

**Steve Patonai hired
as LCCHC
interim CEO**
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MARCH 21, 2018 • VOLUME 127 No. 12

YOUR BEST SOURCE FOR LAKE CHELAN & ENTIAT VALLEY NEWS

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Hundred's march wearin' the green



Photos by Erin Rossell

St. Patrick's Day in the Lake Chelan Valley was celebrated in many ways on Saturday, March 17. But the jewel of St. Patrick's Day, in Chelan was the Wayne Kelly Memorial Top Dog Parade. Kilts, kids, adults, pups and more clad in green all marched through downtown. Other activities were the Shamrock Shuffle, sponsored by the Lake Chelan Lions Club, Taste of the Irish, presented by Historic Downtown Chelan; Manson hosted a Taste Manson event and Meat in the Street festivities. The day ended with the Chelan Senior Centers corned beef and cabbage dinner. See more photos on page 3 and at www.lakechelanmirror.com



Entiat Mayor Vradenburg passes down gavel

Recognized for over a decade of dedication and service to the community

BY ERIN ROSSELL, STAFF WRITER

ENTIAT - Thursday, March 8 marked the last day of office for Mayor Keith Vradenburg, as he stepped down from his mayoral position and handed the gavel to Councilman John Alt, who will serve as Mayor Pro-tem.

Vradenburg made the decision to step down from office after over 10 years of service to the City of Entiat due to health reasons, said City Code Enforcer Jim Brooks. Community Development Director RJ Lott presented a plaque to Vradenburg for his dedication and service to the city for over a decade.

Alt will continue to perform the Mayoral duties through the end of Vradenburg's re-



Keith Vradenburg

maining term, which creates an open seat on council. If you are interested in filling the void councilmember role, contact the City of Entiat at 509-784-1500 or stop by at 14070 Kinzel St., Entiat.

Chelan Fire and Rescue 7 Commissioner Peters vacates seat

Provides letter outlining unresolved issues leading to decision

BY ERIN ROSSELL, STAFF WRITER

CHELAN - Chelan Fire and Rescue 7 Commissioner Tom Peters made public his decision on turning in his resignation as fire commissioner after over four years of service, which he submitted Monday, March 12. In a two-page letter, Peters

expressed his frustration with several aspects of the duties of a commissioner, as well as policies in place that he felt were restrictive in the board's ability to communicate and strategize without constantly being in the public eye, he explained. "At the outset of my term," he began in his explanatory letter, "I said I would serve as long as I continued to help improve Chelan Fire and Rescue (CFR). After lengthy consideration, I concluded I was no longer able to do so."

Peters continued to express



Tom Peters

his opinion and support of each individual through CFR, and their mission, which states is "to protect the lives and property of the citizens and visitors in our district and community through emergency response, education and prevention," he then supplied, "this has not changed."

In his letter of resignation, Peters outlined and explained four main factors that swayed his decision. The first of these explained Washington State's Open Public Meeting Act, which

SEE VACATES ON PAGE 2

School Safety series in upcoming editions

It takes a village to raise a child

BY ERIN ROSSELL, STAFF WRITER

CHELAN/MANSON/ENTIAT - "It takes a village to raise a child."

Five days a week, parents prepare their children for a day full of education, friendship and fun. Or so we would all like to believe.

Truth be told, the educational system, students and parents are all heading into unfamiliar territory that has proved to have deadly consequences for too many of the young lives lost to date.

Wednesday, March 14, exactly one month after the Parkland, FL shooting that resulted in 17 dead, students across the nation took a stand against policies, bullying and school shooters by conducting a silent walk-out. With the nation on the brink of a crisis, Lake Chelan Mirror staff will be delving into the national problem of school shootings, what our local school systems and communities are doing to protect today's youth from being part of it, and commonly discussed societal problems believed to be part of the trag-

edies.

Pick up the next issue of the Lake Chelan Mirror to follow our "School Safety" series from the beginning.



Photo by RuthEdna Keys
Chelan Middle and High School students marched to downtown's core with signs against the current surge in student violence.



Photo by Camryn Rossell, Manson Middle School
Middle and high school students at Manson Secondary collectively set down their work and walked out of their classrooms, Wednesday, March 14, gathering at the entrance to the school for 17 minutes of silence for the victims of the Parkland, FL school shootings.

Chelan County PUD gives educational refresher presentation

Public comments on advanced meters heard by PUD

BY ERIN ROSSELL, STAFF WRITER

CHELAN - Finding an empty seat inside council chambers was challenging during the regular council meeting, Tuesday, March 13. Community attendance is not a rarity for the meetings, however on this night, there was a significant increase in attendance due to an educational presentation for new councilmembers and staff given by Chelan County PUD for the mayor and councilmembers. "What we are going to have," said Mayor Mike Cooney, "is

a dialogue, and we're going to keep it a 'smart' dialogue," he punned while explaining the expectations from the dialogue segment.

John Stoll, managing director of customer utilities for Chelan PUD, led listeners through an update on the advanced "smart" two-way meters to be installed on residences within the next two years.

"There's lots of elements to these," began Stoll, "that we find very attractive and we see benefits for our customers." He explained that, due to the low



John Stoll, managing director of customer utilities for Chelan PUD

energy cost in the area, there is a lot of power being used, as virtually every home and business in the area is electrically powered. The two-way advanced meters will increase reliability for customers as well, he expressed, "we strive for always being reliable in Chelan County," he stated, "but there's always room for improvement. Especially in restorations." The two-way meters allow the PUD to see outages in near real-time, he expressed, allowing for

SEE METERS ON PAGE 2

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VACATES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

allows all commentary to be made available to the public, regardless of the discretion of delegating authorities. "As a result," he explained, "commissioners are forced to limit all discussions with fellow commissioners to public meetings under scrutiny of the public and the media with every word open to interpretation and potential legal scrutiny ... sensitive and candid discourse among commissioners in confidence is necessary at times to produce quick, effective decisions about services that have real life and death consequences." Interpretation of circumstances is not an unusual occurrence and is frequently seen in what's commonly referred to as "fake news," which misconstrues information without presentation all the facts behind situations or statements.
Peters continues onto his sec-

METERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

quicker power restoration times for customers. The meters also improve safety with the ability to detect abnormal conditions, accuracy with increased meter-read accuracy and financially but assisting in the reduction of future cost pressures, he explained. "This has a positive return on investment," he explained, "so this will help keep the rate pressure down, help keep the rates we have as low as possible."

Customer benefits, as Stoll explained, include easy energy management, which provides customers the ability to understand what's going on with their energy. "It's very common," he stated, "you may go from a bill of \$50 one month, then turn around in the winter and it goes to \$300, and customers want to know why. The ability to show things correlated to their

ond reasoning, which discusses budgetary items and his frustration with the restrictive nature between the difference of funds needed and funds received. "The public cannot expect any organization to function on a budget which, by law, is only allowed to increase one percent per year," he voiced, "despite inflation rising at higher rates." He explained further that he cannot recall ever seeing wages and benefits grow by one percent or less, more often than not, he explained, it's been three percent or more. "People are the single most important and most expensive asset of Chelan Fire and Rescue," he emphasized, "it is unrealistic to expect the department to survive on an increase of one percent per year. Many people in Chelan have voiced that they expect the same level of service from the fire department over time," he added, "with no additional increase in revenues. This simply does not work."
By law, Washington State

heating bills, really gives them some information it a quick time frame."

"Issues that we've heard, there was some pretty vocal folks that were concerned on the health," supplied Ray Potter with Chelan County PUD in response to community feedback, "it's really important that everybody understands exactly what you're talking about ... we need to make sure that we're all talking the same language." He continued by explaining that Electromagnetic Field (EMF) is a "product of electricity," then emphasizing, "there's no way to get away from that ... no matter what meter you use, they all emit the same amount of EMF, and the strength of that EMF is all relevant to the level of power that you're using ... when it comes to EMF, there's no way around that without cutting out electricity"

Stoll, returning to the presentation, began discussing another voiced concern from the community, regarding the

limits the revenue sources for fire departments, Peters began leading into his third deciding factor. CFR's is heavily dependent on property taxes, he conveyed adding that the department's income is occasionally supplemented by federal grants as well, which he described as "unpredictable." After researching the dramatic population increase from 7,500 to nearly 2 million between May and October, he began the search for taxation methods the district could potentially use during the highly-populated season. "After researching this, I have found no practical way for our district to tax these visitors to help pay for services they may receive while they are here," he described, "nor does our district appear to have any practical way to tax businesses that benefit from visitors." He revealed his opinion that the given situation is "an unsustainable situation," asserting that he does not "condone, nor could (he) support the reliance

safety of the frequencies transmitted by the two-way meters. Smart meters have been compared to cell phones for some time, he explained, adding that, "15 minutes on your cell phone equates to standing about one foot in front of a smart meter for 375 years straight." He then led into the concern that the meters would be radiating and emitting at all times. "Typically, I've heard from 45 seconds to two minutes a day is what they're transmitting," he said, "that's quite a bit lower than a cell phone. There's been lots of studies," he added, "people need to come to their own conclusions." Community member Robin Casal input her opinion on the presence of the EMF pulsing, "there's going to be other houses around that will be pulsing around also, so one house could be pulsing at one time and another house could be pulsing at another time, so there will be, on the streets of Chelan, continuous pulsing." Stoll, thanking Casal for her

on a single primary source of revenue that promotes this outcome."

In his last explanatory paragraph, Peters spoke to Chelan Fire and Rescue Community Task Force's statement in its final report that "tax initiative, burgeoning personnel/operational costs for providing services and increased demands for services have outstripped the ability to effectively fund most fire departments at their current level," he reiterated, "yet, I have not seen effective plans from the department to contain substantive means to cut costs in the future," he stated. Instead of listening to the department's volunteer members and the department working in unity to find long-term solutions for the funding issues, he proceeded to explain, "the answer to increased demands is always the same old model I've heard since I've been here: more paid staff, more money and more taxes." He concluded by stating that the hospital board had an opportuni-

ty to collaborate its Emergency Medical Services (EMS) with the department's fire services, however, he said, "they deliberately failed to engage actively because the Manson Fire District would not join the conversation."

Finalizing his statements, Peters stated, "I have come to understand that Washington State, the residents of the Lake Chelan area, and Chelan Fire and Rescue all have set unrealistic expectations that cannot be met using the current system of governance and taxation. Compromise on all fronts will be required to arrive at a system that does work."

Fire Chief Tim Lemon briefly expressed that, as a district, they support Peters in his decision, but could not provide further comment at that time. Peters was not able to be reached at the time of print, however as more information uncovers you can count on the Lake Chelan Mirror staff to keep you updated.

For Peters' full later, see page 5 under "Letters to the Editor."



Robin Casal

comment, explained that that's information that can be pulled from studies as well. "I'm kind of a skeptic," he stated, "so, I especially appreciate the comments we received from this group (referring to the Smart Meter Awareness Group)."

After the PUD's presentation, the floor was opened up for community comment. Chelan resident and Smart Meter Awareness Group member Robin Casal was first to the podium. "They are not considering the accumulation factor," she stated, referencing the comparison of a smart meter to a

cell phone. "we cannot simply gloss over the fact that the continued and increased exposure is a different category." Addressed the concern of the placement of the meters on schools, hospitals etc. "When are we going to say no to these radiating devices? Yes, they save time, but the cost is our health ... the council is in fear of jeopardizing its relationship with the PUD," she voiced, "but what about your sworn oath to protect your community." Mayor Cooney, as well as City Attorney Quentin Batjer, replied to Casal, as well as other commentary from Awareness Group meters and their request for the city as a whole to opt out of the program. However, Cooney expressed and Batjer confirmed, that the PUD's advanced meter placement is an issue between the provider (Chelan County PUD) and the customer (residences), not a city-wide contract. The City has the ability to opt out for individual businesses owned by the City, they explained, but does not have the ability to interfere in a provider-customer issue like the advanced meters.

Steve Patonai hired as LCCHC interim CEO

SUBMITTED BY CELESTE THOMAS, LCCHC



Steve Patonai

CHELAN - Steve Patonai, who has more than 25 years of senior healthcare executive experience, will start as interim CEO at Lake Chelan Community Hospital & Clinics (LCCHC) Monday, March 19. He replaces LCCHC CEO Kevin Abel, who is leaving this month for a new CEO position with North Valley Hospital in Whitefish, Montana. Patonai will serve as CEO while the LCCHC Board looks for a permanent CEO to replace Abel.

Patonai comes from Houston, TX, where he worked as CEO for two major hospitals. His experience also includes executive experience in a variety of hospitals, from smaller organizations to tertiary medical centers, providing him with a diverse wealth of expertise, including hospital operations, physician recruitment and hospital construction.

"We are very pleased to have Steve on board as our interim," said Mary Signorelli, LCCHC Board chair. "We look forward to working with him on all of the projects we have begun and feel confident that he will serve our community very well."

Patonai, who began his medical career as a pharmacist, has a personal interest in local healthcare. He and his wife

Sharon own property in the valley and are currently building their retirement home near Rocky Point. He first visited Chelan when working as CEO of Auburn Regional Medical Center outside Seattle more than 15 years ago.

"Lake Chelan Hospital is very well positioned," he said, "and Kevin Abel has done a great job. With the new hospital building project, it's an exciting time to be part of local healthcare, and I hope I can have a positive impact."

Patonai looks forward to working in a smaller hospital where he can interact more closely with staff and patients. "It gives me an opportunity to return to the roots of why I got into healthcare in the first place," he said, "to help people."

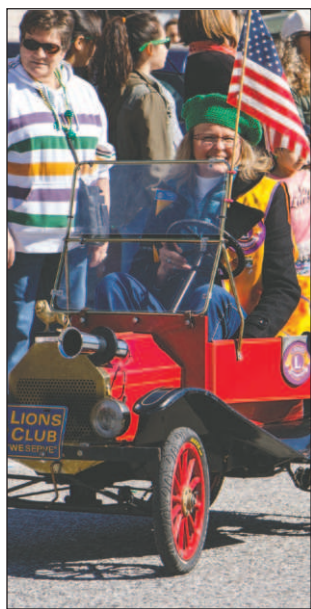
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Top Dog Parade turns downtown Chelan green



Photos by Erin Rossell
The jewel of St. Patrick's Day, on Saturday, March 17 in Chelan was the Wayne Kelly Memorial Top Dog Parade. Kilts, kids, adults, pups and more clad in green all marched through downtown.




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Photos by Erin Rossell

Pitcher Connor Wilson launches a pitch passed a Bulldog batter. The Goats and Bulldogs went on to split the double-header victory after a full day of emotion and tension

Goats' baseball split victory in league opener

By ERIN ROSSELL, STAFF WRITER

CHELAN – Goats baseball saw emotional peaks and valleys in the hosted double-header against Okanogan Bulldogs, Saturday, March 17 at Mountain Goat Field.

The Caribou Trail League (CTL) opener and near perfect baseball weather brought fans to the field to enjoy and support our Goat athletics. The double-header, however, proved to be anything but predictable as the Goats and Bulldogs went head-to-head.

In the impassioned game of baseball, emotions run high as each team battles at the plate and on the field. Beginning the first of the two games and earning the first run for the Goats of the day was a RBI double by Colt Corrigan,

resulting in a score for Gage Estes and a one to zero lead for the Goats. "In the top of the second," said Goats Head Coach Dana Papasadero, "the Bulldogs capitalized on four Goat errors, scoring three unearned runs." The bottom of the fifth inning, he explained, "the Goats erupted for three runs highlighted by Bryson Darlington's two RBI doubles and Breckin Sporseen adding another RBI double to take the lead for good." Chelan maintained the lead and ended the first game with a 4-3 victory.

The second game showed to be a teeter-totter of emotions and plays. Just after the Goats earned the first score of the final game, tensions rose high as a collision at home plate resulted in two ejections, one for the Goats and the other

for the Bulldogs. At the same timeframe, as the ejections were being settled, the teams saw a 45-minute delay, as a Bulldog collision with the fencing rail resulting in transportation to Lake Chelan Community Hospital for evaluation. "A long homerun by Breckin Sporseen to left (field)," summoned up Papasadero, "and a hard-hit RBI double down the left field by Freshman Drake Bird to tie the score in the bottom of the seventh (inning) to force extra innings." The Goats went on to surrender four runs in the eighth inning and weren't able to recover, he said, resulting in a Bulldog victory with a final score of 3-7.

Chelan Goats baseball will be on the road for their next CTL match-up against the Cashmere Bulldogs, Saturday, March 24.

Manson Trojans hosted Lake Roosevelt Raiders for double-header Trojans' baseball splits league opener victory



Photos by Erin Rossell

Pitcher Jose Pascasio attempts to throw out a Raider's runner with the assistance of first baseman Marcus Bernardo. The Trojans hosted the Lake Roosevelt Raiders in a league-opener double-header, Saturday, March 17 at Singleton Fields in Manson.

Third-baseman Parker Schoenwald tags out a Raider's runner attempting to steal third. The Trojans split victory with the Raiders with final scores of 8-5 and 2-6.



Tigers sent home defeated Goats' soccer hosts Tonasket Tigers

ABOVE: Jonathan Ramirez (middle) stops a Tiger's down-field run with the assistance of Luis Mendez (left) during the match against Tonasket, Thursday, March 15 at Mountain Goat Fields.

RIGHT: Dawson Roberts keeps a step ahead of his Tiger opponent while preparing to pass up-field in an attempted score. The Goats moved on to defeat the Tigers 3-1.

Photos by Erin Rossell



Lady Goats face double-defeat in non-league match-ups



Photos by Erin Rossell

Third-baseman Taylor Boykin tags the bag seconds prior to the return of a Kittitas runner, Saturday, March 17 at Mountain Goat Field. The Lady Goats hosted a double-header against the Lynden Christian Lyncs and the Kittitas Coyotes.



Leanna Garfoot lobs a pitch across home plate as a Lyncs runner prepares an attempted stolen base. The Lady Goats took double-defeat against the teams, with a final score of 6-23 victory for the Lady Lyncs and 8-24 victory for the Lady Coyotes.



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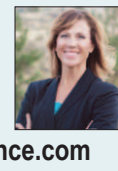
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Chelan Goats' Soccer: Game on



Photo by Erin Rossell

Chelan Goats' 2018 Boys' Soccer (left to right) Front Row: Bryan Reyes, Erik Cardenas, Bernaldo Barajas, Miguel Castro, Juan Capi, Daniel Servin, Cesar Magdalino, Marco Perez, Anndrick Espana, Luis Mendez, Diego Martinez, Luis Andrade, Leo Zarate, Anthony Martinez, Franco Sevilla. Back Row: Elijah Morris, Alex Marron, Dawson Roberts, Jonathan Ramirez, Hugo Mata, Coleman Miller, Daniel Lopez, Christian Mejia, Juan Uvalle, Alex Avila, Javier Mendoza, Eleazar Pacheco, Diego Castillo, Raul Mendoza, Ezequiel Campos, Jared Perez.

By ERIN ROSSELL, STAFF WRITER

CHELAN – Heading into his eighth season as Head Coach for the Goats' boys' soccer, Jamie Richards has high expectations for the team. With the help of Assistant Coaches Julio Juarez, Julio Vera and JV Head Coach Gilberto Romero, the Goats' sights are set for state playoffs.

Richards coaches all over the United States, he explained. "I'm the co-head coach at Wenatchee Valley College, I run PSPL Surf

Academy along the Pacific Coast, and I coach IMG Academy in Florida, so I've coached all over the place." As a professional soccer player, Richards has seen the United States in its entirety, as well as other countries, he said.

The last seven years, "we (the Goats) have been five-time league champions, three-time district champions, top 16 finishes in the state every year, so we've just been getting results."

After two wins followed by two losses in the post season landed the Goats at second

in league last year, Richards plans on tapping into the potential of the players this year, with hopes of first place. "I think what we're about this year, is reestablishing foundations," said Richards, "discipline wise."

Returning this year are Captains Ronnie Barajas and Erik Cardenas. Barajas and Cardenas, both high school seniors, have contributed a lot to the team in previous seasons, explained Richards. Barajas is "looking to help lead this team back into that final four," he stated, and is

expecting big things out of Cardenas. Really watch for Freshman Johnny Ramirez though, he advised. Ramirez "plays around the country on the academy teams and is sought after." He also added Luis Mendez to the key players list. "(Mendez is) another player I had no idea about," he said about the freshman, "(he) stepped in and has seen nothing but a starting role ... surprises are always fun," he laughed.

Looking ahead into the season, Richards sees the only obstacle for the team

being their youth. "We've got a big freshmen class this year," he explained, "so, we're kind of young." You always worry about ineligibilities, he explained, but "it's what obstacles do you have and what do you have to do to conquer them," he said, "you're giving three months to break nine months of bad habits."

"(This year) I really feel that it's going to be pretty even around the board," Richards expressed on the strengths or weaknesses of the Goats' opponents, "everyone is

progressing. We've technically been a powerhouse (in previous seasons), but teams have better coaches coming in now, which is great for our league because then we represent well with better competition."

What's driving the team this year? The "game on" philosophy, explained Richards. "I like attitude on the field," he expressed, "eighty minutes gets played on the field, that's them, not me. My job was done yesterday (with practices). It's them that perform now."

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THEME: BEFORE AND AFTER

ACROSS

- "Fever," movie and novel
- "is" in the past
- Name of the Blue Ox
- Rome's Colosseum, e.g.
- Fla. neighbor
- Jig, in France
- Volcanic rock, pl.
- Basketball hoop
- Opposite of adore
- *Before - Rodham; After -
- *Before - ; After - Mumbai
- Make mistakes
- Prickle on a wire
- Art degrees
- Abominable humanoid
- "American Horror Story: Hotel" hotel
- Tangerine and grapefruit hybrid
- Sailor's call
- Tarzan's swing
- Search without warning
- Audition tapes
- Shorter than maxi
- King of ancient Crete
- Time distortion
- Bit of slander
- Bobbysock
- Row of vagrants
- "All the Light We Cannot" novel
- Auctioneer's quantities
- El
- *Before - ; After - living room
- Like misanthrope's remark
- Pluck
- Flying saucer acronym
- Nary a soul
- Sicker
- Waikiki garland
- Written corrections
- English playwright Coward
- Japanese capital
- Fit out again

DOWN

- Locker room supply
- Caspan feeder
- Denim innovator
- Foolish
- *Before - flour, water, shortening; After -
- Announce Red Alert
- *Before - Clay; After -
- Brazilian dance
- Kind of lettuce
- Turkish honorific
- Channel marker
- Always, in verse
- Run around
- Artemis' companion
- Middle-earth creature
- Organic matter used as fuel
- *Before - ; After - Myanmar
- "Encore!"
27. Move furtively
- Muscle or strength
- #17 Across, pl.
- Quarter side, pl.
33. Empower
- *Before - ; After - Democratic Republic of Congo
- *Before - William Michael Albert Broad; After - Billy
- *Before - New Amsterdam; After - New
- Like certain foods
- Amazon, e.g.
- #me
- *Before - supper; After -
- "Yours
- D in LED
- Prince William's sport
- Car shaft
- Cambodian currency
- Mint product
- Salon creation
- Hostile to
- Just in case
- M in rpm
- ATM extra

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