

Testifies at legislative hearing

Knowlton seeks more help for victims, more accountability for offenders

By MIKE MALTAIS
STAFF WRITER

OLYMPIA – For the first time in more than six years since she lost her husband, Gary, to a drunk driver, Deana Knowlton testified before lawmakers in support of a bill to provide more counseling to traumatized victims like herself.

House Bill 1501 introduced by 12th District State Representative Mike Steele would authorize additional counseling services for immediate family members of homicide victims.

HB1501 is among a group of bills legislators have put forward in response to the alarming spike in statewide traffic deaths.

Knowlton wants to see more professional counseling for homicide victims.

“They feel that 12 visits is a magic number that you’re going to be cured from any homicide trauma,” Knowlton said citing her own experience as an example of what more is needed.

“In my first three years I had 273 counseling sessions,” said Knowlton who continues with the therapy.

“This is the first time I have testified,” said Knowlton “because all the previous bills were shot down.”

What appears to be different now is last year’s increase in traffic-related deaths when accidents claimed nearly 750 people, the most in more than 30 years. The legislative response has been a number of bills including HB 1501 that

Knowlton supports aimed at addressing traffic fatalities and surviving victims. Some examples:

- SB 1582 bans right turns at red lights within a thousand feet of schools, hospitals, and playgrounds.
- SB 5002 reduces the breath or blood alcohol content (BAC) for drivers from 0.08 to 0.05.
- SB 1513 shifts the emphasis of police traffic stops from low-risk or non-moving stops to those like speeding, reckless or impaired driving.
- SB 5272 authorizes speed limit cameras in highway work zones.
- SB 5560 reduces older driver safety by increasing their license renewal frequency.
- SB 5032 extends the felony timeframe for fourth DUI from 10 to 15 years.
- SB 5430 creates a scholarship fund for low-income driver education.
- HB 1319 requires license re-examination for a driver who causes substantial bodily harm in a collision.

Knowlton has been diagnosed with post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

“I thought PTSD was only associated with the military,” said Knowlton. “I never thought I would experience what I have.”

The trauma has caused her to suppress some memories like many of those associated with the court trial. Others she imagines like her husband’s accident scene that she was unable to visit the day



Mike Maltais/QCH

A mural of Gary Knowlton at the Manson Bay Park pool was unveiled at a public memorial in his honor on July 28, 2016.

it happened because police blocked access. The sight of bicyclists wearing yellow shirts trigger flashbacks.

“Gary always wore yellow coming home on his bike,” Knowlton said.

Working through the trauma has been a challenging journey.

“I’m not where I was six years ago,” said Knowlton of her recovery curve. “I’m better, but I’m not quite there.”

Knowlton’s nightmare began on July 16, 2016, when Gary, a schoolteacher and lifeguard, was struck and killed outside Chelan while bicycling home to Brewster from Manson Bay where he served as a lifeguard every summer since 2008.

The driver of the Nissan pickup that struck 50-year-old

Gary Knowlton was 22-year-old Bridgeport resident Jovany Lopez-Maciel. He threw the broken bicycle into his pickup and fled the scene. After hiding out with help from his father, Maciel was arrested the following September and charged with vehicular homicide and felony hit and run.

It was not the first time Maciel was in trouble with the law. The Felony Judgment and Sentence document issued by the Chelan County Superior Court disclosed juvenile convictions for third degree rape in September 2011 and residential burglary in December 2011.

Maciel’s convictions for second degree manslaughter and second degree malicious mischief resulted in a three-year, five-month (41-month) prison sentence imposed in June 2017 and served at Coyote Ridge Corrections Center in Connell. That would make his release date around November 2020. An additional 18 months of supervision was mandated following his release.

In January 2018 the state House of Representatives approved a resolution sponsored by Mike Steele (R-Chelan) and Cary Condotta (R-Wenatchee) honoring the life of Gary Knowlton. Steele had a personal as well as professional connection to the issue.

“I worked with Gary as a lifeguard at Manson,” said Steele. “That was during my high school years and all through college.”

The Chelan County Prosecutor’s Office contacted Knowlton in December 2018



Courtesy Deana Knowlton

Deana Knowlton and daughter, Kari, stand on the steps of the Washington State House of Representatives holding a copy of a House Resolution adopted in January 2018 honoring the life of Gary Knowlton.

Fast forward to the present day and Maciel is back in Washington state. Knowlton even knows his address in the Tri-Cities area. He was cited by the Washington State Patrol for a moving violation on Sept. 16, 2020 and went to court. That’s how Knowlton learned of his return. She passed the information to her contact at ICE but state RCW 10.93.160 regarding law enforcement restrictions relative to immigration and citizenship status bars any further action from those quarters. Knowlton said she feels powerless in the face of legalities that stand in the way of further accountability by the man who killed her husband.

“I understand that criminals have the upper hand, and that everybody is for criminals,” said Knowlton. “I get that.”

She said she gets frustrated with the system and the feeling that nobody is listening.

“I can understand why victims don’t step up, through my own experience,” said Knowlton, “because I am one.”

Knowlton’s two daughters, Kari, now 32 and married, and Krysta, 29, have endured their share of victim trauma but move forward in appreciation of their father’s memory. Kari is a schoolteacher in Mossyrock, and Krysta works for a health company in Spokane.

“I’m going to keep fighting,” said Knowlton. “I tell my girls that if the roles were reversed Gary would do the same thing. If I can help one family to cope and get through with some tools, that is my goal.”

Mother’s Day festival planned

Brewster Chamber reviews 2023 advertising, scheduled events

By MIKE MALTAIS
STAFF WRITER

BREWSTER – The Brewster Chamber of Commerce discussed its Downtown Strategic Vision, advertising plans and upcoming events at its regular monthly meeting held at the Pateros-Brewster-Bridgeport Senior Center last Wednesday, Feb. 8.

Downtown Strategies update

President Mike Mauk handed out information from the Downtown Strategic Vision’s five-year year plan, with highlighted pictures and information on what was recommended for Brewster. Chamber members discussed three low-cost items that can be achieved in the next couple of years to move the community ahead. The Board has formed a committee to start the process.

“Right now, it is just the Chamber board of directors, but open to others that want to help,” Mauk said.

Downtown Strategies will present its report to the April city council meeting.

“The Chamber has given the report to the council in

hopes they will look it over and understand what is going on with it and will be ready when Downtown Strategies meets with them,” Mauk said.

Upcoming events

The 4th of July celebration and August Salmon Derby were both approved by the city as applied for.

Booths have been reserved for both the Central Washington Sportsman show in Yakima, Feb 24-26, and the Big Horn Sportsman Show in Spokane, March 16-19.

“The idea is to bring visitors and tourists to our area,” said Mauk, “and to sell Derby tickets and Chamber and Derby t-shirts,” said Mauk. “We are trying to get brochures and business cards from our members to have on our tables at both shows.”

Mauk said the Chamber will share the Spokane booth with Simple Derby - who handles ticket sales for the Derby - plus Lure Safe and LEOS Flashers, both Derby sponsors.

“At Yakima we will be sharing with Northwest Portal, whom we are a big sponsor with, and they will be promoting our area with the maps and data they offer,” Mauk said.

Advertising and LTAC Funds

The Chamber is splitting up its advertising out of the area this year to get the most out of the limited LTAC (Lodging Tax Advisory Committee) dollars collected from the city.

“We will have an ad in Recreationland that the Okanogan Valley Gazette-Tribune puts out,” said Mauk. “We also will advertise on digital billboards in Everett and Woodinville and in Yakima for the Salmon Derby to bring visitors to our area.”

Mauk said the Chamber will not purchase the back page of the Omak Chronicle Vacationland in favor of an inside page inside costing less money to help pay for other outside advertising.

“We still have our full page and businesses listed in the Omak Chronicle INFO book,” said Mauk. “The new edition has just been released.”

Mauk apologized for any businesses missed and will update the listing again at the end of the year. The membership report counts 43 chamber members so far in 2023.

SEE BREWSTER ON PAGE A2



Mike Maltais/QCH

Undeveloped school property.

Citizens address funding, enrollment, property with Pateros school board

By MIKE MALTAIS
STAFF WRITER

PATEROS – Citizen input regarding the funding shortfall, reduced student enrollment, and undeveloped property at the school district was part of the public comment as the Jan. 30 meeting of the Pateros school board.

At a school board meeting last September then-superintendent Greg Goodnight advised the board that student full time enrollment (FTE) had declined almost

12 percent from the previous year. Goodnight cited several reasons for the decline including family relocation, and lack of affordable housing in the area. Student enrollment dropped from 287 students in 2021 to 254 for the 2022-23 school year. The enrollment decline resulted in a budget freeze and the school facing a significant loss of apportionment and levy equalization funding if enrollment numbers do not recover.



Interim Superintendent Mike Parker

SEE PATEROS ON PAGE A2

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Remains of a Malott landmark



Mike Maltais/QCH

A pile of recyclable metal and a larger pile of burnable debris bracket the United Methodist Church building (background) in Malott. The piles are all that remain of the historic Malott Improvement Club that collapsed under heavy wet snow last Dec. 31, three years shy of its 100th birthday. The church building completed in 1940 closed its doors in 2021.

BREWSTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Mother's Day Festival (Dia de la Madre)

Manny Hurtado and Esteban Camacho presented what they have been working on for the "El dia de las madres" Mother's Day Festival this year.

They are working on a date and will submit an event application to the city for approval.

The Chamber will host the event with the understanding that the Brewster Business Association will handle all the plans, volunteers and work. The chamber will cover the insurance, form filing and help with

advertising and sponsors and manage the funds for the event.

"We hope to make it into the No. 1 big annual festival for Brewster," said Mauk, "and make it big like in past years."

To view YouTube videos of past years check the website: <https://youtube.com/S0yWx0dWCBY>.

PATEROS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Former Pateros mayor and current city council member George Brady recommended that the board reconsider the surplus undeveloped property the school owns adjacent to Highway 97 and Industrial Way. The school hopes to utilize the near-eight acre parcel for needed sports playfields. Brady said it could be sold to raise money the school needs right now. He said the city calculated what the annual water bill would be to maintain the field and that estimate comes out to about \$8,000 annually just for water.

"The property has the water and sewer connections and it's right next to the rail line," said Brady. "It even has a rail siding."

Former city council member

Frank Herbert also weighed in on the school's enrollment and financial challenges. From a prepared statement Herbert commended interim superintendent Mike Parker for stepping in to take on a problem "not of your making," and reminded the board of their responsibility for "oversight of the fiscal matters of the district."

He said the board failed to perform due diligence when "expenses, including staff hires were going up while student numbers have gone down year after year."

Among other points Herbert also recommended "that the school board immediately move to divest valuable excess property in order to keep the district solvent."

Parker, who assumed his post last November, updated the board on the loss of 51

students and steps the school is taking to adjust to the financial fallout. That includes a reduction of seven school staff members. The staff trimming will be reflected in reduced classroom support, reduced library time, one less custodian, and compressed bus routes. On the latter issue Parker sent a letter to all parents and guardians advising them that effective Feb. 27, bus routes will be condensed into two routes with corresponding changes in route times.

Parker also met earlier with North Central Educational Services District (NCESD) Superintendent Michelle Price to discuss the school's administrative options. That meted resulted in a recommendation for a combined superintendent/principal with a part-time or, if affordable, full-time Dean of Students.

On to District 7 crossovers

Raiders defeat Bears by a point for District 6 title

By MIKE MALTAIS
STAFF WRITER

OMAK – For the second time this season the Lake Roosevelt Raiders defeated Brewster by a point, 62-61, to win the District 6 basketball title last Saturday, Feb. 11. The Raiders will next face District 7, No. 5 Reardan in a crossover game Saturday, Feb. 18, in Wenatchee.

The Bears will face off against District 7, No. 4 St. Georges in crossover competition at Wenatchee the same day.

The game was close all the way with the Bears ahead, 14-11, in the first quarter and trailing 26-31 at half-time. Behind some key shots by Kelson Gebbers with 29 points and Tyson Schertenleib with 15, Brewster took its biggest lead of the game, 61-53, in the fourth quarter before Gebbers fouled out on a questionable call with 2:36 left on the game clock. With Brewster's big man benched the Raiders closed the gap to 61-60 with 1:19 left to play before taking the lead, 62-61

with 54v seconds remaining. The Bears got a final shot attempt but could not convert.

The No. 3 Brewster girls will play District 7, No. 4 Upper Columbia Academy in crossover on Friday, Feb. 17, in Wenatchee

Also headed to crossover play in Spokane this weekend are the No. 5 Bridgeport Fillies who will meet District 7 No. 2 Liberty Spangle.

The 1B Pateros Nannies have a crossover game at Wenatchee High School on Feb. 16, time TBA.

Spring flooding threat low

Commissioners discuss fairgrounds, RV park improvements

Editor's note: The following meeting summary of the Board of Commissioners of Okanogan County (BOCC) for the last week of January, is provided by County Watch (countywatch.org)

OKANOGAN — Monday, Jan. 30, a.m.

- Commissioners discussed aquatic projects in Forest Service cuts. Commissioner Branch pointed out that the best time to have such projects included is during scoping.
- Fairgrounds Manager Naomie Peasley discussed moving ahead with the racehorse barns project, the newly installed floor of the Annex and how to develop plans for dealing with buildings damaged by the winter weather.
- The bathroom in the RV park has been demolished and rebuilding will start soon.
- Planning Director Pete Palmer reported that - following the previous Tuesday's Tunk Valley rezone public meeting - her office is now addressing many public information requests for documents between the Planning Department, the BOCC and the Planning Commission.
- Emergency Management Director Maurice Goodall advised the commission-

ers that the snowpack is approximately 100 percent of normal for this time of year and that the prospect for flooding is the spring is small.

Commissioner Hover reported on his recent conversation with the mayor of Conconully. The town is trying to build a new fire station/community center paid for with two grants and \$400,000 in bonds. After they received the bids, they realized they will be \$2 million short. The mayor was asking Commissioner Hover for help in obtaining money from the state legislature. The commissioners discussed the situation. Commissioner Hover said he personally might support using some of the \$3 million the county is hoping to receive to buy new radios needed for emergency communication.

Tuesday, Jan. 31, a.m.

- Lifeline staff discussed Emergency (Ambulance) Management Services (EMS) Districts challenges in Tonasket/Oroville and how to remedy them.
- Discussed possibility of contracting public records requests due to workload volume. Human Resources will schedule a presentation with a vendor,

- Sexual harassment training scheduled.
- Discussed court security with emphasis on the immediate situation and overview. Will meet with department heads.
- The county engineer presented a public works update.

Tuesday, Jan. 31, p.m.

- Discussion on the Oroville Senior Center funding. Commissioner Hover suggested letting Aging and Adult Care request part of County Transportation and Nutrition allocation for this rather than see if the Center qualifies for emergency federal funds.
- Agreement to spend \$46,000 for the fairgrounds RV park bathroom partitions.
- At Department Heads Quarterly Meeting:
 - Public Works is looking forward to construction of a new cell at the landfill and two new workshops across the river.
 - Planning reported a major zone code revision including cannabis operations, shorelines review.
 - Tax statements will be out by Feb. 15.
 - Meeting to be held on courthouse security.
 - Sheriff is implementing new policies to improve jail security, hinted at an overhaul. Patrol officer candidates in short supply. Courthouse outfitted with security cameras. Commissioner Hover said funding for dispatch must wait because Conconully needs it more.
 - Noxious Weeds is reaching out to users to attend town hall meetings.
 - WSU extension reported Master Gardner Program success, need for 4H leaders.
 - Architect of master plan retiring but will still supervise shop projects.
- Discussed possibility of hiring County Administrator to help manage projects, billing and legislative agenda, act as liaison between BOCC and departments and ensure continuity as board changes.

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

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Subscriptions

Okanogan/Douglas Counties (yearly) print \$40
Okanogan/Douglas Counties (yearly) print & web \$45
In State (yearly) \$50
Out of State (yearly) \$52

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Corrections

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Quad City Herald (USPS 241-920)
is published every Wednesday by NCW Media, Inc.
215 14th St., Leavenworth, WA
Telephone: 509-548-5286.
Periodical postage paid at Brewster, Wash.
Postmaster:
Send address corrections to:
Quad City Herald,
PO Box 1922, Chelan, WA 98816

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

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DOUGLAS & OKANOGAN COUNTY SHERIFF REPORTS

Douglas County Sheriff

Feb. 4
09:20 Runaway 1804 Raymond Ave., Bridgeport
19:47 Agency Assist, 1979 Tacoma Ave., Bridgeport

Feb. 5
13:24 Suspicious Circumstance, 2415 Tacoma Ave., Bridgeport
14:28 Alarm, 356 Moses Coulee Rd., Waterville
21:43 Juvenile Problem, 106 Arden Ave., Bridgeport

Feb. 6
03:24 Noise Complaint, 335 E. Railroad Ave., Mansfield
15:13 Welfare Check, 929 Maple St., Bridgeport
19:24 Juvenile Problem, 45 McCormack St., Bridgeport
21:16 Juvenile Problem, 1804 Raymond Ave., Bridgeport

Feb. 7
00:24 Non-injury Accident, Rd. 2 NW and Rd. P NW, Waterville
12:44 Animal Problem, 1544 Douglas Ave., Bridgeport
17:41 Civil Dispute, 929 Maple St., Bridgeport

Feb. 8
08:43 Runaway, 1804 Raymond Ave., Bridgeport
08:56 Civil Dispute, 45 McCormack St., Bridgeport
11:29 Disturbance, 300 block 22nd St., Bridgeport
13:09 Domestic Disturbance, 415 SR 173, Bridgeport

Feb. 9
01:37 Suspicious Circumstance, 1220 Kryger St., Bridgeport
05:01 Suspicious Circumstance, McNeil Canyon Rd., Orondo
08:22 Parking/ Abandoned Vehicle, Rd 15 NW and Rd. C NW, Mansfield
16:20 Suicide Threat, 4 Rainbow Ln.

Brewster Police Department

Feb. 3
14:50 An injury accident was reported on Hwy. 97 in Brewster and the caller reported being crushed between two vehicles.
18:34 An assault was reported on S. 4th St. in Brewster, the caller reported hearing a lot of shouting and banging on the walls.

Feb. 4
17:08 A possible DUI driver was reported on Hwy. 97 for a subject driving an older dark colored Honda Accord swerving in lanes and with varying speeds of 45-60 mph.
20:53 An agency assist was requested from state patrol on Hwy. 97.

Feb. 5
10:05 A juvenile problem was reported on W. Cliff Ave. for a 14-year-old male subject that was really out of control and reportedly throwing a fit, no weapons were reported.
11:45 A citizen assist was requested on E. Griggs Ave. regarding a towed vehicle to Warden.
19:17 A residential burglary alarm was triggered on E. Ansel Ave. in Brewster.

Feb. 6
03:15 A domestic dispute was reported on E. Indian Ave. for a female subject reported as disorderly and being "crazy" and won't let the caller sleep. The caller reported the girlfriend was possibly also on drugs and no weapons were reported.

09:57 A stray dog was reported on S. Bridge St.
19:03 A domestic dispute was reported on E. Indian Ave. for a caller's girlfriend that was reportedly drunk and disorderly and screaming and that she had fallen and could not get up.

Feb. 7
11:07 A dangerous dog warning was issued to a subject that owned a brown pitbull on W. Cliff Ave.
18:50 A caller on S. Bridge St. reported their ex-boyfriend was at her residence trying to take their 4-month-old son.
21:31 A civil matter was reported on S. 4th St. involving a subject with videos and a \$500 demand or she was going to release the videos.

Feb. 8
No local reports.
Feb. 9
07:35 A non-injury accident was reported on W. Hanson Ave. involving a white Chevy and a gray car.

Okanogan County Sheriff

Feb. 3
19:54 A parking problem was reported on N. Chris St. and W. Warren Ave. in Pateros for vehicles blocking the view of the intersection and parking on the brand new sidewalk.

Feb. 4
20:53 An agency assist was requested from state patrol on Hwy. 97 in Brewster.
22:38 A 911-call was received from S. 7th St.

Feb. 5
No local reports.

Feb. 6
11:32 A sex offender registered on W. Cliff Ave. in Brewster.
19:59 A traffic offense was reported on West Indian Ave. in Brewster.

21:33 An agency assist was requested on Hwy. 97 from state patrol.

Feb. 7
11:08 An abandoned vehicle was reported on Paradise Hill Rd. in Brewster for a green Buick that was partially blocking one lane for three days.

Feb. 8
No local reports.

Feb. 9
00:09 A domestic dispute was reported on Beach St. in Pateros for a mother that reportedly locked the caller out of her house.



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Feb. 15, 17, 21-22, 24

Senior meals served Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday at Senior Center and home delivery

BREWSTER – The Senior Center is now serving meals at Noon, at the center on Tuesdays, Wednesday and Fridays. Home delivered meals are delivered those same days. Call 509-826-7979 to reserve or cancel your meal. Suggested donation for those over age 60 is \$4. For those 60 and under the cost is \$10. Menu: Feb. 15: Lemon Baked Fish Fillet, Pesto Pasta, Steamed Broccoli, Caesar Salad, Orange Quarters, Dessert; Feb. 17: Beef Stroganoff, Green Beans, Tossed Salad, Apricots, Dessert; Feb. 21: Spaghetti & Meat Sauce, Caesar Salad, Cinnamon Pears, Garlic Bread, Dessert; Feb. 22: Beef Stew, Spinach Salad, Banana, Biscuit, Cereal Bar; Feb. 24: Clam Chowder, Three Bean Salad, Peaches, Cheesy Garlic Bread, Oatmeal Cookies.

Feb. 15-18, 20-25

Senior Center Thrift Store

BREWSTER – The Brewster-Pateros-Bridgeport Senior Center Thrift Store is open Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Check out our great kids section. Donations accepted when they are open. They are also the Brewster Visitor Information Center and the Brewster Chamber of Commerce meeting room.

Feb. 15

Brewster Chamber to meet

BREWSTER – The next general meeting of the Brewster Chamber of Commerce will be held Wednesday, January 11, 6 p.m. at the Senior Center, 109 Bridge Street. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. For information brewsterchamber@gmail.com or Mike Mauk, 509-449-0605.

Feb. 15

American Legion meetings

BREWSTER – American Legion Post #97 current members meetings are on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Post. For information call Greg Wagg at 206-550-6474.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Feb. 15-16, 20-23

Chelan Valley Hope

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CHELAN - February is Black History Month. We at Chelan Valley Hope want to wish you a meaningful Black History Month as we celebrate Black lives and also grieve continued inequities and violence against people of Color. We invite you to celebrate with us, visit CVH Monday thru Thursday 9 a.m.-3 p.m. (closed Noon to 1 p.m.) and browse our Black author book collection. At CVH we have books for all ages and these books are available as a short term loan. A few of our staff & volunteers favorites include; So, You Want to Talk About Race, The Color of Law, and Charlie Makes a Splash. Call 509-888-2114 for more information or to schedule an appointment. Or visit our website and follow us on Facebook and Instagram to get the latest CVH news and updates chelanvalleyhope.org, @ChelanValleyHope.

Feb. 16

Bingo

BREWSTER - Brewster American Legion Bingo every Thursday night at 6 p.m. Card sales start at 5 p.m. - Be early.

Feb. 16, March 9

Brewster bus trips

BREWSTER – OCTN takes Brewster area resident to Wenatchee, second Thursday of the month. That next trip is March. 9. The bus starts picking folks up at their homes at 7:30 a.m. Riders may request destination(s); medical appointments etc. On the third Thursday of each month, Feb. 16 riders will be taken to Omak for the day. Riders request their destination(s). Wenatchee: \$12/boarding for General Public, \$6 suggested donation/day for Seniors (60

plus). Omak: \$5.50/General Public, \$2.75 suggested donation Seniors (60 plus). (509) 826-4391 to reserve your seat.

Feb. 20

Family and friends Support Group

WENATCHEE - Family and friends Support Group meets the 3rd Monday 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: tcf-wenatcheevalley.org

Feb. 24

OCSRA to meet

OMAK - Okanogan County School Retirees' Association meets 10 a.m., Friday, February 24 at Community Presbyterian Church of Omak, 9 Birch St. S. Omak. Refreshments provided. Program: TBA.

Feb. 27

Okanogan County PUD meeting

OKANOGAN – The next meeting of the Okanogan County PUD Board of Commissioners is at 3 p.m. For more information okanoganpud.org

Feb. 27

Douglas County PUD meetings

EAST WENATCHEE – The next meeting of the Douglas County PUD Commission is at 1:30 p.m. in the East Wenatchee office.

Feb. 27

Reggae singer Mike Love to perform

OMAK - Reggae singer Mike Love will perform at the Omak PAC February 24 at 7 p.m. His unique style and message based music has entertained thousands around the world. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$10 for students. Children four and under are free. Thickets

are available at Rawsons in Okanogan, Kelley Connect in Omak, Tonasket Interiors and online at www.omakpac.org.

Feb. 27

Bridgeport School District

BRIDGEPORT - The Bridgeport School District Board meets the last Monday of each month, at 6 p.m. in the Middle School commons.

March 14

Survivors of Suicide Loss Support Group

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: tcf-wenatcheevalley.org

March 13

Okanogan County Fair Advisory Committee

OKANOGAN – The Okanogan County Fair Advisory Committee meets the second Monday of the month and is always looking for volunteers. The meetings are open to the public and begin at 6 p.m. in the Okanogan County Commissioners' hearing room, 123 N. Fifth Ave., Okanogan.

April 30 deadline to apply

Upper Valley Scholarship for women returning to higher education

NCW - Applications are now being accepted for the Upper Valley Scholarship supported by P.E.O. Chapter JF, Leavenworth. The purpose of the scholarship is to assist women in need of financial help in returning to higher education at an accredited university, college, or tech-

SEE BOARD ON PAGE A4



No, you can't wrap a fish in a Web site,
...but you can get the local news online at
www.qcherald.com

QUAD CITY CHURCH GUIDE

BREWSTER • BRIDGEPORT • PATEROS

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



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CALVARY
Baptist Church
www.cbcbrewster.com
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NEW TESTAMENT BAPTIST
Sunday 10 a.m., 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Wednesday 7 p.m.
Adult Prayer & Bible Study and King's Kids
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“With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.”
~ Matthew 19:26

To place your Church information in the Church Guide call Ruth at 509-682-2213 or email: ruthk@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 heraldads@qcherald.com or NCWMARKET.COM
- For more info call: Quad City Herald at 509-689-2507
- Email to: ruthk@lakechelanmirror.com

OBITUARIES

Bradley Drake Sonneman

Bradley Drake Sonneman passed away January 9, 2023. He was second born to Robert and Marlene Sonneman (Calsbeek) on May 29, 1957. Long and lean, Brad loved to compete and could run like the wind. Brad was always the center of attention, with his dry sense of humor, singing voice, harmonica playing or trouble making.

Brad had many jobs, but his passion was building. He worked for many years remodeling many buildings for radio voice legend, Delilah. She once wrote him a letter, hailing his creativity in his craft. He was very proud of his work for Delilah.

Brad grew up in Tacoma, Washington, graduating from Wilson, in 1975. Eventually,

he moved to central Washington, living in Pateros and finally Brewster for many years, making a change in careers. He drove bus for Brewster School District and for the transit out of Twisp, Washington, until he retired in 2020.

Brad was no stranger to pain, but continued his wonderful sense of humor till the end. At 65, he passed away on January 9, 2023.

Preceding him in death was his brother, Brian; and Dad and Mom. Brad leaves behind his daughter, Joy; step-daughter, Rachel; brother, Bob (Melanie); sister-in-law, Lisa; sister, Brenda Sizemore (Dan) and several cousins; nieces and nephews; one aunt; and three uncles.



What Brad wished to leave behind was the importance of humor, faith, music, and especially, family. We won't forget, Brad.

Please leave any thoughts and memories for the family at www.barneschapel.com. Services are under the direction of Barnes Chapel of Brewster.

The wild side of outdoor dining



Mike Maltais/QCH

A flock of wild turkeys steps out for a late afternoon meal at Café Apple Orchard south of Malott.

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 509-689-2507 for more information
Or email ruthk@lakechelanmirror.com

BOARD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A3

nical school in the State of Washington. This needs-based scholarship must be

used for school expenses and will be paid directly to the school.

Applications must be received for consideration by April 30. Scholarship funds will

be available by the Fall of 2023 and be sent directly to the school financial department upon confirmation of enrollment.

Women applicants must be seeking further higher education at either the undergraduate or graduate level and meet the following criteria:

- 1 Applicant must be age 30 or above and reside in Chelan or Douglas County.
- 2 Applicant must be currently enrolled in or returning to a higher education program after a two-year or more absence.

The colleges, universities, or technical schools where

applicants have been accepted must be fully accredited and within the State of Washington, however, out-of-state on-line accredited schools, are acceptable. Applicants may re-submit applications each year until they complete their programs of study.

Women interested in applying for the scholarship may receive more detailed information concerning the application process, as well as request the application forms by sending an email to the Scholarship Committee at the following address: peoleavenworth@nwi.net

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Everyone looks good in a cap and gown. High school students can apply before March 15 to receive \$1,000 for higher ed. expenses.

Find details and apply at stcu.org/scholarships.



Newhouse announced as Co-Chair of Congressional Wine Caucus

SUBMITTED BY MIKE MARINELLA, OFFICE OF REP. DAN NEWHOUSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. – On February 3 Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA) was announced as Co-Chair of the Congressional Wine Caucus alongside Rep. Mike Thompson (D-CA), and will continue to lead the bicameral and bipartisan Caucus for the 118th Congress.

“As a proud grape grower, I know firsthand the strong economic contributions made by the grape and wine producers and the issues our industry faces,” said Rep. Newhouse. “I am honored to represent the flourishing, high-quality wine region of Central Washington. I look forward to continue working with Rep. Thompson to ensure that our nation’s wine industry – from wine grape growers to winemakers and sellers – can continue to thrive and grow.”

“Agriculture is important to our district and to every state across our country. Winegrapes are grown in all 50 states and generate \$276 billion for our economy while creating nearly two million jobs,” said Rep. Thompson. “I founded the Congressional Wine Caucus to develop a line of communication between winegrape growers and vintners and Congress. During the 118th Congress, Rep. Newhouse and I – and the entire Wine Caucus – will continue this work to support our wine community.”

“We at WineAmerica are deeply grateful to Representatives Dan Newhouse and

Mike Thompson for their leadership as Co-chairs of the bipartisan, bicameral Congressional Wine Caucus,” said Jim Trezise, President of WineAmerica. “Our 2022 National Economic Impact Study showed that the wine industry boosted the American economy by \$276 billion, up by 25% from 2017. Since wine is produced and consumed in all 50 states, it is vital that we have legislators who are both informed and involved. The Congressional Wine Caucus serves that purpose.”

“The Washington Wine Institute is very proud to have Congressman Dan Newhouse as Co-Chair of the Congressional Wine Caucus,” said Josh McDonald, Executive Director of Washington Wine Institute. “As a wine grower himself, he understands the industry and what is needed to ensure that Washington wineries has sustainable growth in the future. We look forward to working with him to promote and support the wine industry in Washington state and across the nation.”

“The Washington Winegrowers are particularly thrilled with Congressman Newhouse’s position as co-chair of the Congressional Wine Caucus,” said Vicki Scharlau, Executive Director of the Washington Winegrowers Association. “He more than most others understands the challenges and unique opportunities afforded grape growers—being one himself. We look forward to his leadership promoting and protecting the US wine industry all the while having his feet

firmly planted in the vineyards of Washington state.”

Background: Wine is produced in all 50 states and generates jobs and revenue in both rural and urban communities. The wine industry contributes an estimated \$276 billion to the U.S. economy annually and creates the equivalent of almost two million full-time jobs. The more than 10,000 predominantly family-owned wineries in the U.S. attract more than 49 million tourists each year who enjoy the wines, cultural activities, and scenic pastoral landscapes in wine country.

In Washington State, there are more than 800 wineries and over 250 wine and grape growers. The wine industry generates over \$9.5 billion in total economic activity with over 14,000 acres of vineyards and 60,000 jobs created and supported by the wine industry. With 14 unique AVAs across the state, Washington’s wine industry continues to grow and produce high-quality varieties that are enjoyed all over the world. In addition, Washington State University is one of the country’s leading viticulture research institutions and one of only 14 universities in the United States to offer a Viticulture & Enology degree.

The Congressional Wine Caucus was founded in 1999 by Congressmen and wine grape growers Mike Thompson (D-St. Helena) and George Radanovich (R-Fresno) to protect the interests of our vibrant wine community from grape to glass.

THE WASHINGTON OUTDOOR REPORT

The ethics of wildlife watching

By JOHN KRUSE, THE WASHINGTON OUTDOOR REPORT

There is a healthy body of literature surrounding ethical fishing and hunting practices that promote respect for both sports and the fish and game pursued for consumptive use. However, very little has been written about the ethics of non-consumptive interactions with wildlife, despite the fact all of us as humans can have a positive or negative impact on birds and animals.

That’s why I was pleasantly surprised to see a lengthy blog on the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife website about ethical wildlife photography practices. Here are a few highlights from that blog post:

- Respect the wildlife.**
- The welfare of the animal you are photographing comes first. Shortcuts to get the perfect shot can cloud judgement in the moment. Never chase an animal, intentionally flush it, or interrupt its natural behaviors.
 - Keep a safe distance away from animals. Follow the “rule of thumb.” Hold up your thumb in a hitchhiker fashion. Hold out your arm in front of you and place your thumb in line with your vision over the animal you are watching. If the pad of your thumb covers the animal, you are at a safe viewing distance. If not, back away until you are at a safer distance. If the animal still seems disturbed and is altering its natural behaviors, continue to distance yourself from the animal.
 - Use a telephoto lens to give wildlife their space. Viewing blinds make for great safe spaces for you and wildlife to overlap without disturbance.
 - If wearing camouflage, be aware of hunting seasons and when you need to wear hunter orange or pink for safety.
 - Avoid using a flash that causes an animal to become disturbed. Infrared lighting is best for night or low-light photography.
 - Remain quiet and give wildlife a comfortable place to be. When animals



Courtesy John Kruse
A bighorn ram in Chelan County.



Courtesy John Kruse
A goldeneye duck in winter.

feel comfortable, they may engage in behaviors photographers are attempting to capture on camera, such as grooming or preening, singing, hunting, etc. Do not imitate wildlife, and never throw objects to make wildlife move or to gain their attention. Wildlife should be captured in their environments performing their natural behaviors to prevent them from being stressed or forced to move from their habitats.

- If bringing a pet, ensure that the pet is leashed and is not harassing wildlife by barking or chasing. Stressed wildlife may flee, make eye contact, or demonstrate aggression. Remember, pets must be leashed in all WDFW Wildlife Areas unless engaging in hunting activities.
- Keep wildlife safe by avoiding “geotagging” specific sites where you took photographs. General locations are acceptable, but pinning the specific locations of nesting sites, endangered species, or other special sightings may endanger the wildlife. For example, if you spotted and photographed a rare small mammal in Rainier National Park, “tag” the park, but refrain from listing a specific trail or site tag.
- Continue spreading the hobby of photography and the contribution it has on conservation. Be honest with how you captured a photo and encourage others to also be ethical photographers. Sharing your photos can continue to raise awareness about the magnificence of wildlife and their habitats.

On a related note, this is also the time of year when bucks and bull elk begin drop-

ping their antlers and shed hunters will soon be hitting the hills looking for these trophies. Some shed hunters sell the antlers they find while others use them to make art or display them in their homes.

It is important to note this has not been an easy winter for wildlife in Central and Eastern Washington. Deer and elk are stressed and have little energy or reserves available to make it until spring when grasses sprout and these animals can begin to build up fat reserves again. That’s why it’s critical to not chase, harass or get close to these animals while searching for shed antlers. In fact, in Western Wyoming you are not even allowed to gather shed antlers until May 1 to protect the herds that live in this region. It’s something ethical shed hunters should consider doing here as well.

Finally, whether you are photographing wildlife or looking for shed antlers, be respectful of private lands. First get permission to access these lands and then be careful not to damage them with your vehicles at a time where roads and land is soft and muddy. Leaving no trace of your presence and packing out any trash you take in goes without saying. Make it a point to thank any landowner who is kind enough to let you access their land and consider a gift of some sort to show your appreciation. I have personally found smoked salmon works quite well in that regard.

If you want to learn more about ethical wildlife photography practices check out the WDFW blog at <https://wdfw.wa.gov/ethical-wildlife-photography-practices-7e3ce6a65259>

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

NAMI Chelan/Douglas to expand



SUBMITTED BY SUMMER STARR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR NAMI WASHINGTON

NCW- Local NAMI affiliate NAMI Chelan/Douglas is seeking to expand their service area to Okanogan and Grant counties to become NAMI North Central Washington. The expansion effort is being supported by Beacon Health Options. “Beacon Health Options is thrilled to partner with NAMI Washington to support the expansion of the North Central NAMI Affiliate to include Grant and Okanogan counties,” says Brian Rebar, NCWA Community Engagement Coordinator for Beacon Health Options. “This work is laying the foundation to establish a stronger presence and leadership structure in the North Central region as well as bringing much needed peer programming and resources to our communities.”

NAMI (or the National Alliance on Mental Illness) is a national non-profit organization with state and local affiliates in Washington State. NAMI Chelan/Douglas provides mental health support, education, and advocacy for the greater Wenatchee Valley area through online and in-person support group meetings as well as multi-session

educational courses on mental illness.

Locals can attest to the positive impact that NAMI Chelan/Douglas has had on the area so far. “NAMI helped me navigate the horrible mental healthcare system in the state of Washington. Without the support of NAMICD, I’d have many doubts and guilt on how things turned out for my son. NAMI was the only organization that helped me through my tragedy,” writes Janice Daines of Wenatchee.

Nancy Bartholomew of Leavenworth found help through NAMI as well, writing “I had been in health care in Washington as a RN and Nurse Practitioner about 40 years before I heard about NAMI. Our family was having difficulty dealing with a relative with a new onset of mental illness, and we had no idea where to turn. My husband and I took [a] series of classes, and found them to be very informative, reassuring

and enlightening. We did not feel alone any longer.”

In order to expand to new counties, NAMI Chelan/Douglas is actively looking to recruit regional representatives for their Board of Directors. Board Members play an important role in the growth and support of the organization. “We are looking for leaders in the region who want to see community-driven mental health support grow strategically,” said Summer Starr of NAMI Washington, the state organization supporting affiliate growth. Regional board members are expected to serve an average of 4-16 hours per month. Individuals from Chelan, Douglas, Okanogan, and Grant Counties are all welcome to apply. If you’re interested in learning more about board positions, volunteer opportunities, resources, programs, or about NAMI in general, please contact Summer Starr at sstarr@namiwa.org or visit named.org.

Have a Community or Sports Story idea?

Contact Mike Maltais at 360-333-8483 OR qchreporter@gmail.com

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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. To complain of discrimination call HUD at 1-800-669-9777. The number for hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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Announcements
Lost & Found

LOST & FOUND ITEMS can be placed in our **Local Newspapers** and **Online at NCWMARKET.COM** for **ONE week for FREE.** Limit 30 words. A small fee will be charged for over 30 words and pictures or other extras.

Leavenworth/Cashmere
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or email classifieds@leavenworthecho.com
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Quad City Herald
509-689-2507
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Deadline Noon on Friday for the next week's papers

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Add unlimited text and pictures, video for your online ad at www.NCWMarket.com

Print ads are limited to 30 words, over 30 words, or extra enhancements like bold words or border will be a minimal extra charge.

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Employment

Help Wanted

Manson Parks is in search of a Campground Host at Wapato Lake Campground!

Position runs from April 1 through September 30. Applicants must have their own RV, strong work ethic, outstanding attitude, ability to work with minimal supervision, and ability to perform both maintenance and office duties. Excellent customer service skills required. Couples welcome to apply. Pay is \$15.74 per hour; includes use of camp site, water and sewer hookups, internet, power, and garbage service. Please see job description at www.mansonparks.com.

Help Wanted

Orchard Supervisor - Okanogan Area: Seeking an experienced candidate. Required 5 plus years of experience. Will manage 100 acres plus of Apples and Cherries. Must be Bilingual English/ Spanish speaking, reading, and writing. Proficient with computers, and programs like email and time/ record keeping. Display strong leadership skills. Valid Drivers and Pesticide license. Full benefits offered. Call for more information at 509-697-9175 ask for Zenaida or email resume to employment@monsonfruit.com. A full JD available upon request.



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

Manson Parks is looking to fill our seasonal Park Aide position.

Pay is \$17.13/ hour Applicants must be able to work weekends. Duties include cleaning restrooms, emptying trash cans, and helping to keep our parks looking their best. Must have current WA Driver License free of major infractions and be able to pass a background check. For more details, please visit www.mansonparks.com.

WHAT'S HAPPENING
EVENTS

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Help Wanted

Looking for a great local employee?
It is easy to place your ad online 24/7 at www.NCWMarket.com Register and pay on our secure site. **Want Print Only** for The Lake Chelan Mirror Quad City Herald Brewster Call 509-682-2213 or email mirrorads@lakechelanmirror.com OR Leavenworth Echo Cashmere Record 509-548-5286 or send email to classifieds@leavenworthecho.com

Deadline is Friday by Noon for the following Wednesday issues of all newspapers

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Get cold hard CASH for your Antiques and Collectibles by placing them in our classifieds. Place your ad with pictures online 24/7 at www.NCWMarket.com Register and pay on our secure site. **Want Print Only?** Call **Lake Chelan Mirror Quad City Herald** 509-682-2213 or email mirrorads@lakechelanmirror.com or call **The Leavenworth Echo Cashmere Valley Record** 509-548-5286 classifieds@leavenworthecho.com **Deadline: Noon on Friday for all papers.**



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Legals

Public Notices

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
City of Pateros
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the City of Pateros Council in the council chambers 113 Lakeshore Drive Pateros, WA on February 21, 2023 at 6:00 pm. The purpose of the public hearing is to review final project performance on the Planning Only Grant for Development Standards funded by the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). The council chambers is handicap accessible. Arrangements to reasonably accommodate special needs, including handicap accessibility or interpreter, will be made upon receiving twenty-four (24) hour advance notice. Contact Kerri Wilson at (509)923-2571 or 113 Lakeshore Drive, Pateros WA. 98846 Published in the Quad City Herald February 8, 15, 2023. #5271

Looking for a home for your Furry friend?

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Our site is promoted across North Central Washington giving you exposure to your primary potential local buyers. Your listing will continue to run for 12 months or until you cancel it



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What's in a B-complex vitamin?

Q: How many B vitamins make up a B-complex vitamin? Some B-complex products contain 4 different B vitamins, like B1, B2, B3, and B6, while others also include B-12.



There are other B vitamins, too, but you may not realize what they are because they have "plain" names, like folic acid, biotin, and pantothenic acid.

When scientists began discovering critical nutrients needed by our bodies, they called these newly discovered compounds "vitamins." The first vitamin identified was a fat-soluble compound that researchers named Vitamin A. Next found were two water-soluble compounds, christened vitamin B and vitamin C.

Then, in 1930, the scientists hit a snag. Although vitamins A and C were easy to identify as single compounds, vitamin B was much more complex. Initially identified as one specific molecule, vitamin B turned out to be much more: a cluster of several unique compounds. Instead of having one particular

vitamin B, scientists ended up isolating, identifying and naming one "vitamin B" component after another.

When the first individual B vitamin was identified, it was called vitamin B-1, or thiamine. This was followed by the discovery of a second B vitamin, called Vitamin B-2, or riboflavin. A third vitamin entity, B-3, is even more complex, with 4 different names: nicotinic acid, nicotinamide, niacin, and niacinamide.

After it was accepted that vitamin B was not a single compound, scientists referred to it as "B-complex" to express the potential of more than one vitamin that might be considered a B vitamin. Over time, several more specific vitamin B nutrients were isolated, but they weren't always given a "B" designation.

Eventually, 11 different vitamins were found inside the initial "vitamin B" compound. All eleven B vitamins are water soluble, and eight are essential human nutrients.

Today, each B vitamin has a name, not just a numeric designation like B1, B2, or B3. If you are interested in taking a supplement containing B vitamins, choose one containing the eight essential B vitamins, including thiamine (B1), riboflavin (B2), and pyridoxine (B6).

Vitamin B-3, another essential B vitamin, can be confusing because the same compound has four different common names: niacin, nicotinic acid, niacinamide, and nicotinamide. Other "essential" B vitamins include folacin, also known as folic acid, pantothenic acid, and biotin, which was once called vitamin H.

Although biotin deficiency is rare, taking a supplement containing biotin may help reduce hair loss if you are deficient in biotin. The recommended amount of biotin is 30 mcg daily. Unfortunately, some hair loss supplements contain very high doses of biotin, up to 5,000 mcg per serving. High levels of biotin can

interfere with the accuracy of thyroid function tests. You can end up taking too much or too little thyroid supplement medication.

5 key facts about B-complex vitamins:
1. There are no standardized B-Complex formulas.

All B vitamins come from the original B vitamin compound. A supplement containing more than one B vitamin can be labeled as B-complex. There's no consistency in which individual B vitamins are included in B-Complex supplements.

2. There are 8 essential B vitamins.

Of the 11 different individual B vitamins identified, 8 are considered essential in humans. B-Complex vitamins usually contain three to eight of these.

3. B vitamins have multiple names.

Although many B vitamins are identified by the letter B followed by a number, each of the B vitamins also has

its own name.

4. All B vitamins are water-soluble and eliminated in urine.

Any excess B vitamin will be eliminated by your kidneys into your urine. Riboflavin (vitamin B-2) is responsible for the characteristic bright yellow urine experienced by many people who take B vitamins.

5. If you take a thyroid supplement, beware of high doses of biotin.

Hair, Skin, and Nails supplement formulas often contain very high amounts of biotin, which can interfere with the accuracy of thyroid blood testing.

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

Does your business qualify for the ERC Federal Assistance Program?

STATEPOINT - The strength of the country relies on its estimated 33.2 million small businesses, which comprise 99.9 percent of all American businesses. COVID threatened, and in some cases forced, the closure of many small enterprises and tens of thousands are still reeling from the aftermath of the full pandemic.

In an effort to offer some relief, the federal government created the Employee Retention Credit (ERC) Program under the IRS that has already helped thousands of

qualifying businesses receive up to \$26,000 per employee. Unfortunately, not enough small business owners are aware of the program. Others don't think they will qualify, leaving billions of dollars on the table that could help them recover and continue to move forward.

Companies such as ERC Helpdesk, www.erchelpdesk.com, have been created to help small businesses determine their qualifications and navigate the ERC program. Now is the perfect time for business owners around the

country to see if they make the cut.

A small business can receive an ERC even if it received PPP. The program is flexible enough that most businesses will likely be eligible. The average claim is \$150,000, but there is no cap on the amount. "I was the owner of a marketing business that assisted dozens of small business owners so I witnessed firsthand the challenges and sweat equity involved in taking such a big risk," said ERC Helpdesk chief marketing officer, Greg Ross-Smith. "Our founder was and remains a small business owner himself who was initially told his businesses would not qualify for an ERC and there was nobody he could find to make



PHOTO SOURCE: (c) Jupiterimages / iStock via Getty Images Plus
A small business can receive an ERC even if it received PPP. The program is flexible enough that most businesses will likely be eligible.

industry, ERC companies are popping up all over so be wary about who you work with. Ideally, try to work with a company you know, or at least one that understands the needs and inner workings of a small business. Often, it helps to work with a smaller sized ERC business that's accessible and that will work with your submission on a one-on-one basis. Bigger isn't always better in this industry. Of course, partnering with a company that maintains a high approval rate for its clients is a critical point of measurement as many companies can waste your time and get your hopes up by simply submitting anything knowing the chances of success are slim. Finally, to the degree you can determine it, try to work with a company that will process your application as quickly as possible while focusing on reducing errors that can delay the process.

"So many small businesses are built organically with the participation, support and hard work of family and friends. As a result, we understand the investment of time, resources and relationships that go into every business we work with," said Ross-Smith. "In the ERC business, integrity, trust, and customer service rule and that's what I'd urge all applicants to consider in navigating their eligibility for the program. Our only goal is to help them qualify and then maximize their efforts and amount of compensation they receive."

sense of the program. When he finally learned about the program details and what the actual qualifications are, not only did he apply and receive funds, but he also decided to create a way to assist other small business owners in taking advantage of the funding available for their businesses."

Here are the basics to see if you qualify:

- Your business is based in the United States.
- You retained and paid W2 employees during 2020 and 2021.
- Your business was impacted by COVID restrictions in one or more of the following ways:
 1. Loss of revenue
 2. Supply chain disruptions
 3. Full or partial shutdown of your business now a growing

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THEME: U.S. PRESIDENTS

ACROSS

1. Short for specification
5. Knave
8. "Like President Eisenhower's head"
12. "One fourth of a Presidential term"
13. Take-out handout
14. The Beast's problem in "Beauty and the Beast"
15. "Pres. Eisenhower established this space agency"
16. Thought
17. Body of water
18. "#22 and #24"
20. First-rate, slangily
21. Terminate, as in mission
22. Lingerie staple
23. Public speaker
26. Ivory tickler
30. "Fresh Prince of ___-Air"
31. Most likely to win
34. Pot contribution
35. By surprise
37. Indian restaurant staple
38. Lacking justification
39. Office communique
40. Greece and Bulgaria peninsula
42. Overnight stop
43. Indifferently
45. Sturdily built
47. English course abbreviation
48. "___" it easy"
50. Oliver Twist, e.g.
52. "University of Virginia founder"
56. African prairie
57. "Second most-popular Presidential birth state, after Virginia"
58. Arm bone
59. Poem at a funeral
60. German title
61. Arnold Lobel's "Mouse ___"

DOWN

1. Update a FitBit
3. "At ___, soldier."
4. Modern tie forerunner
5. Aromatic lumber
7. Two of the same
8. "The only President who was a bachelor"
9. ___ 51, Nevada
10. Law school entry requirement, acr.
11. Bear's room
13. Edith Piaf's hit
14. Meat of coconut
19. Digital tome
22. Trash container, e.g.
23. "One of three Presidents to win a Grammy"
24. James Dean's famous role
25. Remember this battle
26. "First to serve coast to coast"
27. Indo-Aryan, as in languages
28. Did not smell good
29. Like yellow polka dot bikini
32. June 6, 1944
33. Salt in cocina
36. "a.k.a. Silent Cal"
38. Loosen ropes
41. ___ help
44. Hawaii's number
46. Mob offensive
48. High-pitched laugh sound, in print
49. Like Bananas Foster
50. "All's well that ends ___"
51. Away from wind
52. "Second most common Presidential first name, after James"
53. Type of gin
54. Cross to bear
55. Midday slumbers
56. Chill, with 'out'

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Douglas County PUD

By MEAGHAN VIBBERT,
DOUGLAS COUNTY PUD PIO

EAST WENATCHEE - Douglas County PUD Commissioners Ronald E. Skagen, Aaron J. Viebrock and Molly Simpson executed the following actions during the January 23, Commission meeting held at the District's East Wenatchee office:

Authorized a call for bids under bid document 23-05-W, 2023 heavy equipment and construction services for the Wells Hydroelectric Project. To maintain efficient and safe operations of the Wells Hydroelectric Project, the District periodically requires

heavy equipment and construction services to perform emergency and maintenance work at various locations.

Approved a call for bids under bid document 23-08-D, Rapids to Valhalla rebuild and reconductor. Necessary to rebuild and reconductor a 115 kV line between Rapids Switchyard and Valhalla Switchyard.

Authorized a call for bids under bid document 23-09-W, hatchery water well and pump maintenance. The District has a need for certain scheduled and unscheduled maintenance and refurbish-

ment work on the wells and pumps located at its hatchery mitigation facilities.

Approved land use permit 77-03, Cascade Holdings Group LP. The permit is for use of Project lands for existing dock, water access and landscaping.

Authorized land use permit 143-01, Charles Fitzgerald. The permit is for use of Project lands for existing access path, irrigation pump, road, ag crops and hay storage. (23-015)

Approved land use permit 311A-04, Michael and Lauray Foley. The permit is for use of Project lands for existing

landscaping, beach and access path.

Authorized amendment No. 3 to the professional service agreement with Perteet for the design and construction management of the Rapids to Columbia transmission line. The amendment will increase the contract by \$350,000 due to additional construction time necessary due to material delays and limits to working hours for wildlife protection.

Approved execution of an agreement with the US Department of Energy, Bonneville Power Administration. Necessary to upgrade

transformers and disconnect switches at the Valhalla Switchyard to accommodate the Districts' transmission line re-conducting project.

Authorized the bill of sale for the Baker Flats facility water infrastructure to the East Wenatchee Water District. As part of the agreement to provide fire protection water to the hydrogen facility, the District is conveying the recently installed infrastructure connecting the two agencies' systems and providing a two-year maintenance bond.

Authorized the City of Brewster 2023 Operations and Maintenance budget

for recreation facilities. The District's portion is \$81,688 and is required by the Wells Project license.

Approved the City of Pateros 2023 Operations and Maintenance budget for recreation facilities. The District's portion is \$81,688 and is required by the Wells Project license.

Heard a report on the Douglas County Community Network. The network currently has 7,611 end users.

The next regular meeting of the Commission is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. February 27, at the District's East Wenatchee Office.

Domestic sheep, goats prohibited in select areas of WDFW-managed lands to protect bighorn sheep

By WASHINGTON STATE DEPT.
OF FISH & WILDLIFE

OLYMPIA - The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) this week adopted a new rule intended to reduce the risk of Mycoplasma ovipneumoniae (Movi) transmission from domestic sheep and goats to bighorn sheep.

The adopted rule prohibits visitors bringing domestic sheep or goats onto wildlife area units where bighorn sheep may be located. The rule applies to select units of the Asotin Creek, Chelan, Chief Joseph, Colockum, Columbia Basin, L.T. Murray, Oak Creek, Scotch Creek, Sinlahekin, Wells, Wenas, and W.T. Wooten wildlife areas,

and goes into effect in February 2023.

Pneumonia caused by the Movi bacteria can be lethal to bighorn sheep and reduces lamb survival rates for many years after an initial outbreak. There is no treatment or preventative vaccine.

Past pneumonia outbreaks among bighorn sheep in Washington and other parts of the

western United States have been linked to contact between wild sheep and domestic sheep or goats, which can carry the bacteria.

"We're increasing Movi prevention tactics for wild sheep herds in critical areas of Washington," said Anis Aoude, WDFW game division manager. "We have taken a targeted approach by ensuring

hunters and other visitors may continue bringing domestic sheep and goats, including pack goats, to other areas of WDFW-managed lands without bighorn sheep."

The adopted rule culminates a months-long process to develop and refine the rule, including a public comment period, public hearing, and a state environmental review.

The rule's adoption this month followed the Department Director's approval in early December 2022.

To reference the full rule, visit WDFW's website.

WDFW works to preserve, protect and perpetuate fish, wildlife and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities.

WDFW seeks public input on draft co-manager hatchery policy

By WASHINGTON STATE DEPT.
OF FISH & WILDLIFE

OLYMPIA - The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is seeking public comment on a draft policy to guide management of hatcheries in cooperation with tribal co-managers.

The Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission adopted an updated Anadromous Salmon and Steelhead Hatchery Policy in April 2021. As part of that policy, the Commission instructed WDFW "to begin development of a joint policy agreement on salmon and steelhead hatchery programs with tribal co-managers," which would supplement and supersede the existing Commission policy when appropriate.

After more than a year of collaborative work with technical staff under the direction of a subset of commissioners and tribal policymakers, a final draft policy was developed in Novem-

ber 2022 and presented to the full Commission in December 2022 and January 2023.

Key values of the policy include a commitment to work as co-managers to develop and implement hatchery management plans on a regional or watershed-specific basis, while conserving natural-spawning populations of fish and mitigating the effects of habitat loss and other environmental impacts. The draft policy outlines six guiding principles to support these values.

The public is invited to provide comment on the draft policy through March 1. The full draft policy is available online, and comments may be submitted at WDFW's website or at <https://publicinput.com/ComanagerHatcheryPolicy>.

The policy will also undergo an additional State Environmental Protection Act (SEPA) public comment period before being considered for adoption by the Commission.

Public comments sought on Environmental Assessment for backcountry camp modifications in North Cascades National Park-

Submitted by DENISE M. SHULTZ,
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

SEDRO WOOLLEY - The public is invited to comment on an Environmental Assessment (EA) that proposes two projects in North Cascades National Park. The first project consists of rerouting a 2,400-foot section of the Brush Creek Trail and the relocation of the Graybeal Hiker and Stock Camps. The second project consists of the construction of additional backcountry camp accommodations at Six

Mile Camp and Bridge Creek Camp primarily for Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) long-distance permit holders. Considering recent environmental and visitor use changes, the purpose of this action is to maintain existing, and create new, overnight backcountry camping opportunities while preserving wilderness character and conserving the natural and cultural resources in North Cascades National Park Service Complex. Specific atten-

tion is given to minimizing and managing the impacts associated with backcountry recreation (hiking, backpacking, and stock packing).

An EA analyzes the environmental impacts of the proposed project and a no action alternative to help determine whether the National Park Service should carry out the proposed action.

All comments on the EA are welcome, particularly substantive comments that identify ways to lessen the

impacts of the proposed action or address if the document provides enough evaluation of the effects on the environment.

To review the EA and provide electronic comments, go to <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/BCCampMods2023EA>

Comments will be accepted now through March 8, 2023.

Hardcopy comments can be mailed to: Superintendent, Backcountry Camp EA, 810 State Route 20, Sedro Woolley, WA 98284.

Popular COVID-19 treatment program returns

Free telehealth appointments expand access to oral antivirals

Submitted by WASHINGTON
STATE DEPT. OF HEALTH

OLYMPIA - The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) has relaunched its popular free telehealth program to increase access to potentially life-saving medication to treat COVID-19. The program expands the federal government's Test to Treat initiative and gives people at risk of severe disease another way to quickly access treatment.

DOH's telehealth program is an easy way to see if COVID-19 oral antivirals, such as Paxlovid, are right for you. Oral antivirals, which are COVID-19 treatment pills taken by mouth, are available by prescription only and must be started within five days of the first symptoms

to be effective. Telehealth allows patients to connect with a clinician without having to go to a health care facility in person. This reduces barriers to access, especially in rural and underserved urban areas, and allows patients to stay at home for assessment and treatment, reducing the potential spread of the disease.

"Equity, innovation, and engagement are the cornerstone values that have informed DOH throughout our COVID-19 response," said Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH, Secretary of Health. "Ensuring that we continue this important program that connects communities with needed therapeutics is an essential step in continuing our mission of reducing unnecessary deaths from this disease."

Between July 28 and Dec. 31, 2022, DOH's telehealth program:

- Served 6,329 patients from over 400 zip codes throughout Washington state.
- Provided over 4,200 pre-

scriptions to patients with positive COVID-19 tests.

• Served over 975 patients that live in high Equitable Distribution Index (EDI) areas.

DOH encourages people who test positive for COVID-19 to discuss treatment options with their primary health care provider. In situations where this might not be possible, free telehealth consultations can make it easier to access treatments. People who test positive for COVID-19, including with a self-test, can consult with a health care provider using a smartphone or computer with a high-speed internet connection. If treatment is appropriate, they can receive a free prescription for oral antivirals for pick-up from over 1,000 pharmacies throughout the state that has the medication available. They can also choose to have the medication delivered.

Visit DOH's new telehealth webpage to set up a telehealth appointment or call the DOH COVID-19 call center at 1-800-

525-0127 if you have any questions. If the information provided indicates treatment may be appropriate, the patient will be connected virtually with a health care provider for a consultation. Telehealth appointments are currently available every day from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. PST in 240 languages via DOH's collaboration partner Color Health.

"Restarting DOH's telehealth program ensures that patients at high risk for severe disease have equitable access to lifesaving COVID-19 treatments," said Tao Sheng Kwan-Gett, MD, MPH, Chief Science Officer. "This service is free for everyone so that even those without insurance can access antiviral medications. Offering free telehealth consultations in multiple languages also increases access for non-English speakers."

DOH will reassess the program in June to determine if it should continue in light of future needs.

DOH launches Influenza Vaccination Dashboard

Submitted by WASHINGTON
STATE DEPT. OF HEALTH

OLYMPIA - Washington State Department of Health's (DOH) new Influenza (Flu) Vaccinated Dashboard makes it easier to track flu vaccination rates across the state. This is the first time that state-provided data have been used to surveil flu vaccinations. The dashboard displays the number of flu vaccines administered in Washington facilities, as well as the

percentage of Washingtonians who have received at least one flu vaccine. Dashboard users can also make vaccination rate comparisons between the current and previous flu seasons. The dashboard will be updated weekly between Sept. 1 and April 30.

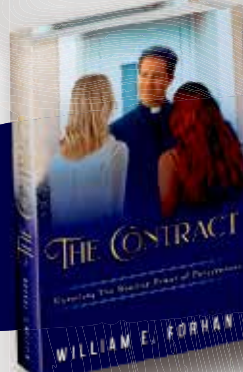
Only data reported to the Washington State Immunization Information System are included on the dashboard. Although most providers and major health care systems in

Washington report vaccinations to this system, not all do. As a result, actual flu vaccination coverage and doses administered may be higher than what is displayed on the dashboard.

Flu vaccination coverage has been trending lower over the last three years. Getting a flu vaccine is one of the best ways to prevent flu and flu-related complications, in addition to reducing disease transmission in the community. Everyone

six months and older who is eligible to receive a flu vaccine should do so. The vaccine is widely available in provider offices, community clinics, and pharmacies. Flu vaccines can be administered at the same time as COVID-19 vaccines. Please visit vaccines.gov to find a flu vaccine provider closest to you.

The DOH website is your source for a healthy dose of information. Find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.



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

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