



Confluence Health Cancels Contract with Premera



Cascade Medical Center in Leavenworth says they are unaffected by the Confluence Health decision

By: ERIN MULLINS
Reporter

Confluence Health recently announced that they will not renew their contract with Premera Blue Cross. Effective February 1, 2022 Confluence Health will no longer be an in-network provider for patients who have Premera, Lifewise, and Blue Cross insurance plans. Other plans that are affected include Regence Blue Shield and Uniform Medical Plan.

Andrew Canning, Director of Marketing and Communications at Confluence Health said that the decision not to renew the contract will affect about 36,000 patients in Chelan, Douglas, Okanogan and Grant counties.

According to Dr. Doug Wilson, CEO-elect of Confluence Health, the rates that Premera were willing to provide as reimbursement were so low that they would not allow Confluence to continue providing medical services for everyone in the long term.

"We were worried that we would eventually have to look at trimming down services and that means people in this region would not have access to the kind of good medical care that they really deserve," he said.

On April 23, Confluence Health notified Premera that it would not renew its current contract. Wilson said that the rates that Premera was willing to provide were much different than what other

commercial insurers are paying and the differential reimbursement did not seem fair.

Negotiations about the contract dispute started well before April, Wilson said. Since then, he said they have had several meetings in an attempt to come to an agreement but haven't made any significant progress.

Courtney Wallace, spokesperson for Premera Blue Cross, said in an email that Premera is paying its fair share.

"The truth is that Confluence is the largest multi-specialty health system in North Central Washington with no true competition within 100 miles. On average, Confluence Health's hospital costs are higher than all other systems in Eastern Washington," Wallace said.

Other hospitals in the region have not yet followed suit with any announcements to end their contracts with Premera.

Agustin Benegas, Communications Manager for Lake Chelan Health, said in an email: "Lake Chelan Health will soon receive the contract from Premera with a plan to renew; they did not change our rates."

Jennifer Best, Business Development Coordinator at Three Rivers Hospital, said that Premera is an in network provider for the hospital and no decisions have been made regarding whether the contract will be renewed.

Clint Strand, Director of Public Relations at Cascade Medical,

said in an email that Premera is an in-network provider at Cascade Medical and a need to discontinue the relationship with Premera has not been identified.

Since Confluence is not renewing its contract with Premera, patients with Premera insurance will be out of network at Confluence and face higher costs of medical care.

Dr. Pete Rutherford, CEO of Confluence Health, said that the costs those with Premera insurance will have to pay once the contract non-renewal is effective depend on the benefit structure that each employer has negotiated with Premera. The change could affect a patient's deductible, co-pays, or co-insurance.

Rutherford said that those with Premera insurance should talk with their employer or insurance broker to get some opinions on which other insurance companies might be able to meet their needs for care.

Because of the impacts of the nonrenewal on patients, Confluence decided to give six months advance notice of the change, Wilson said. The terms Premera was offering after five months of negotiation were far from where they needed to be for Confluence to serve all its patients, he said.

"It became apparent to us, especially in the last month or even back in April," Wilson said, "that it was unlikely that Premera was going to come to a place where we could, in good conscience, accept the terms."

Confluence Health is not currently planning any additional negotiating meetings with Premera and the non-renewal decision was made with full support from the Confluence Health Board of Directors.

Wallace said that she did not believe that Premera has reached an impasse in contract negotiations, but acknowledged that there is still a long way to go to make a mutually beneficial agreement. She urged Confluence to return to the negotiations table.

"Despite Confluence's decision to end the negotiation," Wallace said, "we believe it is in the best interest of our customers and the community that we continue these critical conversations as this type of discussion takes time and isn't a sprint."

Even though there are no current plans to negotiate with Premera, Rutherford said that Confluence is always willing to discuss and look at possibilities. Canning and Wilson both said that it is common for large insurance companies to have disputes with hospitals regarding insurance negotiations.

"Insurance companies do this all the time," Wilson said. "It is part of their way of doing business and we know it's hard on patients. But our responsibility as a health care

provider is to think long term."

But some of the financial issues that the hospital faces go beyond the contract non-renewal. Confluence provides care for those who do not have insurance or are underinsured, which comes at a cost to the hospital. Wilson said that Medicaid rates in the region are nowhere near what they should be to cover the actual cost of care.

Rutherford said that reimbursement from commercial insurances has to help cover the cost of providing care to patients who are uninsured or underinsured. Despite the cost to the hospital, he said that Confluence is committed to not turning anyone away, regardless of their insurance situation.

Confluence Health provided \$28 million in charity care last year, Wilson said. The cost of charity care is factored into the hospital's cost structure. Those costs become debt for the hospital and take away from investments the hospital could make like hiring people and buying new equipment.

Overall, the non-renewal of the Premera contract goes beyond the terms of negotiation between the two parties and reflects the larger issues that both insurance companies and hospitals face.



Peter Rutherford MD



Doug Wilson MD

9/11 Spirit of America Foundation plans annual Remembrance Ceremony

By BILL FORHAN

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attack on our country. This year's ceremony keynote speaker will be David Beamer, father of Todd Beamer, who led the heroic effort to take control away from the terrorist on United Flight 93, before the Boeing 757 crashed in Shanksville, PA. Todd's last words were heard by the United Operations Operators as he coordinated the courageous counterattack with other passengers "Are you guys ready?" "Let's Roll."

Todd's father brings a story of love & hope during unthinkable times. "He was a great guy," said David Beamer. "He was a good father, son, husband, and brother."

This year's ceremony will be held at the 911 Spirit of America Memorial site at Riverside Park in Cashmere, Washington at 11 a.m. - 1230 p.m. on Saturday, September the 11, 2021

Join First Responders, active and retired Military personnel, Flight Crews, Veterans and people from around the region for this important event.

Dam Discovery Center Sets Date for Grand Re-Opening

SUBMITTED BY EDEN WENOKUR



SUBMITTED PHOTO.

Improved view of the fish ladder and Columbia River from the new observation deck

Chelan County PUD's Discovery Center will debut new exhibits and expanded space to provide education and entertainment along the Columbia River

Wenatchee, WA. - After years of planning and an 18-month closure for renovations, the Rocky Reach Dam Discovery Center will open Saturday, August 28. With a new year-round schedule, guests can expect new interactive exhibits, expanded installation space, a new second floor deck to view the dam and Columbia River, and more.

This is the first major remodel for the Discovery Center, a source of education and entertainment built along the Columbia River and Rocky Reach Dam, since Chelan PUD opened the center in the 1960s. The multi-million-dollar redesign includes a roof extension that shelters new

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PHOTO BY CAROL FORHAN

911 Memorial site in Cashmere behind the Riverside Center.

With the COVID-19 restrictions relaxed, take time to visit our local businesses for Shopping, Dining and Events

THIS WEEK

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Socialism vs Capitalism

It appears I have a debate going on between two local friends over the difference between Capitalism and Socialism. There is some truth on both sides of this debate.



BILL FORHAN
PUBLISHER

The argument begins with, "Socialism is not a government system." That is true except for the fact that socialism is not possible without the complete support of the government. Just look at all of the failed attempts at creating a socialist state around the world.

Government bureaucrats love it because it gives them power to expand their influence on issues they see as the most important. Politicians love it because it provides them with issues to sell in campaigns that promise to improve your life.

The problem is there is never enough money to fix all of the problems we face, but more importantly, government programs have proven time and again that they are the least efficient way to address any problem.

Government programs always cost more and are never complete. Once a new bureaucracy is established to address an issue, the work is never done. Generally speaking, the people who work for and run these agencies have the best of intentions. The problem is without the fiscal constraints imposed by capitalistic controls like profit and return on investment, social programs are a bottomless pit of need without the pressure of maximizing efficiencies.

If you want an example of a government social program that is failing, look no further than social security. It is a grand government program to guarantee everybody can retire with a pension. Nobody could retire and live on social security. Everybody paid into it, except the government employees and politicians who created it.

It has two fatal flaws. First, the money was not put into a fund and invested. Originally,

there was a "trust fund" but the politicians have raided it and used the funds to pay for other social programs that do not earn a return on the investment. Second, it is actually an illegal Ponzi scheme that pays beneficiaries with the money the government collects from new investors.

I know some of you are going to say that the funds are put into government bonds that earn interest. That is far from a diversified portfolio of investments that would be required of a private pension plan. In fact, if a private pension plan put all of their pension fund money in their own company's stocks and bonds the executives would all end up in jail under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act or ERISA.

Another example of government social programs that do not provide what they promise is Medicare. The problem with this program is it does not pay the providers for the full cost of the care they provide. In fact, Medicare usually pays less than 40% of the patient's charges. There are some exceptions, but the result is the unpaid portion

of Medicare patient expenses must either be absorbed by the provider or passed on to other non-Medicare patients. It is a corrupt system that ultimately will cause the failure of private health care. If you think I am kidding look at the story about Confluence Health vs Premier Blue Cross.

Politicians suffer no penalty for their bad decisions except they might not get reelected. Bureaucrats suffer even fewer penalties.

A recent survey found 55% of the American people want the government to do more, not less. That suggests that most Americans are willing to exchange government inefficiency for personal freedom.

There are other ways we could address social needs without turning to government. Government is the least efficient way to fix anything with the possible exceptions of war and crime, and ours is rapidly failing there as well.

Incentivize private groups to address issues like poverty. Churches and private foundations could do the work under strict regulations that require a minimal percentage of

the funds they collect for such work be used for administrative purposes. They would all be subject to independent audits of their programs. If they fail to conform to their charter they lose it.

Now I'm sure the atheists and others will be screaming that it violates the principle of separation of church and state as guaranteed under our Constitution. That's a red herring. The separations clause is about protecting churches from the state. It is not about protecting the state from the churches.

Both political parties are guilty of creating the current mess we have in Washington DC. What we need is less government especially at the Federal level. In my opinion we should abolish the Department of Education. Leave education up to the states. I would also call for an across the board cut in Federal spending of 10%.

All government employees and elected officials should be subject to the same benefits that private industry employees receive. That would include changing the government pension plan from a defined benefit program to a defined

contribution plan. In other words, government employees could make voluntary contributions to a privately managed plan. The government could match their contribution.

It is true that socialism is not a government system. The problem is government run social programs all ultimately collapse from excessive promises of politicians.

Our Federal Government needs a major house cleaning. The bureaucrats now control far too much of our lives and they want to control more. Trump tried to "drain the swamp" and you saw what lengths the entrenched bureaucracy went to in order to remove the threat to their control.

Wrenching back freedom from the grasp of the socialists who promise much but deliver little will be a tough fight. It must begin by rejecting the agenda of Democrats and RINO's who no longer represent the common man. Otherwise, the American Dream of personal freedom will be lost forever.

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

Focus on Local Business

Milepost Brewing faces staffing shortages



PHOTO BY VOORTEX PRODUCTIONS, CASHMERE.

Will Young is brewing beer for Milepost Brewing Company.

BY: ERIN MULLINS

Reporter

Melissa McClendon, owner of Milepost Brewing Co. in Cashmere, is currently facing a staffing shortage at her restaurant after emerging from a pandemic. During the pandemic when takeout was the only option, she said that she had to scale back staff and purchasing of ingredients. Sales were minimal.

Despite the minimal sales, McClendon said that she felt that locals and tourists helped to get her restaurant through the pandemic when they were required to do takeout meals.

"We could not have done it without people coming in, you know, and keeping us afloat. Local people did everything they could," she said.

Now that things have opened up, the restaurant is dealing with an "unprecedented" staffing shortage. McClendon said that she puts out ads but no one is answering them. Five years ago, if she posted an ad McClendon would get 40 applicants. Two years ago, she would get 10 applicants. This year, zero people have responded to the ads.

"Sales are good, as compared to previous years, right now but we don't have the staff to support what we're doing," she said.

McClendon said that she has hired younger staff to back up the kitchen and the front of the house. Additionally, she has closed one day a week

because of the lack of staff and is considering closing two days a week. She said that burnout of current staff is "always on the back of my mind."

The reasons for the lack of staff are a combination of many things, she said. Unemployment is keeping people at home, people have found jobs elsewhere or they have moved on somewhere else, McClendon said. The restaurant industry as a whole has nobody to staff the restaurants, she said.

McClendon said that she thinks it will take a while for things to equalize and get back to normal. She thinks that it will take a full year to get back to the staffing she had before. If fully staffed, Milepost Brewing Co. could be "doing so much more business". The restaurant hasn't added any more tables since it opened at 50 percent capacity and those tables are full all the time.

Milepost Brewing Co. is not currently accepting reservations because people are not always timely. To fulfill a reservation, a table has to be open 30 to 45 minutes before guests arrive. During the wait, no one is sitting at that table while other people are waiting to get in the door. Until things get better, the plan is to remain walk-in only.

Currently, McClendon is not worried about the long term future of her business but she is more worried about her staff, both emotionally and financially. It is hard to pay her

staff what they want and the work can be overwhelming.

Staff can be buried for three hours with no break because the tickets just keep coming, she said. An employee may be the only one serving and they cannot get to their tables fast enough because they are dealing with three tables by themselves.

There are between eight to ten tables that could be open in the restaurant, McClendon said, which would almost double the restaurant's seating. However, opening more tables would ruin the customer experience because of how short staffed they are.

"We just... are just trying to keep our heads above water at this point," McClendon said.

Milepost Brewing Co. is currently profitable but when they had to close for takeout they were not profitable, McClendon said. Whenever there has been in person seating, Milepost Brewing Co has been profitable.

The staff and customers are compassionate and understanding, McClendon said. Around "95 to 98 percent" of people that come in understand that Milepost Brewing Co. is "trying really hard to do the best job we can."

Some of the Milepost Brewing Co. staff have been with the restaurant as long as it has been open, McClendon said. Most of her staff that were there from before the coronavirus pandemic have come back. Meanwhile,

McClendon is just trying to take things one day at a time.

"I can't really look too far ahead, I'm trying not to, otherwise it'll just make you go crazy," she said.

Despite the staffing shortages, the restaurant is still focused on quality. At Milepost Brewing Co. everything is made from scratch, McClendon said. Almost all of the salad dressing and sauces are made in-house. The burgers and fries are made by hand. Baked goods are sourced from the local bakery in Cashmere.

A local lady makes the pies and works in-house, McClendon said. She has been making pies since she was just out of high school and is well-known. A local man is the brewer for the restaurant. Catering is managed by Jamie Gere, who is a 10% owner of the business.

In 2021 the goal of Milepost Brewing Co. is to rebrand their image as more of a brewery than a restaurant, McClendon said. Milepost Brewing Co. has a bar with liquor selections for those who do not like beer. There is a patio outside of the restaurant that is dog friendly and most of the restaurant is kid friendly.

"We have a little bit of everything for everybody," McClendon said.

Milepost Brewing Company is located at 407 Aplets Way in Cashmere and the company can be reached by calling (509)-888-0222.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

Just a note to again try to straighten out the misguided thinking of my friend, Bill Cowles, and perhaps even help some of his equally misguided friends to see the light...hmm interesting church song there...

Bill, this is a quote from the San Diego County Sheriff's office employment site: "From the day you are hired, you will build towards retirement in the San Diego County's Pension System and you will qualify for several deferred compensation programs to bolster your life after your career. The San Diego Sheriff's Department does this to help insure a high quality of life for you and your family."

Two more minor points Bill. The San Diego County Sheriff's department is 100% funded by tax dollars from the people of the county.

Sorry, Bill, but you were not employed by a corporation. You were an employee of San Diego County working for the Sheriff's department of the County. You are a retired employee of a Socialist organization.

Like it or not, Bill, you are misinformed about what Socialism is. I also suspect there's an even

bigger problem here, my friend. The real problem is, you have no idea what Capitalism, Communism or Socialism are, as economic systems, and you really don't know the difference between economic and governmental.

Here's a helpful hint: Government owned organizations, either Federal, State, County, City or Municipality are not Capitalist organizations. They are Socialist or Communist, and that's true even if the government organizations are located in the good ole USA. For you and me in our residences, we desperately need our local volunteer Fire Districts; those underpaid folks save lives, save properties and help the county sheriff folks keep us safe...socialism. Just sayin'.

Mom and Pop, individual enterprises, partnerships, or large corporations owned by share-holders or exclusively by the founders are Capitalist organizations. So, my email is alex39@msn.com. Let's connect and I'll attempt to help you come to grips with what I can see is something that troubles you and shouldn't. Your trouble stems very simply from wrong information; you are misinformed.

Alex Saliby
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Corrections

The Cashmere Valley Record regrets any errors. If you see an error, please call 509-548-5286. We will publish a correction on this page in the next issue.

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Call the Record at 509-782-3781

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OBITUARY

Duane E. LaVigne

September 6, 1928 – August 4, 2021
Cashmere, Washington

Duane LaVigne, son of Leon and Stella LaVigne and brother of LeRoy LaVigne accomplished an extraordinary life. Duane passed surrounded by his loving family at his home in Cashmere Washington on August 4, 2021.

Duane was a skier pioneer, a football Bulldog, an Eagle Scout, Farmhouse Frat WSU Cougar with a degree in business, LaVigne Insurance Agency founder, Volunteer Fireman/Chief, corner stone of Cashmere United Methodist Church, enthusiastic Rotarian, Cashmere's Man of the Year, and member of the Biped Hiking Society. He was the loving husband of Jane LaVigne and they spent their 53 year sharing a love of family, community and church. Duane was a nurturing father to Kathi (Tom) Kinsella, Tom (Anne)

LaVigne, Michelle (Arnie) Pipkin and Allison (Ed Womack). He instilled in each of his children and grandchildren a deep faith inspired by the miracle of nature. His family and community alike learned the value of good-humored friendships and unwavering spirit. In his wake he leaves a better and more hopeful community.

After the loss of Jane, Duane found companionship and love with Jewell Goetz, who had also been recently widowed. They were married in Monterey California on January 1, 2005. Together they shared the stories from the past with many similarities in their lives. Both had energy and exuberance for travel, enjoyment of the eight children between them, and their grandchildren.

A special thank you to Om at Home Care Services and their compassionate caregivers.



A celebration of life is scheduled for Friday August 27, 2021, at 10 a.m., Cashmere Riverside Park, Riverside Drive, Cashmere, Washington.

Donations can be made in Honor of Duane to: Cashmere United Methodist Church 213 So. Division Street Cashmere, WA 98815

You are invited to visit Duane's Online Tribute at www.HeritageMemorialChapel.com where you can share a memory. Arrangements are in the care of Heritage Memorial Chapel, East Wenatchee and Cashmere.

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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.

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Pastor Bob Bauer
Find us on Facebook at Cashmere Baptist Church

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www.cashmerepres.org

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213 S. Division • 782-3811
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Pastor Lilia Felicitas-Malana

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Website: www.leavenworthbaptist.com
Email: info@leavenworthbaptist.com

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Sunday Worship 9 a.m.
Lead Pastor: Greg Appleby
www.LCN.org

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10600 Ski Hill Drive • 548-4345
Saturday Services • Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Worship 11 a.m. • Fred Smith • 860-3997

SPIRIT LIFE CENTER
210 Benton Street • 548-7138
Sunday Worship 10 a.m., Prayer 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
Pastor Russell Esparza

MONITOR

MONITOR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
3799 Fairview Canyon • 782-2601
Virtual Zoom Service, Sunday, 11 a.m. until further notice.
Pastor Lilia Felicitas-Malana

PESHASTIN

LIGHT IN THE VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH
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Sunday Worship 10 a.m. • Pastor John Romine
www.lightinthevalley.org

NEW LIFE FOURSQUARE CHURCH
7591 Hwy. 97 • 548-4222
Sunday Worship, 10 a.m.
Pastors, Darryl and Mindy Wall
Email: newlifeleavenworth@gmail.com
FB page: newlifeleavenworth
www.newlifeleavenworth.com

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- Garage and Yard Sale Ads are paid events, please email those to classifieds@leavenworthecho.com or NCWMARKET.COM
- For more info call: Leavenworth: 509-548-5286, Cashmere: 509-782-3781
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Cashmere

Peshastin Dryden Picnic Cancelled

The Peshastin Dryden all school picnic that was scheduled for August 21 has been cancelled this year due to corona virus concerns. If you have questions, call Marilou Hughes, 509-630-0515

Read, Have Fun, and Win Prizes!

We're heading into our last month of Summer Library Program and there is still plenty of time for you to get in the running for several great prizes. All of our libraries are offering gift cards from local businesses as drawing prizes. Book sets and other prizes will be given away in drawings for our online reading program.

You won't want to miss out on all the fun challenges, book bingo, virtual programs, craft kits, and more that are part of this summer's program. Our Summer Library Program has something to offer for all ages. Just head to ncwlibraries.org/slp for all the details. And don't forget to register for our Beanstack summer reading challenge to track your reading, earn badges, and be entered to win prizes!

Leavenworth

Leavenworth Village Voices Picnic

The Leavenworth Village Voices season opener picnic

is Monday, August 16, 5:30 p.m. at the Lions Club Park in Leavenworth. The picnic is open to current members and all interested adult singers. If you can't make the picnic, the first rehearsal for Leavenworth Village Voices is August 23 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Leavenworth Church of the Nazarene, at 111 Ski Hill Drive. Rehearsals take place every Monday thereafter until it's showtime. For more information and to contact LVV about joining or booking the choir, visit www.LeavenworthVillageVoices.org

The Foreigner comedy

Live theater is returning. On Aug. 12-14 River's Edge Productions and Icicle Creek Center for the Arts present The Foreigner, a hilarious comedy by Larry Shue and directed by S. Henry Hettick. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased on the Icicle Creek Center for the Arts website or by calling (509)-548-6347x1. Attendees should bring their own chair or blanket and picnics are welcome.

Regional

CDRW Summer Fundraiser

Guest speaker will be Glenn Morgan. Wednesday, August 18 from 5 to 8 p.m.

Buffet and Silent Auction at the Wenatchee Red Lion. Tickets: \$57 per person, and send a check as soon as possible to CDRW, PO Box 3817, Wenatchee 98807

CHELAN COUNTY SHERIFF, FIRE & EMS REPORTS

This report is compiled from records provided by the Chelan County Sheriff's Office and RiverCom. The publisher cannot certify the complete accuracy of the information provided.

July 30	12:49 Diversion, 241 Independence Way. 14:56 Civil, 324 Peshastin St. 18:39 Drugs, 201 Riverside Dr.	18:31 Accident No Injury, U.S. Hwy. 2 & Easy St., Monitor 21:41 Traffic Offense, 201 Riverside Dr. 21:46 Trespass, 4644 Old Monitor Rd. 22:22 Attempt to Locate, Cashmere
July 31	05:49 Property, 115 East Pleasant Ave. #7 11:17 Theft, 115 E. Pleasant Ave. #3 15:35 Agency Assist, U.S. Hwy. 2 MP 110 23:44 Noise, 417 Norman Ave.	
August 1	03:42 Welfare Check, 106 Titchenal Way 13:00 Parking/Abandon, 110 Perry St. 15:55 Vehicle Theft, 318 Peshastin St. 17:17 Parking/Abandon, 5600 Blk. Airport Rd.	05:38 Civil, 3368 Mission Creek Rd. 10:12 Welfare Check, Woodring St. & East Pleasant 10:58 Accident No Injury, 5886 Sunburst Ln. 12:09 Parking/Abandon, Elberta Ave. & Maple St. 13:12 Public Assist, 102 River St. 13:53 Malicious Mischief, 220 Cottage Ave. 16:36 Welfare Check, 302 Fisher St. 17:18 Theft, 7900 Stine Hill Rd. #6, Dryden
August 2	01:40 Civil, 115 East Pleasant Ave. #18 06:55 Domestic Disturbance, 5300 Wohlers Rd. 12:00 Agency Assist, U.S. Hwy 2 & Aplets Way 12:25 Civil, 7152 North Dryden Rd., Dryden 12:30 Public Assist, 105 Parkhill St. 16:31 911, 424 Norman Ave.	20:08 Domestic Disturbance, 309 River St., Cashmere
August 3		
August 4		
August 5		

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wednesday	Cashmere Rotary Club: Zoom meetings Noon, Call President Glenn Johnson, 782-1922 for more information. Cashmere Food Bank, open 2nd and 4th Wednesday from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Cashmere Food Distribution Center, 316 River St., for more information, call Pam, 509-245-6464
Thursday	Caregiver Support Group, 2-3:30 p.m. For Caregivers of those with Memory Loss. The Henry Building, 120 Cottage Ave. Contact Carmen Gamble, 509-393-0789. (1st & 3rd Thurs.) Cashmere Sportsman Assoc. (Cashmere Gun Club), open to the public for trapshooting 7-10 p.m.. Private rentals by appointment. Call Brian James, 782-3099. Cashmere American Legion Post 64. 7 p.m., American Legion Hall, 401 Sunset Highway. Commander Ken Komro, 782-4973. (1st Thurs. of every month, August -June). Cashmere American Legion Auxiliary #64, 7 p.m., American Legion Hall, 401 Sunset Highway. President Linda Ingraham, 679-0243. (1st Thurs. of every month, August -June). Underground Middle School youth meet 7-8:30 p.m., in person, in the Conservatory. Call Kelsie Folden for more info. 782-2825
Friday NO MEETINGS	
Saturday	Bingo, 6 p.m., American Legion Hall, 401 Sunset Highway. Call Wiley Collins, 888-1904. No Bingo due to the COVID-19.
Sunday	CHURCH: See the church page for local service times and events. Underground High School meet at 6 p.m., in-person, at the Conservatory, call Kelsie Folden for more info. 782-2825
Monday	Cashmere Wacoka Kiwanis Club, 6:30 p.m., American Legion Hall, lower level. 6:30 p.m. Call Mary, 782-2057. (4th Monday) Tillicum Riders: 7 p.m. Chelan County Fairgrounds. Call Cindy, 662-5984. (1st Mon.) Cashmere City Council, 6 p.m., City Hall (2nd & 4th Mon. of each month (unless a holiday, then Tues.). Planning Committee Meeting, 5 p.m. at City Hall (1st Mon. of each month unless a holiday, then Tues.). Cashmere Fire Department, Business management, 7 p.m., above City Hall. Call Chief Cy, 782-3513. (3rd Mon.) Cashmere Fire Department, meeting, 8 p.m., above City Hall. Call Chief Cy, 782-3513. (3rd Mon.) Cashmere School Board Work Session, Board work sessions are typically held towards the beginning of the month at 6:30 a.m. with no action taken. For updated info. Visit www.cashmere.wednet.edu Cashmere School Regular Board Meetings, are typically held towards the end of the month at 7 p.m. with action taken. The schedule for meetings is subject to change to accommodate conflicts in schedule or special circumstances. Visit www.cashmere.wednet.edu for the most up to date info.
Tuesday	Chelan Douglas Republican Women, Meetings at Red Lion, 1225 N. Wenatchee Ave. Please, RSVP if you want to have lunch. Cost for lunch is \$18; Cost for meeting with beverage only is \$7 (no outside food please). Check-in begins at 11:30 a.m. and the meeting will begin at Noon. Call Ellie: 425-319-9869. (1st Mon., monthly). Icicle & Peshastin Irrigation Districts: Call for day and time Anthony Jantzer, cell, 509-433-4064 or tony.iid.pid@nwi.net (2nd Tues.) Cashmere Chamber of Commerce. Noon, everyone is invited to attend as a guest. Call Executive Director, Gina, for meeting location, 782-7404. (3rd Tues.)
NCW Libraries	Cashmere Public Library: 782-3314 You can order your books online at ncwlibraries.org or call 1-800-426-READ (7323). Call for days and times, as they are subject to change. 300 Woodring Street. Call 782-3314, or online at cashmere@ncwlibraries.org Cashmere Museum and Pioneer Village Call for more information 782-3230 Chelan County Historical Society Board meets. 7 p.m., Cashmere Museum, 600 Cotlets Way. Call 782-3230. (3rd Thurs.) Note: Some meetings or events may be rescheduled due to holidays or other closures. Please call and check with that organization listed.

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MEETING SCHEDULES FOR AA, ALANON, CELEBRATE RECOVERY

AA Meetings:
 Call for the Zoom link to Leavenworth AA meetings: 541-480-8946
 Call for the Zoom link to Leavenworth AlAnon meetings: 509-548-7939
 509-548-1627, 548-4522, 664-6469, 425-773-7527, 206-719-3379
 Sunday, 9 a.m., and 7 p.m., Leavenworth Senior Center, 423 Evans St.
 Tuesday, noon, First Baptist Church, 429 Evans St.
 Tuesday, 7 p.m., Light in the Valley, 8455 Main Street, Peshastin
 Wednesday, 7 p.m., Leavenworth Senior Center, 423 Evans St.
 Thursday, noon, First Baptist Church, 429 Evans St.
 Friday, 7:30 p.m., Plain Community Church, 12565 Chapel Dr., Plain

Alanon Meetings, call 509-548-7939
 Monday, 7 p.m., United Methodist Church, 418 Evans St.

Renewed Celebrate Recovery, Every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at Leavenworth Church of the Nazarene. 111 Ski Hill Drive. Come experience God's grace for all of life's hurts, habits and hang-ups. For more information: CelebrateRecoveryLCN@gmail.com or 509-596-1510.

The Washington Outdoors Report

The Trail Less Traveled

By JOHN KRUSE

Thanks to the covid pandemic people are recreating outdoors like never before and one of the most popular activities for outdoors enthusiasts whether they be novices or veterans is hiking! While some don't mind crowded trails, many of us hike into the wilderness to enjoy the solitude the experience can give us. With that in mind, here's some ideas for hikes this summer that will get you away from those crowds.

Hike Mid-Week – This one's a no-brainer. Hiking Monday through Thursday you are going to find a lot less folks on the trail than the weekend. Getting an early morning start can help as well, especially if you want to beat the summer heat.

Backpack In And Stay The Night – The vast majority of hikers are day hikers. With that in mind consider an overnight trip. Load up your backpack and hit the trail in the late afternoon when most hikers are returning (or have returned) back to the trailhead. Even if you don't backpack in a long way, you'll likely enjoy an evening of solitude at a forested campsite but if you really want to leave the crowds behind, go on a multi-day trip. Just stay off trails like the Pacific Crest Trail, which tends to be very crowded these days. Speaking of which....

Avoid The Marquee Hiking Destinations – Let's face it, some of our trails are being loved to death. Exhibit A – The Enchantments south of Leavenworth in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. Demand

for overnight permits is off the charts and every day of the week (all the way through September) you'll find completely full parking lots at trailheads and no ability to park outside of them without getting ticketed or towed.

This situation is not limited to the Enchantments; other popular hiking destinations include Lake Valhalla, Heather Lake and Pete Lake in the Central Cascades, Silver Falls west of Entiat, Barclay Lake and Lake 22 west of the Cascade Crest and the Horsethief Butte Trail in the Columbia River Gorge. These are just a few of the perennially crowded hiking trails in our state, though most are not nearly as crowded on any random day as just about any trail you'll find in Mount Rainier or Olympic National Park.

Less Flashy Destinations – Try looking for destinations that fly under the radar. Trails that follow streams instead of heading to lakes are often less crowded. Ingalls Creek off the Blewett Pass Highway and the Icicle Creek Trail at the very end of the Icicle River Road are both trails I've enjoyed many times while only seeing a few fellow hikers each time.

Other Public Lands – Another option is to consider hikes outside of our national forests and wilderness areas. There are a number of trails on bureau of land management land in Eastern Washington worth exploring, and also on several national wildlife refuges. Trails found at the Toppenish, Turnbull, Columbia and Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuges offer not only uncrowded experiences in the

summer, but also the chance to see lots of wildlife. Another option to consider are our state wildlife areas. Managed by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, they are often crowded during hunting season but in the summer many of them are empty of any visitors and like the national wildlife refuges, offer great chances to experience solitude and wildlife.

Be Mindful of Closures – Do keep in mind all state wildlife areas are only open during the day because of fire danger and no shooting or smoking (outside of your vehicle) is allowed. A reminder as well that all Washington Department of Natural Resource lands east of the Cascade crest are closed until further notice due to high fire danger. The Umatilla National Forest in Southeast Washington and Northeast Oregon also remains closed to all access as well for the same reason. When those areas reopen though, they will definitely be worth exploring.

Be Prepared – Last but not least, be prepared to help not only yourself, but some of the enthusiastic but completely unprepared people who are giving hiking a go for the first time. In addition to carrying the "ten essentials" for wilderness survival, you might want to bring along a few extra first aid supplies and water too. You just might run across someone who needs them.

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



PHOTO BY JOHN KRUSE

The trail along Ingalls Creek off the Blewett Pass Highway



SUBMITTED PHOTO.

The old steam wheel is now a video game

Dam Discovery Center

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

outside displays, viewing areas to see into the dam's fish ladder system, educational mini-theaters, and multiple interactive displays for kids and families to explore.

"The Discovery Center is so much more than a place to stop and get a map," says Debbie Gallaher, Visitor Services Manager for the Chelan County PUD. "It will be one of the premier educational opportunities on the Columbia River. It's an opportunity for families to learn about the incredible area and its history -and have fun doing it!"

Gallaher adds there is no

charge to visit the Discovery Center, the exhibits, and Rocky Reach Park.

The August 28 reopening celebration is free to attend and will have tours, treats, entertainment in Rocky Reach Park, and an awards ceremony for the Discovery Center Elementary Poetry Contest being held in celebration of the opening.

For more details, visit www.chelanpud.org/VisitRockyReach.

About Rocky Reach Discovery Center

Rocky Reach Discovery Center is located seven miles north of Wenatchee on Highway 97A on the west side of Chelan County PUD's Rocky Reach Dam. There is ample parking for guests, including RVs and buses, and room to roam in the park at 5000 State Hwy 97A, Wenatchee, WA 98801.



SUBMITTED PHOTO.

Tule House Living River Exhibit

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Each year, the Cashmere Chamber of Commerce hosts the Annual Auction and Recognition Dinner where recipients are honored. The community has the opportunity to nominate those (Business, Citizen, and Organization) making a difference to Cashmere. This year, we would like to highlight all our nominees for their efforts in supporting the Cashmere community. Check back each week to learn more about each nominee and the announcement of the 2020 honoree recipients.



OF THE YEAR
Citizen
Nominee:
Kim Larson

Nominated for: Outstanding contribution to the Cashmere community; helps promote the local economic climate; active in service projects leading to civic improvement; donates time beyond what is expected in the position in which the nominee earns a living.

What Others Shared: She runs CrossFit 791, frequently takes time out of her day to mentor teens and adds additional classes when there is interest. When the gyms were shut down, she advocated for zoom classes and outdoor classes. She also created an equipment loan program so that members could loan equipment out to remain active at home. She always encourages us to pursue big and scary goals, helping us take them one step at a time. She also leads by example, running a 45

mile race this coming week!

What do you love most about the Cashmere Community?
Family... I moved away from my family 17 years ago and didn't feel like I found our HOME, til we moved to Cashmere! The community, the people, the views, the kindness, the waves, it makes me smile and truly grateful to be a part of such a great community. We don't just help when things are good, our community helps when things are tough, when families need help, when businesses need an uplift.. ETC. I am so blessed to call Cashmere my home!!

Can you tell us more about your community involvement?
I try to do as much as I can with our community...you ask and I will try my best to figure

out how to help!!
*Fun Run *Volunteer with schools *Support events in the town *Support Cashmere Fire Dept

Share your best memory from 2020.
I think we have learned this last year more than ever... how great our community is! It was tough year but it has made us more determined than Ever!! The 2nd shutdown of our little gym, CrossFit 791 could have ended our business, but our small community wasn't going to let that happen... we fought, we cried, we grew!! It has taught me a valuable lesson in SUPPORT! We need to help our fellow businesses, we need to come together in tough times! We would not be here today without our COMMUNITY!! What a great lesson in finding the good in tough times!!

'Preppers' Quietly Stock Up for the 'Perfect Storm'

ALLAN STEIN

A crippling ice storm that left Travis Maddox and thousands of other Missouri residents without power in 2007 had an “almost apocalyptic feel to it.”

“No one could move. It just shut the whole region down for two weeks. I wasn’t as prepared as I thought,” said Maddox, a burly man of 43, sporting a long black beard, T-shirt, cargo pants, and baseball cap, while tending his garden.

Those two weeks made Maddox realize that being prepared—“prepping,” as it’s called today—was the key to a life of self-reliance and personal freedom.

To me, the ultimate level of prepping is being self-sufficient. You’re still being modern, but you’re in control.

Travis Maddox, prepper

As an Eagle Scout, he never forgot the Boy Scout motto: Be prepared.

“To me, the ultimate level of prepping is being self-sufficient. You’re still being modern, but you’re in control,” Maddox told The Epoch Times on Aug. 5.

In 2009, Maddox launched his YouTube channel, “The Prepared Homestead,” which now has over 32,000 subscribers.

People, he said, are waking up to the worsening reality of supply chain disruptions and food shortages, and rapid political and social changes that all point toward “a perfect storm” just ahead.

The COVID-19 lockdowns and empty store shelves only served to heighten popular sentiment that the “old normal” is gone, he said.

“When the pandemic struck, we started seeing all this panic buying,” Maddox said. “What’s really increased is the number of people that contact me. These are really personal emails. They’re not crazy extremists. These are single moms, elderly people, disabled people, regular working people. They’re realizing

that things are changing. They can just feel things are changing rapidly,” he said.

“The riots [of 2020] were bad. The election was bad. Now what’s happening is the whole world is starting to change.”

Talk of a global political and economic “Great Reset” and vaccine passports have done little to diminish anxiety among the unvaccinated that society is about to turn its back on them. And so they and others prepare—with food, water, alternative power sources, survival gear, and plans to leave the city if possible for the relative safety of rural areas.

Along with “The Prepared Homestead,” a host of other YouTube channels cater to seasoned and beginning preppers, including “Magic Prepper” in North Dakota, “Angry Prepper” in New York City, “Alaska Prepper,” “Ice Age Farmer,” and many others.

Maddox said “The Prepared Homestead” began as a way to share basic gardening tips that grew in scope as political and economic circumstances changed.

Now he produces at least six videos per week, touching upon such controversial topics as forced vaccination, firearms confiscation, and “cultural secession”—living apart from the government and its “woke” culture—while using careful language to avoid the YouTube censors.

“A huge portion of our country is saying you’ve gone too far,” Maddox said. “We’re seeing not just a rapid change in politics and policies and the economy, we’re seeing a rapid change in the heart and soul of America.”

While many individual preppers and prepper organizations try to remain anonymous, the number of people preparing appears to be growing. In the last year alone, roughly 45 percent of Americans, or about 116 million people, said they spent money preparing for hard times or spent money stockpiling survival goods, according to Finder.com.

Maddox, however, said there’s a big difference between prepping and “hoarding.”

“Prepping is something most people did all the time” in bygone years. “Our grandparents were preppers. I sus-



Travis Maddox, a prepper and producer of “The Prepared Homestead” on YouTube, feeds his turkeys and chickens.



A prepper collects eggs from his chickens, which he raises at his home in Sebastopol, Calif., on March 30, 2017.

Bansemer said that being prepared isn’t about politics—it’s that ‘people just need to eat.’

pect if things continue to worsen, preppers will be made to be the bad guys,” he said.

In the months following the pandemic lockdowns, online stores that serve a growing number of preppers have experienced record-breaking sales and interest in their products.

Keith Bansemer, president of My Patriot Supply in Salt Lake City, said his business has grown exponentially amid widespread fears of a return to COVID-19 lockdowns, empty store shelves, and forced vaccinations that will limit personal freedoms.

“For those that choose not to be vaccinated, the fear is that it’s going to restrict their access to certain things,” Ban-

semer told The Epoch Times. In a word—food.

“Since mid-July, we have seen a [six-fold] increase in orders and are shipping several thousand orders daily from our centers in Utah, Missouri, and Ohio,” Bansemer said. “Americans are quietly preparing.”

Bansemer said My Patriot Supply has provided over 1 million families in the U.S. with emergency foods, water filtration, and other survival products since the start of the pandemic in March 2020.

“We own and operate three large warehouses covering over 500,000 square feet. We spent the last year adding 10 times the additional capacity to our operations to best serve our customers during times of crisis and emergencies during spikes in orders like we are seeing now,” Bansemer said.

“An increasing number of those new to preparing have placed orders recently. They are primarily purchasing our large food kits that average over 2,000 calories per day and last up to 25 years in storage. The most popular item right now is our 3-Month Emergency Food Kit.”

In the end, he said, being prepared isn’t about politics—it’s

that “people just need to eat.”

At South Carolina-based Practical Preppers, a supplier of emergency preparing supplies, President Scott Hunt said COVID is “definitely a driver of increased demand.”

“The social and political divisions are also making people nervous,” he told The Epoch Times.

The Texas ice storm and the Colonial pipeline ransom earlier this year “really caused people everywhere to pursue independence,” he said.

“Electrical independence is very high on everyone’s list. I predict demand will outstrip supply this month or the next. Shipping difficulties play a very large role in this. Port congestion and trucking shortages are contributing to this perfect storm,” Hunt said.

As a seasoned prepper, Maddox said homesteading is the next level preparing for hard times. He lives with his wife and daughter in a family-built house tucked away in the pristine Ozarks with the goal of living off the grid.

The family raises goats, chickens, sheep, turkeys, and grows a variety of fruits and vegetables including squash, corn, and asparagus in a large garden.

American Employers Added 943,000 Jobs in July

TOM OZIMEK

America’s private employers in July added 943,000 jobs—a proxy for new hires—in a sign that the U.S. economy enjoyed a solid burst of job growth as the labor market recovery continues.

The Labor Department’s jobs report, released Aug. 6, shows that nonfarm payroll employment rose by 943,000 in July, topping the 850,000 jobs U.S. employers added in June.

Ahead of the release, economists’ estimates varied widely—from 350,000 to as much as 1.6 million, according to a Reuters review of institutional forecasts.

Driving the uncertainty are the dynamics of the pandemic, particularly the spread of the Delta variant of the CCP virus, which the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

The [Biden] administration must reexamine their policies holding the economy back & prioritize getting Americans back to work.

Sen. Jim Risch

considers more transmissible and potentially more resistant to vaccines.

But while the resurgence in COVID-19 infections poses a risk to economic recovery, there’s no sign yet of any significant impact.

“While the Delta variant has sparked a rise in COVID cases, there’s scant indication this is translating to a measurable reduction in economic activity in

JUSTIN SULLIVAN/GETTY IMAGES



A “Now Hiring” sign outside a store in San Francisco on June 3, 2021.

the U.S. so far, suggesting little meaningful impact on employment,” Bankrate senior economic analyst Mark Hamrick said in an emailed statement to The Epoch Times.

While economic output has fully bounced back to its pre-pandemic levels, the labor market recovery is trailing. After shedding over 22 million jobs in the first two months of the pandemic, the U.S. econo-

my has since recovered nearly 17 million jobs.

The Labor Department’s jobs report also showed that the unemployment rate dropped by 0.5 percentage points to 5.4 percent in July, while the total number of unemployed persons fell by 782,000 to 8.7 million.

While these measures are down considerably from their highs at the end of the February–April 2020 recession,

they remain well above their pre-pandemic levels of 3.5 percent and 5.7 million in February 2020, the Labor Department said.

The brisk economic recovery has also driven down the number of American workers seeking unemployment benefits, which last week fell to a pandemic-era low, although the number remains historically elevated.

Initial filings for unemployment insurance, a proxy for layoffs, came in at 385,000 for the week ending July 31, a drop of 14,000 over the previous week’s revised level, the Labor Department said in a statement on Aug. 5.

While the drop in initial jobless claims reflects the dynamics of a rebounding economy, the number of last week’s filings is nearly twice as high as the pre-pandemic weekly average of around 220,000, suggesting the labor market still has a ways to go in its recovery.

“It was about a year ago when new claims first fell below the

1 million level for the first time after the pandemic began. In total, some 12.9 million Americans continue to receive some form of jobless assistance, which remains historically elevated,” Hamrick said.

Some Republicans and economists have blamed generous unemployment benefits—in particular, the federal pandemic jobless compensation boost—for sidelining workers by discouraging them from taking jobs.

“With jobless claims remaining high, the administration must reexamine their policies holding the economy back & prioritize getting Americans back to work,” Sen. Jim Risch (R-Idaho) said in a statement.

American businesses posted a record 9.2 million job openings in May, faster than applicants are showing up to fill them. In the face of business hiring difficulties, some two dozen states have moved to end early their participation in the extended federal unemployment programs.

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NYC Restaurants Taken Aback by News of Vaccine Passport Requirement

PETR SVAB

NEW YORK CITY—Just as New York City restaurateurs thought they would perhaps see their way out of crushing COVID-19 restrictions and back to “normalcy,” the city’s government dealt another blow: Restaurants will now have to check customers for proof of vaccination, or themselves face fines.

In response, restaurant owners seem to have flocked to one of two positions. Some support the rule as long as it prevents more lockdowns, while others reject it as an unreasonable imposition on their already vulnerable operations.

Restaurants have been among the hardest hit by the lockdowns imposed amid the CCP virus pandemic. New York City boasted a flourishing restaurant scene in 2019, with more than 23,000 establishments and more than 300,000 employed, according to a state comptroller report.

The lockdowns slashed employment by about two-thirds in the sector in April 2020. It has been gradually recovering since, in major part depending on federal relief funding and the solidarity of their landlords. December 2020 sales were 50 to 100 percent lower than the year before for most restaurants and bars, according to a survey by the NYC Hospitality Alliance, an industry group. For two in five, sales were 90 to 100 percent lower. If the government stopped supports such as rent subsidies and the eviction ban, nearly half said they’d go out



Karla Martinez, manager of Chirp restaurant in Manhattan’s Garment District in New York on Aug. 4, 2021.

of business. Only 15 percent said they wouldn’t. The rest weren’t sure.

The vaccine requirement, announced by Mayor Bill de Blasio on Aug. 3, would apply to both staff and customers at restaurants, bars, gyms, and entertainment venues. It may be expanded to other establishments, too, a New York City Department of Health official told The Epoch Times.

Businesses will have to ask customers for their vaccination card issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or vaccination confirmation on the city or state phone app. The rule goes into effect on Aug. 16 and enforcement through inspec-

tions will start Sept. 13.

More than a third of New Yorkers haven’t received even the first of the two doses of the vaccine, which was developed at record speed last year and rolled out through an emergency authorization before the completion of clinical trials.

It still isn’t clear how the NYC requirement will work in practice, head of the alliance Andrew Rigie told The Epoch Times.

“The city announced the policy and over the coming weeks is going to develop the guidelines, so many questions still need to be answered,” he wrote via email. “We will work to inform the guidelines to make them as clear and fair

to restaurants as possible.”

Bar and restaurant owners are “very split on the issue,” he said, based on conversations the alliance has had with some of them.

“Some support it, others oppose it. All seem to agree we can’t go to harsher restrictions and shutdowns again,” he said.

For Karla Martinez, manager of Chirp restaurant in Manhattan’s Garment District, the rule announcement was “confusing.”

“The mayor saying one thing, the governor saying another thing, the CDC saying yet another thing,” she said.

Some people are already irked when asked to put on a mask. Asking for a vaccination

card will only exacerbate the situation, she said. “They’re going to get angry.”

She wasn’t even sure how to enforce the rule, noting that she doesn’t have the budget to have a person stand by the door checking people’s vaccination papers.

The Peruvian restaurant has been around for three years, barely surviving the lockdowns and still hanging on by a thread.

“It’s still rough,” she said. “Every day, it’s very uncertain for us. We don’t know if tomorrow we’re going to be able to open the doors.”

She’s hoping the rule won’t cost her customers.

“But at this point, we don’t

know anything,” she said.

Mostafa Zouini, manager at nearby Cafe Aroma, said he would comply with the rule, but that it would make some customers unhappy.

“It’s like going back to square one,” he said.

He recalled the backlash he received when the city told establishments to have customers put down their email addresses for contact tracing and even have their temperature checked before getting served.

“They used to get mad and leave,” he said.

Down the street, the manager at the Italian eatery Pomodoro opposed the new rule.

“It’s stupid, because it’s not our job to police people,” he said, identifying himself only by his last name, Liu.

He said he supports everybody getting vaccinated, but he’s not in favor of turning away customers based on that.

“Whether you’re not vaccinated or you’re vaccinated, you’re still my customer,” he said.

He expects businesses will ignore the rule rather than lose customers over it.

“People are not going to follow,” he said, suggesting it’s the government’s fault so many people aren’t getting the shot.

A lack of incentives isn’t the core issue holding people back, he said. The problem is that “there’s no outreach.” The government should just focus on educating people, in his view.

“Instead, they’re forcing these ridiculous laws on us,” he said.



OLIVIER DOULIERY/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Pro-life activists demonstrate in front of the U.S. Supreme Court during the 47th annual March for Life in Washington on Jan. 24, 2020.

Tennessee’s 48-Hour Abortion Wait Period Is Legal, Federal Appeals Court Rules

IVAN PENTCHOUKOV

A federal circuit court on Aug. 5 upheld the constitutionality of a Tennessee law that requires doctors to provide pregnant women seeking an abortion with materials about the safety of the procedure and have them wait two days before performing the procedure.

“Tennessee’s 48-hour abortion waiting period is facially constitutional. The law is supported by a rational basis, and it is not a substantial obstacle to abortion for a large fraction of women seeking pre-viability abortions in Tennessee,” Circuit Court Judge Amul Thapar wrote in an opinion.

The decision is the latest development in a decades-long legal saga surrounding the 48-hour rule. The state first enacted the law in 1978, but a federal court blocked it based on a case that predated Planned Parenthood v. Casey, a case in which the Supreme Court upheld a

24-hour waiting period for an abortion.

After Planned Parenthood v. Casey was decided, the Tennessee Supreme Court ruled in 2000 that the law violated the state’s constitution. Tennessee voters responded to that decision by amending the state’s constitution to specify that it doesn’t protect the right to an abortion.

After the state constitution was amended, Tennessee again enacted a 48-hour law, which required doctors to provide pregnant mothers with certain information, including the age of the child, alternatives to abortion, and the medical risks of abortion and pregnancy. The law included an exception for medical emergencies.

A group of abortion providers sued but didn’t request for the law to be suspended. The statute went into effect in 2015 and remained in force for five years. The plaintiffs alleged that the law was unconstitutional and

imposed a burden on mothers seeking abortions.

Thapar noted that while the law was in effect, the level of abortions remained the same in the state, with about 10,000 unborn children aborted every year after the law was passed.

Last year, a district court held a trial and concurred with the plaintiffs, finding that the law was unconstitutional because it imposed an undue burden on women seeking abortions.

Judge Karen Nelson Moore was the only member of the 16 judges on the circuit to dissent with the Aug. 5 decision.

“An honest look at the record compels but one conclusion: a law that peddles in stigma, forces women into unnecessary and invasive surgical procedures, and forces low-income women to sacrifice basic necessities for themselves and their families in order to obtain an abortion is nothing if not an undue burden,” Moore wrote. “I dissent.”

Los Angeles City Council Proposes COVID-19 Vaccination Passports for Restaurants, Theaters

JACK PHILLIPS

Los Angeles City Council members introduced a measure on Aug. 4 that seeks to require people to show proof that they’ve had a COVID-19 vaccine to enter some indoor public spaces, including theaters and restaurants, following a similar mandate announced by New York City earlier this week.

In an announcement on Twitter, City Council President Nury Martinez wrote that “many Angelenos stepped up and did their part,” and “they shouldn’t be penalized with closures by those unwilling to do theirs.”

The legislation would direct the city attorney to draft an ordinance requiring people aged 16 and older to have received at least one vaccine dose to gain access to indoor public spaces.

The indoor spaces include but are “not limited to restaurants, bars, retail establishments, fitness centers, spas, and entertainment centers, such as stadiums, concert venues, and movie theaters,” the text of the measure said.

Martinez, a Democrat, issued a statement alongside the proposal and effectively blamed people who aren’t vaccinated for exacerbating the COVID-19 pandemic. He, along with most other officials, made no mention of “natural immunity” among people who contracted and survived COVID-19.

“We have three vaccines that

City Council President Nury Martinez has blamed people who aren’t vaccinated for exacerbating the COVID-19 pandemic.

work and are readily available, so what’s it going to take? Our kids are about to return to school, and the unvaccinated are putting their lives at risk every day. Ask your questions, talk to your doctor and get the vaccine. Let’s put this behind us,” he said.

New York Mayor Bill de Blasio announced earlier this week that the city would roll out vaccine mandates for gyms, restaurants, theaters, and other venues starting in mid-September. It isn’t clear yet how that will be enforced in the thousands and thousands of restaurants and cafes around New York City.

Some restaurant owners in New York City told local media that for them, it would be virtually impossible to enforce such a mandate.

Seongmin Jun, the manager of Dear Han Cafe in Queens, asked: “Will customers get offended for checking if they got COVID vaccinations? I mean I don’t know how to do that, or even if I will have time to do that.”

And such a system and other

vaccine passport-type systems have been flagged by civil liberties groups as being authoritarian and would create a segregated society. The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) earlier this year wrote there “is a lot that can go wrong” with vaccine passport systems.

“We don’t oppose in principle the idea of requiring proof of vaccination in certain contexts. But given the enormous difficulty of creating a digital passport system, and the compromises and failures that are likely to happen along the way, we are wary about the side effects and long-term consequences it could have. We will be closely watching developments in this area,” the ACLU said.

Even some Democrat officials have rebuffed calls for vaccine passport mandates, including Boston Acting Mayor Kim Janey, who this week compared vaccine passports in New York City to slavery-era freedom papers and Jim Crow laws.

“There’s a long history in this country of people needing to show their papers,” Janey told local media. The mayor then listed examples “during slavery, post-slavery, as recent as ... what [the] immigrant population has to go through here.”

“Here, we want to make sure that we are not doing anything that would further create a barrier for residents of Boston or disproportionately impact” minority groups, she added.

“I PASS ON YOUR ARTICLES TO ENLIGHTEN SOME OF THE UNENLIGHTENED.” —Philip Lewis

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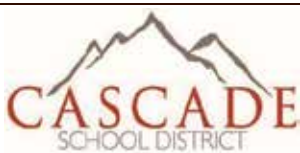
Employment

Help Wanted



Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant Full-time

Three Rivers Hospital is seeking a Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant (COTA) to provide therapeutic services to enhance the goals and objectives with patient care directed by the OT. The COTA will be responsible for implementing programs developed by the OT in compliance with all local, state, and federal regulations. Graduate of an accredited OT Assistant program. Certification as OT Assistant in the state of WA with valid license. Two years' work experience in a hospital setting and/ or swing bed program is preferred. Current BLS. Interested Candidates may apply in person or by mailing their resume to: Three Rivers Hospital Human Resources Dept. PO Box 577 Brewster, WA 98812 (509) 689-2517 www.threerivershospital.net opportunity@trhospital.net EOE



The Cascade School District is seeking qualified applicants for the following position:

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Fast Track application process and information can be found on our website at www.cascadesed.org EOE

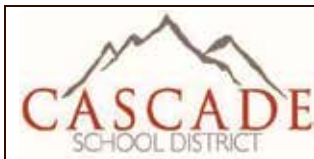


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Part-time Administrative Assistant for Lake Chelan Lutheran Church.

Equivalent of approximately one day/ week. Work is on-site and located near downtown Chelan. Competitive salary.

www.lakechelanlutheran.org Please reply to orrestad@aol.com



The Cascade School District is seeking qualified applicants for the following positions:

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Three Rivers Hospital is seeking a Lab Tech to perform various technical, clerical and information systems related procedures in Chemistry, Hematology, Microbiology, Blood Bank. A.S Degree in Medical Laboratory Technology or related scientific field with a one-year internship or one year of clinical experience. Professional certification as a MLT (ASCP) or equivalent is highly recommended. Will include weekends and after-hours call-time. Sign-on Bonus: \$5,000. Interested Candidates may apply in person or by mailing their resume to: Three Rivers Hospital Human Resources Dept. PO Box 577 Brewster, WA 98812 (509) 689-2517 www.threerivershospital.net opportunity@trhospital.net EOE



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E-mail your completed application to clerk@okanogantransit.com **Application Deadline:** Application review will begin September 3, 2021 and will continue until the position is filled.

Okanogan County Transit Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



OR Manager Full-Time

Three Rivers Hospital is seeking an OR Manager to oversee the OR nursing staff and the surgery department. Candidate must have current WA State RN license and ACLS & BLS.

Must be proficient in orthopedic, general and OB/ GYN surgeries. Should have 2-3 years of progressively responsible experience in hospital nursing, including leadership assignments. Excellent communication and discretionary skills. Monday-Friday, 8-hour shifts. No call time. Sign-on bonus: \$5,000. Interested Candidates may apply in person or by mailing their resume to: Three Rivers Hospital Human Resources Dept. PO Box 577 Brewster, WA 98812 (509) 689-2517 www.threerivershospital.net opportunity@trhospital.net EOE

Brewster School District Opening

Brewster School District is accepting applications for a High School Advanced Mathematics teacher for grades 9-12. Classes to be taught are Algebra 2, Geometry and Pre-Calculus. Applications are available on the district's website at brewsterbears.org or by calling 509-689-3418. This position is open until filled. Brewster School District is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Help Wanted



Revenue Cycle Director Full-time

Three Rivers Hospital is seeking a Revenue Cycle Director to manage our revenue cycle team, includes Patient Access/ Registration, Health Information, Patient Financial Services and Chargemaster. The Revenue Cycle Director will lead the revenue cycle in developing, planning, and managing work initiatives within the revenue cycle. Bachelor's degree in a relevant area of expertise such as business or finance or an equivalent combination of education and relevant experience is required.

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



ER NURSE Full-time/ Nights

Three Rivers Hospital is seeking an ER Nurse to provide nursing assessment, treatment and evaluation of ER patients and outpatients. Current WA State RN license required. Current BLS / CPR, ACLS, TNCC and PALS certifications. Two years' Med/Surg experience or one-year ER experience preferred. Rotating days and includes some weekends. Sign-on Bonus: \$5,000. Interested Candidates may apply in person or by mailing their resume to: Three Rivers Hospital Human Resources Dept. PO Box 577 Brewster, WA 98812 (509) 689-2517 www.threerivershospital.net opportunity@trhospital.net EOE

Help Wanted

Full and Part-time Housekeeper, Bedmaker and Laundry Worker

The Enzian Inn is hiring full and part-time Housekeepers, Bedmakers and Laundry workers. Core hours are usually 9 AM to 2 PM. Earlier and later start & finish times often available. Enjoy a positive work environment with a competitive wage. Health insurance is available for full time employees. Apply in person. 590 Hwy 2, Leavenworth.



Director of Quality Full-time

Three Rivers Hospital is seeking a Director of Quality to manage our quality program, including risk and compliance. Registered Nurse with a BSN degree is preferred; however, a minimum of a bachelor's degree in Business or related field may be considered. Three to five years healthcare experience is preferred. Strong skills required: organizational, interpersonal, communication, analytical, risk assessment, computer, statistics & math, and problem-solving. Attention to detail and a high moral integrity is crucial. Interested Candidates may apply in person or by mailing their resume to: Three Rivers Hospital Human Resources Dept. PO Box 577 Brewster, WA 98812 (509) 689-2517 www.threerivershospital.net opportunity@trhospital.net EOE



Patient Account Rep Full-time

Three Rivers Hospital is seeking a Patient Account Rep. This position is responsible for handling outstanding accounts receivables and collections by promptly filing hospital inpatient and outpatient and clinic claims with payers, following up in a timely and efficient manner, to ensure maximum reimbursement is received for services provided. High School diploma or GED. Two years prior experience in a hospital business office preferred. Interested Candidates may apply in person or by mailing their resume to: Three Rivers Hospital Human Resources Dept. PO Box 577 Brewster, WA 98812 (509) 689-2517 www.threerivershospital.net opportunity@trhospital.net EOE

Help Wanted

THREE RIVERS HOSPITAL
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST Full-time
 Three Rivers Hospital is seeking a full-time Occupational Therapist. This position practices in the hospital and/ or clinic setting for inpatient and/or outpatient care. Includes oversight of the hospital swing bed program. A bachelor's degree in Occupational Therapy from an accredited/ AOTA approved OT program is required, and studies were accredited by the APTA. Current WA State OT license. Two years' work experience preferred. BLS required. Must have strong communication and interpersonal skills. Interested Candidates may apply in person or by mailing their resume to: Three Rivers Hospital Human Resources Dept. PO Box 577 Brewster, WA 98812 (509) 689-2517 www.threerivershospital.net opportunity@trhospital.net EOE

THREE RIVERS HOSPITAL

Informatics RN Full-time
 Three Rivers Hospital is seeking an Informatics RN to support the hospital and clinic in the application of the EMR. Experience teaching clinicians with EMR, strategic planning and development, and familiar with continuous quality improvement methods is preferred. Strong computer skills and experience working with healthcare informatics systems. Excellent interpersonal skills required. Current WA State RN license required; BSN preferred. Interested Candidates may apply in person or by mailing their resume to: Three Rivers Hospital Human Resources Dept. PO Box 577 Brewster, WA 98812 (509) 689-2517 www.threerivershospital.net opportunity@trhospital.net EOE

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CITY OF CASHMERE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
 Whereas, pursuant to the requirements of Chapter 35.77.010 RCW, the City of Cashmere has prepared and revised a comprehensive transportation improvement program for the ensuing six years, and

Whereas, pursuant further to said law, a public hearing is required on said program, the City Council of the City of Cashmere will hold a public hearing on Monday, August 23, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the Cashmere City Hall, 101 Woodring Street. The public is invited to attend and make comment. Kay Jones City Clerk-Treasurer CITY OF CASHMERE Published in The Cashmere Valley Record/Leavenworth Echo on August 11, 2021. #2482

Public Notices

Pursuant to RCW 35.21.157 and the contract between **Waste Management and the City of Cashmere**, Waste Management hereby provides notice to the public of rate changes for solid waste and recycling collection pursuant to the Solid Waste Collection Service agreement between Waste Management and the City of Cashmere. The Rate Adjustment will be effective October 1, 2021. More information concerning the 2021 Rate Adjustment can be obtained by calling Waste Management at (877)466-4668 or www.wmnorthwest.com/cashmere/index.html Published in The Cashmere Valley Record/Leavenworth Echo on August 11, and 18, 2021 #2291

Public Notices

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR CHELAN COUNTY
 In the Matter of the Estate of KEITH K. KOEPE, Deceased. NO. 21-4-00217-04
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The Administrator named below has been appointed as Administrator of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Administrator or the Administrator's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the Administrator served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets. DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: July 28, 2021 ADMINISTRATOR: Margaret L. Koeppé ATTORNEY FOR ADMINISTRATOR: David Visser ADDRESS FOR MAILING OR SERVICE: OVERCAST LAW OFFICES 23 South Wenatchee Avenue Suite 320 Wenatchee, WA 98801 COURT OF PROBATE PROCEEDINGS AND CAUSE NUMBER: Chelan County Superior Court, No. 21-4-00217-04 OVERCAST LAW OFFICES By: Visser, WSBA No. 41546 Attorney for Administrator Published In The Leavenworth Echo/Cashmere Valley Record on July 28, and August 4 and 11, 2021. #2445

Public Notices

Superior Court of Washington For Chelan County
 In the matter of the estate of **Dolores Louise Bennett, Deceased.**
 No. 21-4-00095-04
Notice To Creditors (RCW 11.40.030)

The person named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or her attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of this Notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets. **Date of First Publication: July 28, 2021.** **Carolyn Lee Hill,** Personal Representative Attorney for the Personal Representative: Joseph C. Brown, Jr., WSBA #7991 Address for Mailing or Service: J.C. Brown Law Office, PLLC 200 Aplets Way, P.O. Box 384 Cashmere, WA 98815 (509) 782-1111 Court of probate proceeding and cause number: Chelan County Superior Court, Cause Number: 21-4-00095-04 Published in the Cashmere Valley Record/Leavenworth Echo on July 28, August 4, and August 11, 2021.#2449

Public Notices

Chelan County Mosquito Control Dist. #3 will hold their Annual Meeting Monday August 16, 2021 at 4:00 pm. The meeting will be held at 14233 Idlewild Rd. Leavenworth, WA 98826 Published in The Leavenworth Echo/Cashmere Valley Record on July 28 and August 4, and 11, 2021 #2290

Public Notices

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR CHELAN COUNTY
 In the Matter of the Estate of **GRETCHEN S. STARR, Deceased.** No. 21-4-00105-04
AMENDED PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS RCW 11.40.030
 The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the Court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and RCW 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets. Date of First Publication: Wednesday, August 4, 2021 Personal Representative: Mary D. "Dolly" McClellan Attorney for the Personal Representative: Russell J. Speidel Address for Mailing or Service: Speidel Bentsen LLP 7 North Wenatchee Avenue, Suite 600 P.O. Box 881 Wenatchee, WA 98807-0881 Court of Probate Proceedings and Cause Number: Chelan County Superior Court Cause No. 21-4-00105-04 MARY D. "DOLLY" MCCLELLAN Personal Representative Attorneys for Personal Representative: SPEIDEL BENTSEN LLP By: RUSSELL J. SPEIDEL WSBA No. 12838 7 North Wenatchee Avenue, Suite 600 P.O. Box 881 Wenatchee, WA 98807 Published in The Leavenworth Echo/Cashmere Valley Record on August 4, 11, and 18, 2021. #2475.

Public Notices

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF STEVEN
 In the Matter of the Estate of: **LARRY R. WILCOX Deceased**
 NO. 21-4-00105-33
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)
 The Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Personal Representative or the Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the Court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) thirty days after the Personal Representative served or mailed the notice to the Creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and non-probate assets. DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: July 28, 2021 Charles W. Beck, Personal Representative, c/o McGrane & Schuerman Sean G. Preston, WSBA #47115, Attorney at Law 298 South Main #304, Colville, Washington 99114, 509 684-8484 Published In The Leavenworth Echo/Cashmere Valley Record on July 28, and August 4, 11, 2021. # 2434

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

THEME: FOOTBALL ACROSS

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1. *Sports analyst, ex-wide receiver Randy
 5. Dashboard acronym
 8. *Depth of an end zone, in yards
 11. Fencing blade
 12. Weight not charged for
 13. Young hog
 15. Witnessed
 16. Aroma
 17. Nary a soul
 18. *Line of
 20. Spanish earthen pot
 21. Pinocchio and the like
 22. Bean house
 23. Antonym of descent
 26. Cycle taxi
 30. Greek "P"
 31. 50-50
 34. Not happening
 35. Newbies
 37. Bert Bobbsey's twin
 38. Like a neon sign
 39. "Clueless" catch phrase
 40. Not a desktop
 42. Metal-bearing mineral
 43. "Chim Chim Cher-ee" setting
 45. Relating to nose
 47. Actors' group
 48. Sink hole
 50. Golf club handle
 52. *3-point score
 56. Make a canyon, e.g.
 57. Not written
 58. Racing sled
 59. ***Purple People*** song, inspiration for Vikings defensive line name
 60. Like H. C. Andersen's duckling
 61. Poet Pound
 62. *AFC counterpart
 63. Dreaming stage of sleep

64. Daytime entertainment DOWN
 1. Hodgepodge
 2. Oil cartel
 3. Palm reader, e.g.
 4. Old and mentally infirm
 5. Weather-related Doppler tool
 6. Programs, for short
 7. Insignificant
 8. Hammer or sickle
 9. Europe's highest volcano
 10. Born, in bio
 12. Marinara fruit
 13. Ornamental hair net
 14. *Grabbing penalty
 19. Breath freshener
 22. *Pre-game encouragement
 23. Rose oil
 24. One's assertion
 25. Collectible in a cabinet
 26. *Fourth down option
 27. Colonoscopy tract
 28. Ancient assembly area
 29. B in IBS
 32. *Start of a football play
 33. Goo on a trunk
 36. *Scrimmage-related penalty
 38. Plant louse
 40. Yule firewood
 41. By word of mouth
 44. Candle shape
 46. English in Spanish
 48. Mourner's song
 49. Camelot, to Arthur
 50. Tennis great Steffi
 51. College officer-training prog.
 52. *Number of downs to get a first down
 53. Anis-flavored aperitif
 54. Site of Taj Mahal
 55. *Lambeau Field jump
 56. Poetic "even"

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