entiat Food Bank: March 11

ENTIAT - The Entiat Food Bank is open 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. on the following Saturdays, March 11, 25, and April 8, and 22. The Food Bank is located at the Entiat Valley Community Service building located at 2084 Entiat Way. Energy Assistance will be 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. on March 14 this month.

Lake Chelan Community Choir rehearsal: March 12

Good Friday service to be held April 7

MANSON - Calling all choir members and possible interested "song birds" new to our Lake Chelan Valley: Next rehearsal for Good Friday Services will be held Sunday, March 12, 1-3 p.m., at North Shore Bible Church. Please check your personal calendars to verify you would be available to sing at the service which will be 7 p.m., North Shore Bible Church, Friday evening, April 7. If you've not sung with the community choir before, but have been "thinking about it," consider yourself invited to come and sing. For additional information, call director, Marci Hale at 509-687-3791.

Survivors of Suicide Loss Support Group: March 14

WENATCHEE - Survivors of Suicide Loss Support Group meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month, 7-8:30 p.m., at Grace Lutheran Church, 1408 Washington Street, Wenatchee. For information, call 509-860-3620 or visit their website at: tcfwenatcheevalley.org

We take Donations for Chelan Valley Hope and Lake Chelan Food Bank

Chelan Valley HOPE

Non Food Items needed:

- Baby Wipes • Diapers • Toilet Paper
- Travel Size Toiletries • Shampoo
- Conditioners • Dish Soap • Laundry Soap

LAKE CHELAN FOOD BANK

- Canned fruit
- Cereal • Condiments
- Canned veggies
- Jam • Chili
- Soup other than tomato
- Boxed entrees
- Canned meats

LAKE CHELAN MIRROR

Monday-Friday - 9 a.m.- 5 p.m.
 131 S. Apple Blossom Drive, Ste. 109
 in the Chelan Business Center - Chelan

Obituary & Memorial Policies

NCW Media, Inc.: Leavenworth Echo, Cashmere Valley Record, Lake Chelan Mirror, Quad City Herald: An Obituary is a way for family member(s) to commemorate a loved one's life and to notify the community of the passing of the loved one. Obituaries are also used for historical and ancestral data. Memorials are another way to let the community know about the life and memories of the person who has passed. A Memorial is different from an Obituary. An Obituary is usually current, while a Memorial can be written later. Obituaries and Memorials need to be typed and emailed as a Word Document. They can be placed in one or more papers - all publish weekly on Wednesday. Obituaries are priced by the number of words and include one color photo and go online at no extra charge. Memorials are priced per column inch. Please call for cost. *Payment is due at the time of placement. *Exception: Chapels, funeral homes who have an account, can be billed. There is no charge for a Death Notice - information is limited. Deadline is 4 p.m. on Friday - some exceptions may apply. Please call 682-2213 or 689-2507 for more information Or email ruthk@lakechelanmirror.com

CHURCH GUIDE

New to the area? On Vacation? These churches welcome you!



• CHELAN

CHELAN CHRISTIAN CHURCH
 Morning Worship 10 am
 509-682-2025 • 210 E. Wapato Ave.
 Pastor Mark Wilton

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
 Sunday School 10 am
 Worship 11 am & 6 pm
 Youth Group - Friday 7 pm for 13-18 years of age
 509-682-5135 • Sanders St. & Okanogan Ave.

LAKE CHELAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
 Please join us for Sunday Worship In Person or via
 Conference Call at 9:30 am. Dial 339-209-6617. Follow prompts.
 509-682-9063 • 216 W. Nixon Ave.

• CHELAN

LAKE CHELAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 Worship 10 am
 509-682-2241

Corner of Johnson & Emerson

LIVING STONE CHURCH
 Please join us as we gather each Sunday at 10 am
 216 N. Emerson St. (Upper Room/Chelan Library)
 Office location: 105 N. Emerson St., Suite 204
 www.LscChelan.org (509) 682-5953

• CHELAN

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 Worship 10 am
 120 E. Woodin Ave., PO Box 1226, Chelan, WA 98816
 509-682-2851
 www.standrews-chelan.org

• MANSON

MANSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 10:00 am Worship,
 Holy Communion the first Sunday of the month
 "Come as you are, all are welcome"
 687-3311, at the corner of Green and Boetzkes
 Sermon-by-Phone 509-423-7514 to hear
 our own Pastor Mike O'Neal deliver his weekly sermon

"With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible."

- Matthew 19:26

TO PLACE YOUR CHURCH IN THIS GUIDE: RUTH 509-682-2213 • ruthk@lakechelanmirror.com

WDFW seeks public comments on 2023-2024 hunting seasons

SUBMITTED BY WASHINGTON STATE DEPT. OF FISH & WILDLIFE

OLYMPIA – From Feb. 15 through March 27, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife will accept written public comments on proposed rule changes to regulations for 2023-2024 hunting seasons.

Proposals included in this round of rulemaking include those related to landowner

hunting permits, deer and elk special permits; hunting seasons, areas, and permit quotas for moose, bighorn sheep and mountain goat; and hunting seasons and regulations for migratory gamebirds.

“We encourage everyone interested in the upcoming hunting seasons to review the proposed changes and send us your feedback,” said Anis Auode, WDFW Game Division Manager.

The rulemaking proposals and comment submission forms are available on the WDFW website. Comments are accepted beginning Feb. 15. Written comments may also be submitted via postal mail to Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife - Wildlife Program, PO Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504.

WDFW will also accept public comments on the proposed recommendations at a public hearing on March 27.

Those interested in providing verbal comments during the virtual meeting should pre-register online. Pre-registration for public comment closes at 8 a.m. on March 26.

WDFW Director Kelly Susewind will issue a decision on the proposed recommendations shortly after the public hearing.

All members of the public are invited to share their perspectives and participate in WDFW public feedback

opportunities regardless of race, color, sex, age, national origin, language proficiency, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, status as a veteran, or basis of disability.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife works to preserve, protect, and perpetuate fish, wildlife, and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities.

Individuals who need to receive this information in an alternative format, language, or who need reasonable accommodations to participate in WDFW-sponsored public meetings or other activities may contact the Title VI/ADA Compliance Coordinator by phone at 360-902-2349, TTY (711), or email (Title6@dfw.wa.gov). For more information, see <https://wdfw.wa.gov/accessibility/requests-accommodation>.

THE WASHINGTON OUTDOORS REPORT

Outdoors roundup

BY JOHN KRUSE, THE WASHINGTON OUTDOOR REPORT

New WDFW Commissioners appointed

Governor Jay Inslee has appointed two new Fish and Wildlife Commissioners to replace outgoing commissioners Don McIsaac and Kim Thorburn. The outgoing commissioners were known to be supportive of hunting and the North American model of Conservation.

There was concern Governor Inslee was going to continue a trend of appointing commissioners who were not supportive of hunting or recreational fishing opportunities. Recent appointees torpedoed a long standing spring bear hunting season in our state despite the recommendation from WDFW staff that it go forward. Recently appointed commissioners have also made questionable statements and decisions about the Blue Mountain elk herd, which has been decimated by cougar predation.

Fortunately, the two new appointees to the commission have a solid background when it comes to sound fish and wildlife management. One of the appointees is Steve Parker.

He resides in Yakima County and spent 45 years working as a fisheries biologist for the Yakama Nation.

The other appointee is Woodrow “Woody” Myers, Jr. He lives in Spokane County and worked for 40 years as an ungulate research biologist for WDFW. Like Parker, he is now a retired biologist.

Pro hunting and fishing groups such as Backcountry Hunters and Anglers as well as Washingtonians for Wildlife Conservation both expressed support for the appointments of Parker and Myers to the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission.

Early season trout openers

Several lakes around Quincy, George and Pomeroy opened for trout fishing on March 1st but some of these lakes were partially or completely covered by ice on opening day.

Mike Schmuck is a WDFW Fisheries Biologist in Ephrata. He visited the Quincy Lakes on the opener and reported Burke Lake had some open water for fishing near the boat ramp. There was one boat in the open water and 25 shore anglers when he was there around 11 a.m. Schmuck said quite a few trout were caught from shore and anglers aver-



Courtesy John Kruse

Michelle Kruse with a Lahontan Cutthroat trout at Lake Lenore.

aged 2 ½ fish per angler. As for the size of the trout, Schmuck said catches ranged from 10 to 12-inch yearling fish as well as carryovers and even a couple of 21 to 22-inch trout.

Schmuck said Quincy Lake was completely frozen over. A few anglers were ice fishing but were not catching many fish. Heading south towards George, Schmuck said Caliche Lake near George was frozen but 17 anglers were fishing Martha Lake which was partially ice-free. Schmuck said the fishing was slow at Martha Lake but the trout caught were good sized, averaging 16 inches.

Other March 1 opening lakes included Lenice Lake east of

Beverly which was ice free. Fly fishing anglers were catching good numbers of trout there averaging 14 inches. Meanwhile, Lake Lenore north of Soap Lake was partially unfrozen. Schmuck said one angler fishing out of a small boat marked a lot of fish but only caught (and released) three Lahontan cutthroat trout.

Heading to the Tucannon Lakes in Southeast Washington, Paul Anderson at the Last Resort near Pomeroy said that in addition to the catchable rainbow trout normally planted, jumbo size trout were stocked as well in Watson (100), Rainbow (150), Spring (100) and Blue Lake (150). Anderson said that Spring

and Blue Lake were ice free for the March 1 opener. Rainbow Lake had a small amount of fishable open water available and Watson Lake was still frozen over. Anglers who stopped by or stayed at the resort reported having good success on opening day. Anderson said they do have vacancies available through the month of March. You can look into booking a stay at www.thelastresortrv.com.

Northern Pike netting schedule

Staci Lehman with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife reports, “Northern Pike suppression efforts in Long Lake (Lake Spokane), the Pend Oreille River, and Lake Roosevelt will kick off soon. This work generally takes place between March and June of each year when Northern Pike are staging to spawn.

WDFW will begin removals of Northern Pike at Lake Spokane in March, primarily in the upper half of the reservoir between the McLellan Conservation Area and Nine Mile Recreation Area. Efforts will shift to Lake Roosevelt in April as water temperatures increase. WDFW partners with the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation and the Spokane Tribe of Indians on Lake Roosevelt

and with the Kalispel Tribe on the Pend Oreille River to net and remove invasive Northern Pike.”

Lehman continues saying, “The Northern Pike is an apex predator with prolific spawning potential and a voracious appetite for fish, particularly soft rayed fish like trout and salmon. When introduced outside of their native range, they are capable of causing large-scale changes to fish communities, in some cases leading to elimination of entire species.

Efforts are focused on reducing impacts of invasive Northern Pike to resident fish populations and limiting the potential for downstream distribution into the anadromous zone of the Columbia River. Establishment of Northern Pike in the anadromous zone would put at risk the billions of dollars invested into the recovery of salmon and steelhead populations. More information on Northern Pike and reports on suppression efforts implemented since 2013 can be found on the WDFW website at <https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/02382>.”

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

Forest seeks public comments on proposal to balance bighorn sheep, domestic grazing needs

Scoping comment period now open

SUBMITTED BY DEBORAH KELLY, USFS

CENTRAL WASHINGTON - The Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest is reinitiating

scoping for an environmental impact statement (EIS) that would update the existing forest plans direction for the management of domestic grazing allotments.

Washington State has 17 bighorn sheep herds that inhabit grassy mountain slopes, canyonlands, and foothill

country in the central and eastern portions of the state. Ten of those herds utilize habitat within portions of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest (Forest).

Since the early 2000s, the Forest has been working to address the interaction between domestic sheep grazing

and bighorn sheep population viability on national forest system lands. The Forest published a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS in the Federal Register on May 17, 2019. The purpose for this action remains the same as described in 2019. The analysis will also address new concerns related to existing allotment management plans, evaluate site-specific conditions for each allotment relative to the risk of disease transmission between bighorn sheep and domestic livestock, and identify potential site-specific grazing opportunities which could be made available to existing sheep permittees on the Forest.

The revised proposed action would amend the Okanogan and Wenatchee Forest Plans to identify which existing grazing allotments are suitable or unsuitable for domestic sheep and goat grazing, and develop site-specific allotment management plans for grazing of domestic livestock, including sheep, goats, and cattle.

“Together with the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife and USDA Agricultural Research Ser-



Courtesy Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife. Two Bighorn sheep (Ovis canadensis) stand together.

vice, we are working to design a sustainable management approach for both grazing and wildlife,” said Forest Supervisor Kristin Bail. “This analysis will take a holistic and balanced approach to grazing and wildlife management across the Forest by considering social, economic, and natural resource issues.”

In accordance with federal regulations, comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received within 45

days of publication in the Federal Register. To submit comments, please visit the project comment page: <https://cara.fs2c.usda.gov/Public/CommentInput?Project=53257>

“We invite interested members of the public to get involved early on in this analysis and want to continue to build on early participation and collaboration efforts with the intent of gathering your input before a final decision is made,” said Bail. “If you had provided comments in the initial round of scoping in May 2019, those comments have been retained and are still valid, so there is no need to resubmit those letters.”

An online public information meeting is planned for March 14 from 6 - 7 p.m. PDT. For more information or instructions on how to join the public meeting visit the project page: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53257>; project background information, maps and other documents are also posted to the project page.

A draft Environmental Impact Statement is expected in December 2023. A 90-day formal comment period will follow.

For further information, please contact Environmental Coordinator Stacy Lundgren, at 509-470-4134 or stacy.lundgren@usda.gov.

Frosty says ...

Don't forget to renew your subscriptions this Winter!

There's something for everyone in the local newspaper

- Local news
- Local school news
- Local sports
- Local arts & entertainment
- Opinion & editorials
- Meeting notices
- Event notices
- Public & legal notices
- Outdoor activities
- Health tips
- Online Access for all newspapers
- Breaking News

Wenatchee Business Journal

Serving the North Central Washington Business Community for over 40 years!

- Business News - BNCW News
- Keeping Up With People
- Top Properties - Business Opinions

Not a subscriber? Call today to get your subscription started

Wenatchee Business Journal Subscription Rates for 12 months

\$25 1 year \$48 2 years - Chelan & Douglas Counties

\$29 1 year Outside Chelan/Douglas \$49 1 year Out of State

Community Newspaper Subscription Rates:

Print & Premium Online Access - In County - \$45 per year

ECHO RECORD MIRROR HERALD

Print Only - In County - \$40 per year

ECHO RECORD MIRROR HERALD

Online Only - In County - \$40 - E-Edition (Paper as printed)

ECHO RECORD MIRROR HERALD

Print Only - Out of County/In State - \$50 per year

ECHO RECORD MIRROR HERALD

Print Only - Out of State - \$52 per year

ECHO RECORD MIRROR HERALD

Out of State Premium/E-Edition Online - \$40 per year

Name of person ordering: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Send gift subscription to: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Payment information (pay by credit card or check):

Credit Card number: _____

Exp: _____ Visa Mastercard Discover AMEX

MAIL TO:
NCW Media Inc.,
 Attn: Circulation
 131 S. Apple Blossom Drive #109
 Chelan, WA 98816

OR CALL with your Card #
509-293-6780
EMAIL: circulation@lakechelanmirror.com

ONE YEAR 52 ISSUES
Call us today!
 509-293-6780

Check enclosed:

Call today and receive a

FREE SHOWER PACKAGE PLUS \$1600 OFF

SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB

1-888-920-4109

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In-Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445

FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT

Public Notices

February 13, 2023
 Contact: Greg Whitmore,
 Superintendent
 509-784-1800
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Director District Boundary
Changes Proposed

Entiat Washington – Every ten years, after each U.S. Census is completed, school districts must review the boundaries of their board of director district to ensure equitable geographic representation. Entiat School District is divided into 4 geographic regions or districts. Candidates for school board must run for the seat of the director district they live in. We also have one At-Large director that may live anywhere in the school district. By creating equal director districts, geographic diversity is ensured on the school board. Each position is elected by all district voters, so each of the five directors represents the entire district in their board actions. These boundaries are completely unrelated to school attendance boundaries: this process will not change any neighborhood school boundaries.

In 2021, the district contracted with Sammamish Data Systems to develop a proposal for new director district boundaries based on the latest census data. A presentation and public hearing on this proposal will be held at the March 29, 2023 school board meeting, which begins at 7 p.m. The first reading of the proposal is scheduled for the March 29 school board meeting. The second reading of the proposal and potential adoption of the proposal is scheduled for the April 26 school board meeting. Information on the proposed district boundary adjustments are also available on the district website, www.entiat.k12.wa.us. Published in the Lake Chelan Mirror March 8, 15, 2023. #5378

March 20-25 is National Poison Prevention week

In the United States, help for a poisoning emergency is a toll-free phone call away. In 2021, someone in the United States called a Poison Control center every 15 seconds. In 2021, 55 U.S. Poison Centers responded to over 2 million human poisonings. Over 90% of poisonings occurred at home, 75% were unintentional, and 41% involved children 5 years of age or younger.

Before a national toll-free phone number was established, poison control centers used local telephone numbers plus a state or region-wide toll-free phone number. In 2002, a national toll-free hotline was introduced, connecting callers to the nearest poison center. That same phone number is used today: 1-800-222-1222.

When working the night shift at my local hospital in the early 1980s, one of my responsibilities was answering the red poison control phone (yes, it really was red). The phone sat inside a small glassed-in booth in our basement-level pharmacy. During the week, a trained information specialist handled incoming calls and did poison prevention outreach. After 5 p.m., the emergency room staff answered incoming calls during evening



hours. At 11 p.m., the phone was switched back to the red phone in the pharmacy, and the night shift pharmacist answered it.

The pharmacists answering the phone were trained to identify the source of the exposure and look up the instructions required for managing the event. Responsible for collecting information on each call, we documented the needed details on a “bubble sheet” scanned into a national database, much like a mail-in voting ballot.

Back then, a microfiche reader helped us find the information needed to rapidly identify the offending substance and instruct callers on the most appropriate treatment. Rapid access to this vital information helped prevent additional and more expensive care at a hospital or urgent care center. Today’s Poison Centers access this essential data online.

According to a report by the Lewin Group to deter-

mine the value of poison control services, every \$1 spent on poison center services saves approximately \$13 by decreasing direct medical costs from avoiding a visit to the ER, having a shorter stay in the hospital, or experiencing fewer lost workdays.

Every year, the third week of March is National Poison Prevention Week, one of the longest continuous health and safety programs in the United States. It’s also one of the most cost-effective: today’s 55 poison centers around the country save over \$1.8 billion yearly in reduced direct medical costs, lost work, and productivity.

According to the American Association of Poison Control Centers, poisoning is the leading cause of unintentional injury-related deaths and the third leading cause of unintended hospitalizations.

In 1992, Yakima Valley Memorial Hospital was one of 4 hospitals in Washington State hosting a poison cen-

ter, with St. Luke’s Hospital in Spokane, Mary Bridge Children’s Hospital in Tacoma, and Children’s Hospital in Seattle as the other Poison centers. Due to funding issues, later that year, the Washington State legislature voted to consolidate the 4 centers into one, and by 1995 the transition to the current Washington Poison Center was complete.

Many Poison centers were initially established to inform and support pediatricians and emergency room physicians faced with child poisonings, such as swallowing a toxic household chemical or prescription medication.

One of the most visible campaigns to warn children about dangerous substances is the lime green face of Mr. Yuk.

Mr. Yuk was created in 1971 by the Pittsburgh Poison Center, based at Children’s Hospital in Pittsburgh. In the early 1970s, the Poison Center wanted to use a symbol to warn children of dangerous substances that should NOT be eaten.

For adults, a skull and crossbones are warning symbols. But most children see a skull over an “X” made up of crossed bones and think about pirates and adventure.

Several professional sports teams even use a skull and crossbones for their logo.

The Pittsburgh Poison Center sought a symbol that would make a child not want to play or interact with the container it was attached to. They showed 3 different characters to groups of young children: a red stop sign, a black skull and crossbones, and a green frowning circular face.

The children weren’t scared off by the skull with the crossed bones or by the red stop sign. They DID avoid playing with the container with a green frowning face. When asked why, one child said it looked “Yucky,” and Mr. Yuk was born.

In 1973, the Poison Center at Children’s Hospital in Seattle was the first outside of Pittsburgh to adopt Mr. Yuk as its poison warning symbol.

Dr. Louise Achey, Doctor of Pharmacy, is a 44-year veteran of pharmacology and author of Why Dogs Can't Eat Chocolate: How Medicines Work and How YOU Can Take Them Safely. Get clear answers to your medication questions at her website and blog, TheMedicationInsider.com. ©2023 Louise Achey

Rep. Schrier introduces bipartisan bill to improve rural health care access

SUBMITTED BY ELIZABETH CARLSON, OFFICE OF REP. SCHRIER



WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Representative Kim Schrier, M.D. (WA-08) recently introduced the Rural Physician Workforce Production Act. This bipartisan bill aims to improve access to health care for rural Americans by increasing the number of physicians in their area.

Specifically, this bill provides additional funding to hospitals to incentivize medical residents to train and practice in rural areas. The funding comes through Medicare and addresses some of the financial challenges that often prevent physicians from practicing in rural communities.

“As a doctor, I understand the importance of being able to access timely care. In many parts of the 8th District, residents need to drive a long distance to visit their doctor,” said Rep. Schrier, M.D. “That’s why I am glad to be introducing this commonsense, bipartisan legislation to increase the number of health care providers in rural areas and alleviate physician shortages. This is an important step to increasing health care access for all 8th District residents.”

The 8th District is nearly 10,000 square miles, with many residents living in rural areas, often a significant distance

away from the nearest physician. This is a common challenge for rural Americans. Lack of access to proper health care has dire consequences. The Rural Physician Workforce Production Act works towards fixing this problem.

“Rural areas suffer disproportionately from physician shortages,” said Dr. Keri Bergeson, M.D., who is the site training director for the family medicine residency rural program at Columbia Valley Community Health. “The data is clear that physicians tend to live and work near where they train. In order to improve physician access for rural areas, we need to train physicians in rural areas. This bill would allow fair and equitable funding for rural sites to do just that.”

This bill is supported by a coalition of medical organizations including the American Academy of Family Physicians, American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians, the National Rural Health Association, and many more. Additionally, Congresswoman Schrier is joined in introduc-

ing the bill by fellow U.S. Representatives Harshbarger (R-TN), Cuellar (D-TX), and Bacon (R-NE).

“The shortage of primary care physicians across the country, particularly in rural areas, must be addressed. That’s why the AAFP is pleased to endorse the Rural Physician Workforce Production Act, which will take concrete action to support rural residency training and alleviate physician shortages in rural communities. This legislation addresses health inequities by strengthening the physician workforce in communities that desperately need more physicians and would provide much needed federal support to incentivize residents to train in rural areas. This bill is a critical step toward stemming our national physician workforce shortage and ensuring patients have equitable access to timely and comprehensive care,” Tochi Iroku-Malize, MD, MPH, MBA, FAAFP, President, American Academy of Family Physicians.

“Many osteopathic family

physicians serve as the sole access point for critical health care services in the rural communities they serve, and they witness firsthand the challenges that rural Americans face in obtaining primary care services. We are grateful that Representatives Harshbarger and Schrier are leading the effort to increase access to primary care services in rural areas by introducing the Rural Physician Workforce Production Act of 2023 in the House. This legislation is essential in resolving the geographic maldistribution of

primary care physicians by providing equitable access to care for patients in all areas of the country,” Bruce

R. Williams, DO, FACOPF, President, American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians.

The Contract

Unveiling the healing power of forgiveness

A novel by local writer
William E. Forhan.

Nobel Prize winning author Gabriel García Márquez was quoted as saying, “All human beings have three lives, public, private and secret.”

In our modern world of the Internet search engines and DNA testing, keeping our private and secret lives separate is increasingly difficult. Sometimes they can come crashing in on our public lives when we least expect it.

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

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

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

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

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13					14			15			
16					17			18			
19				20		21	22				
23											
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34		
35		36		37		38		39			
40				41		42		43			
44			45		46			47			
48				49	50			51		52	
53				54		55		56			
57	58	59			60			61	62	63	
64				65	66			67			
68				69		70					
71						72		73			

THEME: THE OSCARS

- ACROSS
1. "In the Hall of the Mountain King" composer Edvard _____
 6. Marlboro debris
 9. "Academy Award ceremony audience sound"
 13. Botch
 14. Sigma _____ fraternity
 15. Ten million, in India
 16. Embryo sacs
 17. Literary "even"
 18. Tax evader's fear
 19. "Most nominated streamer in this year's Oscars"
 21. "Most-nominated Black actor in Oscar history"
 23. Opposite of yang
 24. Lard cousin
 25. "Milk _____ movie snack"
 28. Poetic source of Norse mythology
 30. 2020 demographic event
 35. Arrival times, acronym
 37. Baseball points
 39. Camelot to King Arthur
 40. Actress Campbell
 41. "Where Oscar-winner "Slumdog Millionaire" was set"
 43. Not in favor
 44. "What Halle Berry did when she won an Oscar in 2002"
 46. Jet black
 48. Paid killers (2 words)
 50. Upon
 52. Rally repeater
 53. Sweet-talk
 55. Not outs
 57. "Total Oscar nominations for "The Power of the Dog"
 60. "One of this year's Oscar hosts"
 64. Exotic juice flavor
 65. "Jamie Foxx won an Oscar in 2005 for this flick"
 67. Bizet's "Carmen," e.g.
 68. Off kilter
 69. "1942's "Holiday _____," Oscar winner
 70. Admit (2 words)
 71. Afterward

DOWN

1. J. Edgar Hoover's man
2. Ice on a window
3. Antonym of "is"
4. Enlighten
5. Puck stopper
6. Kilimanjaro top, e.g.
7. Pronoun
8. Hinduism follower
9. "Parallel Mothers" nominee Penelope
10. Prospector's mother
11. Seed coat
12. Lassie, e.g.
15. Type of horse gait
20. Lemur from Madagascar
22. European Economic Community
24. Playground attraction
25. "Beifast" nominee, "Shakespeare in Love" winner
26. First cradles
27. Lifeboat support
29. "Denis Villeneuve's sci-fi nominee"
31. Type of tide
32. Not so crazy
33. Extremist
34. "King Richard" nominee, once a fresh prince
36. Give an impression
38. Land of Israel
42. Shenanigan
45. Remove claws
49. Presidential election mo.
51. Waiting on the phone (2 words)
54. Eagle's nest
56. Like the Incredibles
57. Backside
58. Boat track
59. Not odd
60. Update, as in a FitBit
61. Formerly Facebook
62. "Julia Robert's 2001 Oscar-winning role"
63. Colonel or captain
64. Gangster's gun
66. _____ eater or _____ hill

SUDOKU PUZZLE

SUDOKU

GRAND ALASKAN CRUISE & TOUR

12 days, departs May - Sep 2022

VACATIONS

promo code N7017

1-855-208-9533

FROM \$1,949

1,699

FREE ONBOARD CREDIT

		4			5			1		
		6						7		8
		8	2	3						
		2			9			7		6
				5	1					
								4	1	9
7										
		9							5	
		6			8				3	

© StatePoint Media
 Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

BRING EVERYTHING YOU LOVE TOGETHER!

\$69.99

2-YEAR TV PRICE GUARANTEE

190 CHANNELS

CALL TODAY - For \$100 Gift Card

1-888-416-7103

Long-term human trafficking investigation results in five search warrants, arrest warrants issued

SUBMITTED BY COLUMBIA RIVER DRUG TASK FORCE

WENATCHEE - The Columbia River Drug Task Force (CRDTF) reports a long-term human trafficking investigation that has resulted in the service of five search warrants at various locations across the state. In 2022, CRDTF detectives

were made aware of two local massage parlors which were a front for prostitution. Over the course of the investigation, two suspects were identified as a part



Courtesy CRDTF

of this human trafficking organization and warrants were issued for their arrest. The charges include: leading organized crime, promoting

prostitution, and money laundering. These individuals have been identified as 60-year-old Linhui Yan and 43-year-old Yan Yang out of Tacoma.

On March 1, CRDTF detectives led a joint operation involving the Chelan County Sheriff's Office, Douglas County Sheriff's Office, Wenatchee Police Department, East Wenatchee Police

Department, Pierce County Sheriff's Department, Kennewick Police Department, South Sound Gang Task Force, Department of Corrections, Federal Bureau of Investigation and Homeland Security.

Search warrants were served at the following locations: 400 block of North Mis-

sion Street in Wenatchee, 300 block of North Chelan Avenue in Wenatchee, 6200 block of Clearwater in Kennewick, 3600 block of Tyler Street in Tacoma, and 2000 block of 1022nd Street in Tacoma.

This is an ongoing investigation, additional details will be released when available.

A proud history of clean energy leadership continues

BY SENATOR BRAD HAWKINS

OLYMPIA - It has been exciting to read about the progress Douglas County PUD has been making toward its Wells Hydrogen Project and the possibilities of our region accessing federal funds under the Department of Energy's regional hydrogen hubs initiative. While some people in our state may just be beginning to hear about the potential benefits of renewable hydrogen, local utility officials and I have been proudly pushing the potential benefits of renewable hydrogen for several years.

Back in 2019, I partnered with Douglas County PUD to sponsor and pass my Senate Bill 5588 to authorize public utility districts to produce and sell renewable hydrogen. Back then, I had to educate myself and my colleagues on renewable hydrogen and how it could benefit us all. In short,

hydrogen (H2) is a colorless and odorless gas that can be created from a process that uses electricity to separate hydrogen and oxygen molecules in water. I knew gaining a new "authority" for PUDs to produce and distribute hydrogen wasn't going to be easy.

I worked closely that year with Douglas County PUD because of their interest in using surplus hydropower to produce hydrogen. After months of hard work by everyone involved and lots of bipartisan support, Senate Bill 5588 eventually passed to allow for the production and sale of PUD "renewable hydrogen," which is defined as hydrogen created from an emissions-free electricity source. The Governor signed the bill in April 2019. Fast forward a few years and following COVID delays, renewable hydrogen will soon be developed in Douglas County.

This new authority will provide our hydroelectric facilities with a new way to address an ever-increasing challenge. With the expansion of wind and solar generation across many western states, the Pacific Northwest's electric grid experiences periods of surplus power generation in the spring. During springtime snow melt, hydropower generation is abundant because of high flows in the Columbia River. Wind and solar generation are often strong in the spring as well.

Not generating power by spilling excess water through our dams can adversely impact fish and securing buyers for our hydropower when supply exceeds demand can be financially ineffective and challenging. Using surplus hydropower electricity (renewable hydropower) to produce "renewable hydrogen" is an exciting opportunity because

it can be both environmentally and economically beneficial. If power demand is low but water flows are high, the PUD can produce hydrogen rather than just spilling the water and harming fish. Less water spilled means more financial value from the water itself. As owners of the PUDs, anything that benefits a PUD will ultimately help its customers, so it's a win-win.

Renewable hydrogen is a cleaner version than hydrogen produced in most parts of the world because hydropower is a non-emitting electricity source. Hydrogen can serve many purposes, but one of its uses is clean fuel for vehicles. Hydrogen-based vehicles, similar to plug-in electric vehicles, produce zero greenhouse gas emissions. Plug-in electric vehicles, like Teslas, have a huge headstart over hydrogen vehicles. It could be that hydrogen as vehicle fuel may be

better suited for heavier-duty commercial vehicles, like utility rigs and semi-trucks, but it certainly could have a key role in our future zero-emissions transportation system.

In 2021, two years following the passage of my Senate Bill 5588 for PUD hydrogen, I sponsored and passed Senate Bill 5000 to extend sales tax incentives to hydrogen vehicles similar to our existing incentives for plug-in electric vehicles. That same session - continuing the partnership with Douglas PUD and other officials - I sponsored a transportation budget item to fund the state's first combo fast-charging electric vehicle and hydrogen fueling station. It will soon be located in East Wenatchee.

Creating clean fuel from our surplus hydropower and actually fueling vehicles locally will be quite exciting. If the state invests in hydrogen fuel-

ing stations at our ports, we'll be able to haul the world's best apples from Wenatchee to Seattle on zero-emissions hydrogen semi-trucks, refueling at the port in just five minutes before the return trip. If the west coast continues to build fueling stations along its interstates, we'll likely be able to travel across multiple states. If the Pacific Northwest ultimately becomes a "hydrogen hub," anything is possible.

Renewable hydrogen has certainly gained incredible interest - locally and nationally - in recent years. The Washington State Legislature is now pursuing clean hydrogen expansion in earnest. We don't want to brag, but it seems like, once again, the utilities in North Central Washington are way ahead of the curve on clean energy. This is something to be proud of.

Masking requirements in healthcare, long-term care, and correctional facilities to end April 3

COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and deaths continue downward trend nationwide

SUBMITTED BY WASHINGTON STATE DEPT. OF HEALTH

OLYMPIA -- Effective April 3, the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) will end the Secretary of

Health Mask Order, which currently requires universal masking in healthcare, long-term care, and adult correctional facilities for people age 5 and older.

In Washington, COVID-19, RSV, and influenza disease rates and hospitalizations have continued to decline since the end of last year. The end of Washington's universal masking requirements aligns with similar announcement made today by the state of Oregon.

"Masks have been - and

will continue to be - an important tool, along with vaccinations, to keep people healthy and safe," said Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH, Secretary of Health. "We are thankful for our health and long-term care providers, staff members, patients, and all Washingtonians, for following the important public health measures put in place during the pandemic to protect one another."

DOH infection prevention and control guidance continues to recommend masks for

patients, healthcare providers, and visitors in healthcare settings. Licensed healthcare facilities are required to have infection prevention policies and programs consistent with CDC guidance.

Several worker protection requirements enforced by the state's Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) remain in effect, including that employees and contractors may choose to use facemasks or other personal protective equipment (PPE) on the job without employer retaliation.

Additionally, under the state Health Emergency Labor Standards Act (HELSEA) rules, several key worker protections remain in place until the federal pandemic response declaration ends May 11.

The current Secretary of Health Mask Order will remain in place until 11:59pm on April 2. Local or tribal governments, facilities, and providers may choose to continue to require masks in these or other settings.

DOH will continue to issue and update COVID preven-

tion guidance for the public and key sectors, including the use of masks, vaccines, ventilation, and other preventive measures to inform individuals, families, communities, and health leaders on how to stay healthier from COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses.

The DOH website is your source for a healthy dose of information. Find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. Sign up for the DOH blog, Public Health Connection.

Confluence Health announces updates to Employment Vaccination Policy

WENATCHEE - Confluence Health has announced an update to its employment vaccination policy. Starting March 1, Confluence Health Health began allowing staff who were unable to work onsite due to not having received the initial COVID-19 vaccination series to again work onsite at Confluence Health facilities after meeting certain requirements.

"This change in policy reflects our shift in status within the wider pandemic and the needs of our communities," commented Dr. Jason Lake, chief medical officer of Confluence Health. "While vaccinations continue to be vital in our ability to address the needs of public health, the transition to a post-pandemic world allows us greater flexibility in requirements moving forward."

Under previous policy, staff who had not received their initial COVID-19 vaccination series were not able to work onsite due to Washington State COVID-19 mandates

and policy requirements from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Changes in requirements now allow for greater flexibility in policies and more accommodation options for exempted individuals.

The update to Confluence Health employment vaccination policy allows staff who received a religious and/or medical accommodation and currently work remotely to come onsite for meetings and social events, and, where appropriate and where space is available, to return to onsite work.

Additionally, Confluence Health welcomes applications from prospective and former employees who may need religious and/or medical exemptions to apply for open positions. All standard vaccinations, including the COVID-19 initial series, are still required for employees unless they have an approved medical and/or religious exemption and appropriate accommodation can be made.

"We are pleased to be able to make these updates to our employment vaccination policies," stated Dr. Andrew Jones, chief executive officer of Confluence Health. "As we make this important transition, we are thankful to our staff, providers, patients, and our wider communities for their continued efforts to support our work to promote public health."

About Confluence Health: Confluence Health serves the

largest geographic region of any healthcare system in Washington State, covering over 12,000 square miles of Okanogan, Grant, Douglas, and Chelan counties. Confluence is one of only two locally-lead healthcare systems in the state with the purpose of maintaining availability and access to high-quality, cost-effective healthcare services for North Central Washington. The Confluence Health Board

of Directors provides governance for Confluence Health, the Clinic, Central Washington Hospital, and Wenatchee

Valley Hospital, and includes nine community board members and six physician board members.