

Christmas in the City



Mike Maltais/QCH  
Santa and Mrs. Claus were special guests at the Pateros Riverview Pavilion for Christmas festivities in 2019.

Look for Santa this week at Pateros, Bridgeport

BY MIKE MALTAIS  
STAFF WRITER

BREWSTER – Santa arrived early at Brewster this year either because the city has been so good or maybe he just wanted a sneak peak at the Christmas tree decorating going on in Legion Park on Nov. 27. But if you’ve been good as well, you have a chance to catch Mr. Claus in Pateros at 6 p.m., Friday, Dec. 10, as part of Christmas in the City and Holiday Market, two days of festivities on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 10-11.

The fun begins at 5:30 p.m., Friday, with treats including homemade chili, cookies, and hot cocoa. Santa arrives at the Riverview Pavilion stage at 6 p.m., with gifts for the kids while the supplies last. The fun lasts through 8 p.m. and picks up Saturday at 9 a.m. with the Holiday Market that continues through 5 p.m.

**Bridgeport**

Santa is scheduled to be in Bridgeport from 5-8 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 8. No other details were available at this writing.

Takes oath

Chantel Poole sworn in as newest Pateros council member

BY MIKE MALTAIS  
STAFF WRITER

PATEROS – Chantel Poole is an example of a lifelong Pateros resident and Pateros High School graduate who is taking the term “community service” personally by putting it into action through her own initiative and ideas.

Poole declared her candidacy for city council Position #1 occupied by appointee Frank Herbert on the Nov. 2 General Election Ballot and received 52 percent of the 190 votes cast by Pateros residents. She was the only opponent in nine other council races in the Quad City coverage area, four of those in Bridgeport, four in Brewster, and one in Pateros.

Mayor Carlene Anders administered the oath of office to Poole on Nov. 30. The Quad caught up with the new council person with some questions about the new challenge she is taking on.

**Quad: What inspired you to run for council?**

Poole: I ran for this position because I wanted to become more involved with my community. It’s important to me that the council representation reflects all of our citizens and their diverse needs/wants. Having grown up here and now raising children here, I felt like I had contributions

that would be beneficial to the council.

**Do you have specific ideas about solving some of the city’s pressing needs such as more/affordable housing? Attracting new business?**

I wish solving the problem was as simple as me proposing an idea. One thought would be to continue working on the sentiment that Pateros is a destination - the gateway to the Methow Valley and Okanogan County. More visitors would increase outside business interest here as well as show that Pateros is worth investing in for development.

**What strengths do you bring to the position?**

My background in finance as well as information systems gives me a unique way at looking at processes and how they could be improved. I am invested in the long-term outlook of the city for both the current and future generations of Pateros citizens.

**Do you have any opinions on what the council has accomplished recently or about projects the council is currently working on?**

I am excited to see the completion of the sidewalk project. The sections that have been finished have been highly utilized by my family and are a great asset to the safeness of the city. I love the utilization



Courtesy City of Pateros  
Chantel Poole, right, takes the oath of office as new Pateros city council member from Mayor Carlene Anders.

of online tools to get public feedback. I think one of the things that has been lacking in the past is community involvement in decisions. It’s great that the city is gathering more feedback in different ways.

**Do you have a position on COVID? Mask mandates? Precautions in school?**

Everyone seems to have a position on COVID, but that doesn’t mean everyone else wants to hear mine. I will say, I am still so amazed by the Pa-

teros School for being able to open full-time for elementary students in October 2020, long before other schools in the region. Kudos to all the staff there for working so hard to get and keep our kids in school safely.

**Other comments?**

Thank you to everyone who voted for me. Always feel free to reach out with questions, concerns, or comments. I can be reached at chantelpoole@gmail.com.

Pateros, Brewster, Bridgeport not affected

Mask noncompliance threatens NCW Library branch operations

BY MIKE MALTAIS  
STAFF WRITER

OMAK – Failure to follow state mandated mask requirements in the Omak branch of its 30 libraries, may force restrictions on in-person service at that facility, a recent NCW Libraries media release said. The advisory comes on the heels of growing hostility on the part of some patrons who refuse to comply with the mask mandate.

The mandate is not an NCW Libraries directive but rather one imposed by the Washington State Department of Health as a measure to protect public health. As a public agency NCW Libraries said it is committed to following the DOH mandate.

The NCW release said that the branches provide disposable masks at the door for patrons who need them and for those who elect not to do so library staff “is eager to creatively offer exceptional service outside the library.”

That’s what staffers did when the branches were re-



This photo from the Bridgeport library Facebook site features library staffers in masks showing how it is done.

Courtesy facebook.com/bridgeportwalibrary

SHOP LOCAL

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

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## Washington Supreme Court declines to make new district boundary maps

MEGAN SOKOL  
STAFF WRITER

OLYMPIA - After the Washington State Redistricting Commission submitted their unfinished redistricting plan with the Congressional District Boundary Map and the Legislative District Boundary Maps moments after their November 15 deadline, commissioners knew that their late submission would require a final decision from the Washington Supreme Court. On Dec. 3, the court decided to decline making new boundary maps and accept the commission's late submission.

The redistricting commission had narrowly missed their Nov. 15 deadline due to technical difficulties and the delayed 2020 census results. Democratic commissioners Brady Piñero Walkinshaw and April Sims, along with Republican commissioners Paul Graves and Joe Fain,

agreed on the framework of the redistricting plan but did not come to an agreement on the final plan itself. The plan and redistricting maps were subsequently sent to the Washington Supreme Court.

“After reviewing the submissions and considering the constitutional and statutory framework as a whole, we conclude it is not necessary for the court to assume responsibility for adoption of redistricting maps under the present circumstances.”

The court further wrote, “This is not a situation in which the Supreme Court must step in because the Commission has failed to agree on a plan it believes complies with state and federal requirements. The court concludes that the primary purpose of achieving a timely redistricting plan would be impeded, not advanced, by rejecting the Commission's completed work.”



Courtesy brewsterwachamber/facebook  
**The Community Volunteer of the Year award was created in honor of its first recipient, Neal McKee.**

## Brewster Chamber awards Best of the Best honors

BY MIKE MALTAIS  
STAFF WRITER

BREWSTER – The Chamber of Commerce highlighted Small Business Saturday with its annual Best of the Best awards presented Saturday, Nov. 27, in the Legion Park.

A new addition to the award category, Community Service Award, Volunteer of the Year, is for the person, people, or business that provided the best community service. The new award is in honor of former Chamber director, Brewster

Food Bank manager, and Brewster-Bridgeport-Pateros Senior Center president Neal McKee, lost earlier this year to cancer. McKee was the 2020 recipient of the award.

This year's other award winners include:

Small Business - Rusty Relic  
Large Business - Quik-E-Mart

Community/Volunteer of the Year - Dan Beddle

Citizen of the Year - Mike Mauk

The awards hang on the wall in city hall.

## LIBRARY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

quired to close their doors earlier this year, providing books and DVDs through its mail order library and expanding free wi-fi access. Once staff were allowed to return to work curbside service was made available to users.

“The library is a vital resource for people attending online classes, applying for a job, communicating through social media, corresponding with their medical provider, and more,” the NCW Libraries release said.

As patrons of the Omak branch have displayed increasing hostility to the mask mandate NCW Libraries has been forced to take a stand in defense of both public health in general and staff in particular.

“Despite our efforts to accommodate everyone, our Omak staff has experienced increasingly disrespectful treatment and mounting hostility. More and more visitors are refusing to abide by our masking requirement,



Courtesy ncwlibraries.org  
**Ana Trejo, Pateros librarian**

improperly wearing masks, and treating staff with disrespect when they enforce our system-wide policy,” said an NCW Libraries spokesperson. “Customers have cursed at staff, thrown materials, and gone as far as spitting on a staff member when asked to wear a disposable mask while in the branch.”

The NCW Libraries announcement was clear that such behavior cannot continue.

“NCW Libraries is committed to the safety of our staff and we refuse to put them at



Courtesy ncwlibraries.org  
**Daniel Blanchard, Brewster librarian**

risk of continued verbal and physical abuse,” concluded the NCW statement. “If these behaviors persist, our Omak library will have to shut down and return to curbside services only.”

Other branches, particularly in the Quad Cities area of Brewster, Pateros, and Bridgeport, report no such conduct coming from library customers frequenting their branches.

Ana Trejo who took over as the Pateros librarian last



Courtesy ncwlibraries.org  
**Michelle Orosco, Bridgeport librarian**

SEE **LIBRARY** ON PAGE A3

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Legals: Noon, Friday  
Classified Ads: Noon, Friday  
Obituaries/Deaths: 4 p.m., Friday

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### Letters policy

The Quad City Herald welcomes letters to the editor. All letters must be accompanied by the author's name, a home address and a daytime phone number (for verification purposes only). Letters may be edited for length, clarity, accuracy and fairness. No letter will be published without the author's name. Thank you letters will only be printed from non-profit organizations and events. We will not publish lists of businesses, or lists of individual names. Email your letters to: [publisher@leavenworthecho.com](mailto:publisher@leavenworthecho.com)

### News Tips

Have an idea for a story?  
Call Quad City Herald at 689-2507

### Corrections

Quad City Herald regrets any errors. If you see an error, please call (509) 689-2507. We will publish a correction on this page in the next issue.

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For more info call: Quad City Herald at 509-689-2507

Email to: ruthk@lakechelanmirror.com

OKANOGAN & DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF, BREWSTER POLICE DEPT

Douglas County Sheriff

November 26

No Report.

November 27

Assist Agency at the 200 block of Starr Rd., Pateros.  
Runaway at the 100 block of S. Chelan Ave., Waterville.  
Suspicious Activity at the 300 block of S. Greene St., Waterville.  
Assist Public at the 1100 block of Jefferson Ave., Bridgeport.  
Animal Problem at the 2400 block of Tacoma Ave., Bridgeport.

November 28

911 Call at the 700 block of Fairview Ave., Bridgeport.

November 29

Traffic Offense at SR 173 MP 8, Bridgeport.  
Welfare Check at the 200 block of W. Polar St., Waterville.  
Suicide Threat at 49 Skeels Rd., Orondo.

November 30

Theft at the 800 block of Highland Orchard Rd., Bridgeport.  
December 1  
Suspicious Activity at Brays Landing Rd. & US Hwy. 97, Orondo.  
Parking/Abandon at the 2000 block of Rd. 3 S.W., Waterville.  
911 Call at the 200 block of Columbia Ave., Bridgeport.

December 2

Parking/Abandon at Washburn Ave. & Riggs Rd., Bridgeport.  
Harassment/Threat at the 200 block of E. Birch St., Waterville.  
Civil at the 900 block of Foster Ave., Bridgeport.

Okanogan County Sheriff

November 26

Violation of Court Order at Benham Rd.  
Domestic Dispute at Hwy. 20.  
Sick Animal at Sagebrush Trail.  
Vehicle Prowl at Hendrick Rd.  
Vehicle Prowl at Duck Lake Rd.  
Suspicious Activity at N. 4th Ave.  
Civil at Old Riverside Hwy.  
Unsecure Premises at Pine St.  
Sex Offense at Nickell St.  
Assault at S. 4th Ave.

November 27

Traffic Offense at Starr Rd.  
Suspicious Activity at Okoma Dr.  
Suspicious Activity at W. Indian Ave.  
Harassment at Okoma Dr.  
Civil at Old Hwy. 97.  
Civil at Old Riverside Hwy.  
Suspicious Activity at Greta & 3rd Ave. North.  
Non-Injury Accident at Robinson Canyon Rd. & Shumway Rd.  
Suspicious Activity at S. 2nd Ave.

November 28

Unknown Injury Accident at Pogue Rd. & Danker Cutoff Rd.  
Assault at N. 3rd Ave.  
Unattended Death at Elmway.  
Injury Accident at Paradise Hill Rd. & F.S. 4150 Rd.

Vehicle Prowl at Thiess Rd.  
Civil at Old Riverside Hwy.  
Suicide Attempt at Sand Flat Rd.  
Agency Assist at Rodeo Trail & E. 8th Ave.  
Agency Assist at Omache Dr.  
Agency Assist at Hwy. 97.  
November 29  
Domestic Dispute at Elmway.  
Burglary at Pogue Rd.  
Injury Accident at Rodeo Trail.  
Domestic Dispute at Cascade Columbia River Railroad.  
Juvenile Problem at Hwy. 20.  
Unknown Injury Accident at Omak River Rd.  
Juvenile Problem at Old Riverside Hwy. & Hwy. 97.  
Agency Assist at Hwy. 155 & Dutch Anderson Rd.  
Civil at Black Rd.  
Domestic Dispute at Old Hwy. 97.  
Suspicious Activity at Salmon Creek Rd.  
Agency Assist at Barnholt Loop Rd.

November 30

Suspicious Activity at S. 1st Ave.  
Disabled Vehicle at E. Oak St. & N. Railroad Ave.  
Injury Accident at Omak-Riverside East Side Rd.  
Malicious Mischief at S. 2nd Ave.  
Burglary at Middle Ln.  
Hit & Run Accident at Michel Rd.  
911 Abuse at S. 2nd Ave.  
Suspicious at Old Hwy. 97.  
Threatening at Eagle Rd.  
Suspicious at N. 3rd Ave.  
Arrest Warrant at Omak Ave. & Asotin St.

December 1

Suspicious Activity at N. Juniper St. & Riverside Dr.  
Citizen Assist at Parks Dr.  
Burglary Alarm at N. 2nd Ave.  
Agency Assist Hwy. 97.  
Domestic Dispute at Hwy. 20.  
Hit & Run Accident at S. 2nd Ave.  
Burglary at Rodeo Trail.  
Civil at Green Lake Rd.  
Custodial Interference at Hwy. 155.  
Domestic Dispute at Woodward Rd.  
Fail To Register at N. 5th Ave.  
Abuse at S. 2nd Ave.  
Threatening at Beach St.  
Injured Person at S. 5th Ave. & Mill St.  
Juvenile Problem at North Star Rd.  
Suspicious Okoma Dr.  
Suspicious Activity at S. 2nd Ave.  
Agency Assist at Old Hwy. 97.  
Threatening at Kelly St.  
Injured Person at S. Ash St. & W. 3rd Ave.

December 2

Suspicious Activity of Kruse St.  
Fraud at S. 2nd Ave.  
Malicious Mischief at Tyee St. & S. 1st Ave.  
Brewster Police Department

November 26

No Report.

November 27

Sick Animal at S. 7th St.  
Attempt to Locate/Theft at Engh Rd.

November 28

Suspicious Activity at E. Douglas Ave.  
Welfare Check at Hwy. 97.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Okanogan County Transportation & Nutrition meal delivery

BREWSTER – Brewster Senior Center on Bridge Street is serving hot meals via Home Delivery on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Please reserve your meal by calling 509-689-2815. Suggested donation for those over age 60 is \$8.50. For those 60 and under the cost is \$10. For more information about senior meal programs: Okanogan County Transportation & Nutrition at 509-826-7979 or Aging & Adult Care of Central Washington at 800-572-4459.

Dec. 8

Brewster Chamber to meet

BREWSTER – The next general meeting of the Brewster Chamber of Commerce will be held Wednesday, Dec.8, 6 p.m. at Senior Center at 109 Bridge Street. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. For more information brewsterwachamber@gmail.com or Mike Mauk at 509-449-0605

Dec. 8-11

Senior Center Thrift Store

BREWSTER – The Brewster-Pateros-Bridgeport Senior Center Thrift Store is open Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. There is a great selection of children's and adult clothing. Donations accepted when they are open. Check out their Christmas section.

Dec. 10, 17

Brewster bus trips

BREWSTER – OCTN takes Brewster area residents to Wenatchee, second Friday of the month. Next trip is Dec. 10. 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 Friday of each month, Dec. 17, 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.

Dec. 13, 27

Okanogan County PUD meeting

OKANOGAN – The next meeting of the Okanogan County PUD Board of Commissioners will be held Monday, Dec. 13, at 3 p.m. For more information okanoganpud.org

Dec. 13, 20

Douglas County PUD meeting

EAST WENATCHEE – The next meeting of the Douglas County PUD Commission is Dec. 13, 1:30 p.m. at the District's East Wenatchee office.

Dec. 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.

Dec. 15

American Red Cross Blood Drive:

Those donors who have received the COVID-19 vaccine

will be asked which vaccine they received.

CHELAN - There will be an American Red Cross Blood drive on Wednesday, Dec. 15, 1-6 p.m. at the Lake Chelan United Methodist Church, at the corner of Johnson and Emerson. To donate, simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements. Blood and platelet donors can save time at their next donation by using RapidPass® to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App.

LIBRARY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A2

June said her users have complied without complaint to the NCW Libraries mask policy.

Brewster librarian Daniel Blanchard who came on board last May said the majority of his patrons have masks on when they enter the Brewster branch and the small percentage who do not

readily don a mask when requested.

Michelle Orosco, Bridgeport librarian, said she has experienced no mask problems.

The latest online count by city figures as of Dec. 2 on okanogancountycovid19.org shows Omak with the highest covid case count - 1,416 – in the county, behind Brewster with 985, and Tonasket with 793.

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MARKETING

A Memorial Service for William 'Bill' Forhan, of Leavenworth, Wash. and Publisher of NCW Media, Inc. will be held on Saturday, Dec. 18, 2021, 1 p.m. at St. James Episcopal Church, 222 Cottage Avenue, Cashmere, Washington. Please wear a mask if you plan to attend.

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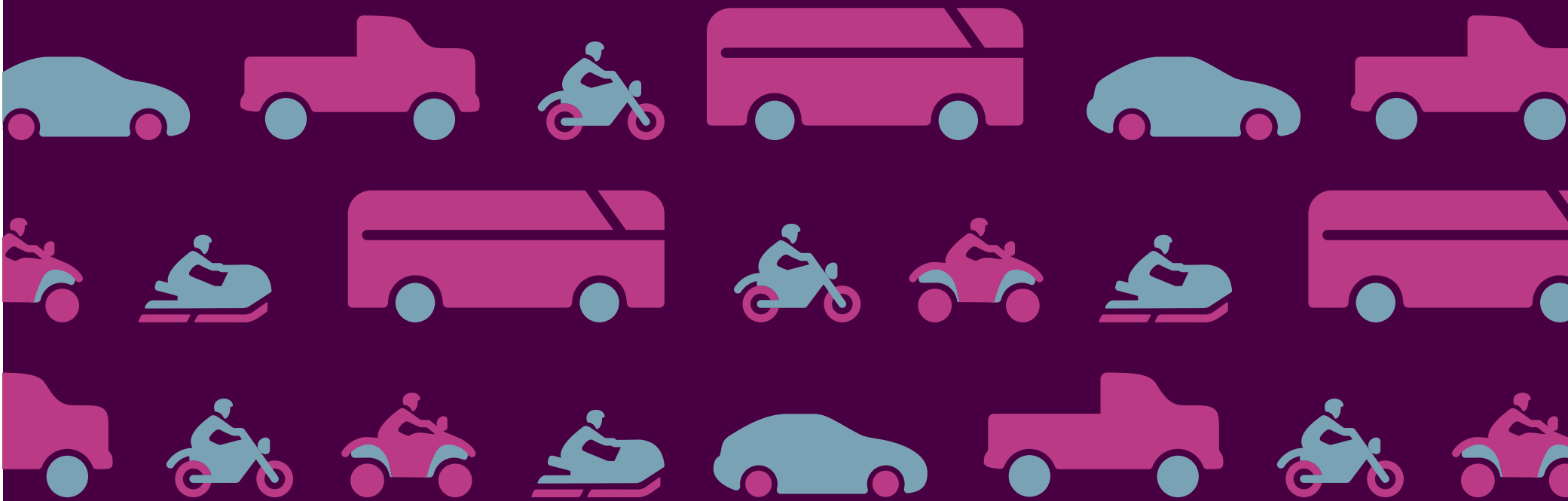
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# WINTER SPORTS PREVIEW

## Bridgeport High School Girls Basketball



Courtesy Brad Skiff/Bridgeport School District  
Playing for the Fillies varsity basketball team this season are front row from left, Alondra Valdovinos, Jackelyn Soto, Myrka G. Ibarra, Lourdes Alcantara, and Joanna Vazquez. Second row from left, coach Caitlin Huber, Linda Meza, Genesis Moreno, Marisa Morales, Lesly Valdovinos, Arealis Gonzalez, Leslie Moreno, Jennifer Farias, Lizbeth Monje, and coach Lorena Lopez. Not pictured: Cassandra Valdovinos, Ashley Campos, and Cecilia Avila.

## Bridgeport High School Boys Basketball



Courtesy Brad Skiff/Bridgeport School District  
Playing for the Mustangs basketball teams this season are front row from left, Anthony Arellano, Alexander Razo, Luis Rivera, Brandon Garcia, Yordi Saucedo, Brandon I. Garcia, Marco Rodriguez, Juan Ochoa, Bernardo Hernandez, and Chris Newman. Second row from left, Julian Garcia, Angel Medina, Yair Lopez, Israel Lopez, Francisco Baldivia, Diego Salazar, Noel Espino, Oscar Rivera, Moises Torres, Sebastian Orozco, Gerardo Hernandez, Yair Diaz, and Elmer Alvarez. Back row from left, Ofer Gutierrez, Paul Torrez, Alonzo Garza, Ian De Dios, Cristian Lopez, Elye Rachwitz, Benjamin Tonseth, Tyrel Tonseth, Drake Morris, Angel Bonel, Daniel Magaña, Adolfo Orozco, and Cesar De Dios.

## Bridgeport High School Cheer Team



Courtesy Brad Skiff/Bridgeport School District  
Bridgeport basketball cheer team members include front row from left, Emma Oswald, Jenni Ochoa, and Florencia Ramirez. Pictured back row from left, Idania Garcia-Olea, Crystal Bejar, Atzyri Hernandez Reyes, Lizbeth Meza-Angel, and Carmen Quezada Cacho.

\$27,000 up for grabs

## WIAA accepting applications for 15 scholarships

RENTON – The Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) is now accepting applications for the 2022 Gesa Credit Union, Daily Farmers of America, Les Schwab Tires Smart Choices College Scholarship Program which will award three \$5,000 and 12 \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors from WIAA member high schools. Applicants will be judged for excellence in six categories throughout their high school careers including:

- Athletics/Activity Excellence (30%)
- Academic Achievement

- (30%)
  - Leadership (20%)
  - Citizenship/Community Service (10%)
  - Originality/Creativity of the Essay (5%)
  - Financial Need (5%)
- Applicants are required to fill out an online application at [wiaa.com/smartchoices](http://wiaa.com/smartchoices) that includes an essay question. Application deadline is April 1, 2022. Applicants are able to save partially completed applications and return at a later date to update their information. Questions can be emailed to: [smartchoices@wiaa.com](mailto:smartchoices@wiaa.com).

## THE WASHINGTON OUTDOOR REPORT

### A bass boat for Christmas

By JOHN KRUSE, THE WASHINGTON OUTDOOR REPORT

Call it an early Christmas or a mid-life crisis dream come true. Rusty Johnston is my best friend and fishing partner of 45 years. The two of us have dreamed of fishing out of a tournament ready bass or walleye boat for much of that time. We have fished several bass tournaments and we know how to catch fish but the small size of his 1994 aluminum Starcraft with a top speed of 29 MPH has limited our ability to compete against much faster and better outfitted boats. This year we got serious about an upgrade and I began the process of looking for a boat that would fit into a garage (limiting us to under 18 feet) with an out the door price of \$18K to \$25K. The first thing I found out was that demand for boats was at a historic high during this pandemic and inventory, due to both demand and supply chain difficulties, was at an all time low. A case in point, one local boat dealer in Ellensburg literally has only one boat and one outboard motor in its inventory for sale right now. With that in mind I started looking to order straight from a manufacturer. Unfortunately, I soon found out I would have to wait awhile if I wanted to go this route. Kent Brown, the West Coast Regional Sales Manager for the White River Marine Group, which includes Tracker, Ranger, Nitro and Triton boats, told me a fiberglass boat could be had within two or three months but aluminum boats would be difficult to come by for some time. This was not because of aluminum production but because certain components like the seats and the foam in these boats are hard to acquire during the current supply chain crisis. In fact, a representative from Xpress Boats, makers of aluminum bass boats in Arkansas, told me in June I would have to wait eight months for a new boat from them. Another person I spoke to was Steve Rogers, a well-known outdoors media personality,

angler and boat owner. As far as getting a tournament bass boat, he recommended getting a boat with at least a 20-gallon livewell, the maximum horsepower I could afford for an outboard and a bow mounted electric trolling motor that would be strong enough to keep the boat on track in a stiff current or strong winds. With those parameters in mind the search began in earnest for a new or late model boat. Unfortunately, most of the boats I found in my price range were aluminum boats that were only powered by 40 to 60 HP engines, giving them a top speed of 30 to 35 MPH. Eventually though, I got lucky and found what I was looking for. The boat in question was on consignment at Bob Feil Motors in East Wenatchee. It is a 2018 fiberglass Nitro Z17 bass boat that measured just over 17-feet long, had a 90 hp Mercury four-stroke engine that will get the boat up to 46 MPH, a nice Humminbird 7 fish finder with GPS mapping and a MotorGuide 70 lb. thrust bow-mounted electric trolling motor. With a 23-gallon livewell, tons of storage and only 17 hours of engine use, the boat is virtually brand new. Better still, the owner was willing to come down off of his sale price, in part because the exact same model year boat became available at the same time for a lower price in Oregon. Dave Ritter, the salesman at Bob Feil Boats and Motors, gave us a detailed walk through of the boat and guided us through the purchasing process. Boeing Employee Credit Union took care of the financing and gave us a great rate. This week, I'll be picking up our dream boat and taking it to Rusty's house. We'll store it in his shop, located less than a mile away from the boat launch at Potholes State Park. We are thrilled about getting the boat out on the lake a lot and fishing several tournaments in 2022 and beyond. It's also fair to say we just got ourselves the best Christmas present two middle-aged bass anglers could every hope for. Here's hoping your Christmas is as merry as ours is shaping up to be. John Kruse – [www.north-westernoutdoors.com](http://www.north-westernoutdoors.com) and [www.americaoutdoorsradio.com](http://www.americaoutdoorsradio.com)

# Go, Mustangs!

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# WINTER SPORTS PREVIEW

## Nannies open basketball season with Soap Lake win

By Mike Maltais  
Staff Writer

**PATEROS** – The Nannies varsity basketball team opened its 2021-22 season on Nov. 30, with a decisive 44-12 home win over Central Washington B-1B district rival Soap Lake.

“Good start to season with a good win,” said head coach Jared Henton. “Everyone played a fair amount of time with Tea Asmussen leading us with 14 points and six steals followed by a double-double by Laini Gallegos with 10 points and 12 rebounds. Giselle Cenicerros and Kassidy Wilfong both chipped in with six points each.”

The Nannies varsity roster includes four seniors, Naili Hernandez, Vanessa Cenicerros, Alley Piechalski, and Angie Gonzalez; four juniors, Tea Asmussen, Karina Mota, Cheyenne Hanson, and Laini Gallegos; two sophomores, Janet Hernandez and Kassidy Wilfong; and freshman Giselle Hernandez.

The Pateros girls were scheduled to play Wilson Creek on the road last Monday, Dec. 6, and host Bridgeport on Tuesday, Dec. 7. The game schedule through Dec. 29, includes:

- Monday, Dec. 13, at Moses Lake Christian Academy.
- Tuesday, Dec. 14, at Wilber/Creston.
- Friday, Dec. 17 Waterville/Mansfield (6 p.m.).
- Saturday, Dec. 18, at Cle Elum/Roslyn.
- Tuesday, Dec. 21, Cascade Christian Academy (6 p.m.).
- Tuesday, Dec. 28, Republic (6 p.m.).
- Wednesday, Dec. 29, at Bridgeport (6 p.m.).



Courtesy Marcus Stennes/Pateros School District

The 2021-22 Pateros Nannies basketball team includes front row, from left, Alexandra Ruiz, Angie Gonzalez, Samantha Flores, Melanie Gonzalez, Alyssa Lopez, Stevie Simmons, Rihanna Avalos, and Deida Martinez. Middle row, from left, Lexi Vargas, Mallory Moore, Jacky Gomez, Janette Hernandez, Cheyenne Hanson, Giselle Cenicerros, Karina Mota, Tea Asmussen, and Alley Piechalski. Back row, from left, Vera Zuniga, Jasmine Contreras, Adamary Loyola, Kassidy Wilfong, Dakota Lasley, Laini Gallegos, Wrandie Bowen, Naili Hernandez, Vanessa Cenicerros, and Addison Henton. The head coach is Jared Henton, assisted by Tom Asmussen.

## Billygoats basketball fast-breaks into 2021-22 season

By Mike Maltais  
Staff Writer

**PATEROS** – The Billygoats varsity basketball team opened its Central Washington B-1B season on the road at Moses Lake Christian Academy, Nov. 29, and hosted Soap Lake the following day. Pateros lost to Moses Lake, 57-28, and fell to the Eagles, 67-16.

It's still early in the season for the Pateros boys as they work out the kinks following a year of inactivity and get more familiar with teamwork and the plays coaches Marcus Stennes and Brevin Everson have designed for them.

The Billygoats were scheduled to make the 160-plus mile round trip Wilson Creek on Monday, Dec. 6, before hosting cross-county rival Bridgeport on Tuesday, Dec. 7. On Friday, Dec. 10, the Billygoats host Riverside Christian Academy at 6 p.m. The remainder of the season schedule shapes up like this:

- Monday, Dec. 13, at Moses Lake Christian Academy
- Tuesday, Dec. 14, at Wilber/Creston
- Friday, Dec. 17, Waterville/Mansfield (7:30 p.m.)
- Tuesday, Dec. 21, Cascade Christian Academy (7:30 p.m.)
- Tuesday, Dec. 28, Republic (7:30 p.m.)
- Wednesday, Dec. 29, at Bridgeport (7:30 p.m.)



Courtesy Marcus Stennes/Pateros School District

Billygoats suited up for the 2021-22 varsity basketball season include front row, from left, Pablo Gonzalez, Jose Martinez, Jomar Rodriguez, Jose Ascencion, Pidi Pamatz, Martin Angel, and Aldo Caballero. Back row, from left, Javier Garcia, Jesus Zanabria, Jacob Piechalski, Chris Poore, Trenton Rodman, Ish Mireles, Diego Mota, and Flavio Sanchez. This season's head coach is Marcus Stennes, assisted by Brevin Evenson.

### Go, Billygoats & Nannies!

Have a safe and healthy year!

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### Pateros High School Cheer Team

Courtesy Erika Varrelman, Cheer Advisor

Pateros basketball cheer team members include back row from left: Jazzmyn Zuniga, Noelia Garcia, Melanie Gonzalez, Angie Gonzalez, Bella Arellano, Vera Zuniga, and Yareli Ramirez. Front row from left: Naili Hernandez, Bobbi Nicholson, Sarai Martinez, and Yanise Cazares. Not pictured: Ruby Mota.



# Beijing’s Organ Harvesting Crimes Must End: European Lawmakers

FRANK FANG

Some members of the European Parliament are demanding action to combat organ harvesting, after experts gave evidence at a Nov. 29 subcommittee hearing confirming that the Chinese communist regime has been harvesting organs from prisoners of conscience on a large scale.

“We came to the conclusion beyond reasonable doubt that forced organ harvesting was proved,” Sir Geoffrey Nice QC, who chaired the 2019 China Tribunal, an independent panel investigating the issue, told the European Parliament’s Subcommittee on Human Rights on Nov. 29.

“It means taking people, the Falun Gong, killing them, ripping out all their organs to sell on the commercial market.”

The China Tribunal concluded in its 2019 report that state-sanctioned forced organ harvesting had been taking place in China for years “on a significant scale.” The report stated that it was “certain” the organs are being sourced from imprisoned Falun Gong adherents and that they’re “probably the principal source.”

Falun Gong, also known as Falun Dafa, is a spiritual discipline with meditative exercises and moral teachings. In July 1999, the Chinese regime launched a nationwide campaign to round up adherents and throw them into prisons, labor camps, brainwashing centers, and psychiatric wards, in an effort to force them into renouncing their faith.

In 2006, allegations of forced organ harvesting from Falun Gong adherents in detention first emerged.

The Chinese regime is making enormous profits from supplying its transplant industry with harvested organs. Based on estimates, Nice said that each victim’s body could generate



SAMIRA BOUAOU/THE EPOCH TIMES

Falun Gong practitioners take part in a parade marking the 22nd anniversary of the start of the Chinese regime’s persecution of Falun Gong, in Washington on July 16, 2021.

up to about half a million dollars when fully exploited.

Earlier this month, Chinese authorities released a price list of different transplant organs, such as \$15,600 for a heart, drawing criticism from health experts, who said that the communist regime was trying to whitewash its transplant abuses.

Martin Elliott, a professor of pediatric cardiothoracic surgery at the University College London, who was on the tribunal panel, presented to the EU lawmakers different types of evidence the tribunal had relied upon to reach its conclusion. For example, that the “number of registered donors

has always been significantly lower than the transplants performed” in China, meaning there was “some hidden donor pool,” he said.

“Transplants were being carried out on the order of 60,000 to 90,000 a year at that time,” Elliott said.

He said prisoners of conscience were being subjected to medical tests, further pointing to the grisly practice.

“We heard further evidence that these inmates were subjected to blood tests for uncertain reasons, [and] ultrasound examination of their organs,” he said.

Such tests are used if one wants to “establish that the prisoners were ei-

ther healthy or well, or that their organs are in good condition,” he said.

But given that many of the detainees were subjected to torture at these facilities, “it’s difficult to imagine” that the tests had any other purpose than to test for organ health, the professor said.

For years, China has been a top destination for transplant tourism, since Chinese hospitals offer wait times as short as a few days. By contrast, in Western countries, the typical wait time for an organ transplant is months, if not years. Such short wait times in China, Elliott argued, could “only be explained by a latent pool

of donors.”

Recently, several U.S. state legislatures have passed resolutions warning U.S. citizens against traveling to China for organ tourism. A Texas state resolution adopted in June said that traveling to the country for this purpose amounted to “unwittingly becoming involved in murder.”

Isabel Santos, a Portuguese politician and a member of the EU subcommittee, said through a translator that the annual transplant figure presented by Elliott “really does show the industrial scale” of China’s organ harvesting practices. “It really shows us how urgent it is for us to reflect on joint action. It cannot just be EU action. It needs to be joint action undertaken by all international organizations to fight this scourge,” Santos said.

“We also need to criminalize those who benefit or make use of this practice. That does seem to be the only way that we’re going to be able to fight this type of crime.”

María Soraya Rodríguez Ramos, a Spanish politician and a member of the subcommittee, said through a translator that China’s organ harvesting was really “murder on an industrial scale.” She also questioned whether the EU should strengthen legal protection to ensure that “none of those organs reach our member states.”

Dominic Porter, the head of division for China, Macao, Taiwan, and Mongolia from the EU’s diplomatic arm European External Action Service, told the subcommittee that the external ministry has “repeatedly expressed concerns” about the “secrecy” around China’s death penalty and organ transplant statistics.

“So let me be clear that the EU condemned in the strongest terms the criminal, inhumane and unethical practice of forced organ harvesting,” Porter said.

## Georgia School Boards Association Withdraws From National Group Over ‘Domestic Terrorism’ Letter

GQ PAN

The Georgia School Boards Association (GSBA) has joined a growing list of state chapters that have severed ties from the National School Board Association (NSBA) after the national group called for federal intervention in parental protests.

In a widely criticized Sept. 29 letter to President Joe Biden, the NSBA characterized disruptions at school board meetings as “a form of domestic terrorism and hate crime.” The organization also urged the federal government to invoke counterterrorism laws to handle “angry mobs” of parents seeking to hold school officials accountable for teaching the Marxism-rooted critical race theory and for imposing COVID-19 restrictions such as mask mandates on their children.

Just five days later, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a memo directing federal law enforcement to help address an alleged “disturbing spike in harassment, intimidation, and threats of violence” against teachers and school leaders. The memo also sparked a controversy, with many lawmakers questioning how much of the claim regarding threats against school leaders was based on facts and expressing concern over its potential chilling effect on free speech.

The GSBA had previously clarified in a statement that they weren’t consulted or informed about the letter to Biden, nor did they seek federal involvement in dealing with disruptions at school board meetings. The state organization has now confirmed to The Epoch Times that its board of directors voted on Nov. 30 to “with-



ALEX WONG/GETTY IMAGES

Attorney General Merrick Garland delivers remarks in Washington on Nov.15, 2021.

draw and not pay dues to be a member of NSBA.”

“The letter that the NSBA Leadership sent to President Biden calling for broad federal law enforcement intervention on behalf of school board members was concerning since GSBA did not ask for it, was not consulted about it, and did not agree with many of the statements” in it, reads a Nov. 30 letter sent from GSBA Executive Director Valarie Wilson to the organization’s membership, which was obtained by The Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

Wilson also alleged in the letter that the NSBA has taken “little to no actions” despite being repeatedly asked to address governance and finance issues for several years.

“The GSBA board of directors no longer has faith in NSBA’s ability to effectively represent the interests of our state association and its members,” the letter reads. “We cannot be a part of [an] organization that does not respect and follow the basic principles on which we were founded 70 years ago.”

The Justice Department’s (DOJ) actions following the NSBA request have raised suspicions, prompting a coalition of Republican members of Congress to look into the role that the Biden administration played in the crafting and release of the NSBA letter.

When Rep. Jim Jordan (R-Ohio) asked Garland during an Oct. 21 House Judiciary Committee hearing whether it was just a coincidence that the NSBA letter and the DOJ memo were released only five days apart, he admitted the letter was “brought to our attention” and was a “relevant factor” in the drafting of the memo. He noted that the White House had “communicated its concerns about the letter to the Justice Department” and that it was “perfectly appropriate” for it to do so.

Garland also emphasized that his memo “says nothing about domestic terrorism, says nothing about parents committing any such things.” However, an FBI whistleblower has recently revealed that the heads of the FBI’s Criminal Investigative Division and Counterterrorism Division have instructed their agents and analysts to use a designated “threat tag” whenever they encounter a potential threat or case of harassment against school officials.

“This suggests that the Bureau is looking for opportunities to pursue investigations, including using counterterrorism authorities and tools, under the [DOJ memo],” a group of Senate Republicans argued in a Nov. 29 letter, demanding that Garland schedule another hearing over the matter “as soon as possible.”

## Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Suspends Vaccine Mandate Enforcement

JACK PHILLIPS

The federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) suspended enforcement of its vaccine mandate for healthcare workers after two court orders earlier this week.

A memo issued by the agency, posted by Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt on Twitter Thursday, said that CMS “remains confident” it will prevail in court but is “suspending activities related to the implementation and enforcement of this rule pending future development in the litigation.”

“While these preliminary injunctions are in effect,” it continues to say, “CMS surveyors must not survey providers for compliance with the requirements” with the rule. The memo is referring to federal government officials conducting checks of whether Medicare- or Medicaid-funded facilities are complying with the Biden administration’s mandate that healthcare staff gets fully vaccinated for COVID-19 by Jan. 4.

The CMS rule allows for religious and medical exemptions to the vaccine.

Schmitt, a Republican who is running for Missouri’s U.S. Senate seat, hailed CMS’s memo as a victory in a Twitter post.

This week, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri and the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Louisiana issued preliminary injunctions against the CMS vaccine rule, which was unveiled on Nov. 4 alongside federal rules that mandate either testing or vaccines for employers with 100 or more workers.

“Between the two of them, these injunctions cover all states” as well as Washington, D.C. and U.S. territories, the memo said. CMS has appealed the two federal court decisions.

The rule for private businesses, which is being enforced by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, was dealt a blow last month when a U.S. Fifth Court of Appeals issued an injunction that blocked its enforcement. The same court affirmed its previous decision several days later, which is currently being challenged by the Biden administration.

On Nov. 29, the Biden administration’s Office of Management and Budget federal told agencies in a memo that they can wait to terminate or suspend their employees who won’t get vaccinated until the holidays are over.

OMB Deputy Director for Management Jason Miller and Office of Personnel Management Director Kiran Ahuja wrote that “no subsequent enforcement actions, beyond that education and counseling” is mandated for federal workers “who have not yet complied with the vaccination requirement until the new calendar year begins in January.”

Later, White House Jen Psaki downplayed the memo and said that “nothing has changed” regarding enforcement, claiming it is “inaccurate” to say that the White House has “delayed anything, or changed” enforcement of the rule. In September, Biden announced he would require all federal employees to receive the shot.

The Epoch Times has contacted CMS for comment.

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# What Do We Know About Omicron?

NATHAN WORCESTER

It's been just days since a new strain of COVID-19 made headlines across the planet.

While the World Health Organization (WHO) has warned that the new Omicron variant presents a "very high risk," other scientists, including some with WHO, have stressed that we still have much to learn about the new CCP (Chinese Communist Party) virus strain.

Francis Collins, director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), told CNN's "State of the Union" that Omicron is likely "more contagious" than its predecessors. He said there isn't yet any information indicating it causes worse disease than earlier variants.

Following Omicron-related upheavals in the stock market on Black Friday, investment banking giant Goldman Sachs pushed back against widespread anxiety, arguing that existing treatments will likely keep the new variant in check.

In South Africa, where some of the earliest cases of Omicron have been identified and treated, Dr. Angelique Coetzee of the South African Medical Association told The Daily Telegraph that patients with Omicron have had relatively minor symptoms, albeit ones atypical of COVID-19.

"It presents mild disease, with symptoms being sore muscles and tiredness for a day or two not feeling well," Coetzee said. "So far, we have detected that those infected do not suffer the loss of taste or smell. They might have a slight cough. There are no prominent symptoms. Of those infected, some are currently being treated at home."

## Origins, Spread, and Severity

The earliest reports of Omicron came from southern Africa. On Nov. 25, a statement from Botswana's COVID-19 Task Force announced that a new variant, B.1.1.529, had been detected in four travelers.

A statement on Nov. 26 from the country's Ministry of Health and Wellness noted that the four individuals, who are foreign diplomats from an unnamed country, initially tested positive for COVID-19 on Nov. 11. Genomic sequencing later revealed that the travelers had the new variant.



A group of tourists in Bordeaux, southern France, on Nov. 27, 2021.

That same day, the WHO announced that B.1.1.259, or Omicron, was a variant of concern (VOC). The WHO cited the variant's large number of mutations, adding that "preliminary evidence suggests an increased risk of reinfection with this variant, as compared to other VOCs."

In the days since, Omicron has been detected across the world, reaching at least 24 countries as of Dec. 1, according to Forbes.

Recent analyses have suggested it was circulating long before early- to mid-November.

Notably, Nigerian scientists have identified the variant in a sample obtained in mid-October, from a traveler who had returned from South Africa.

While the variant may be contagious, so far it hasn't been associated with greater illness or death.

All 44 cases detected in Europe were mild or asymptomatic, according to reporting from Bloomberg.

This has led some experts to criticize the media and governments across the world for stirring up fear over the variant.

No one here in South Africa is known to have been [hospitalized] with the Omicron variant, nor is anyone here believed to have fallen seriously ill with it.

Angelique Coetzee, chair, South African Medical Association

Coetzee, of the South African Medical Association, has led the charge against what she sees as the over-hyping of Omicron.

"Let me be clear: nothing I have seen about this new variant warrants the extreme action the UK government has taken in response to it," she wrote in The Daily Mail.

"No one here in South Africa is known to have been [hospitalized] with the Omicron variant, nor is anyone here believed to have fallen seriously ill with it."

In a Nov. 29 Twitter thread, Dr.

Nicholas Christakis of Yale University noted there had been "no reports, yet, of deaths" from Omicron. "We will see such deaths before long," he said.

So far, even as the Omicron variant reportedly swept South Africa in November, COVID-19 deaths in the country have fallen from recent highs during the country's winter in July and August.

On Dec. 1, however, WHO's COVID-19 technical lead, Maria Van Kerkhove, noted an increase in hospitalizations in that country, according to CNBC. The country has simultaneously dealt with a small surge in the Delta variant, which may account for some of the increase in hospitalization.

If Omicron is both more contagious and less severe than earlier variants, its emergence could reflect the trade-off between transmission and virulence. According to this scientific hypothesis, pathogens evolve in the direction of spreading farther while also becoming less damaging to their hosts.

Some scientists think existing therapeutics will probably prove

effective against Omicron.

"There's reason to be optimistic current boosted vaccines will provide meaningful protection against #Omicron," wrote Scott Gottlieb, a Pfizer director and former Trump official, on Twitter.

Collins, of the NIH, thinks scientists will be better able to comment on the efficacy of existing vaccines against Omicron after two to three more weeks of field and laboratory testing.

## Little Knowledge, Big Government Action

Our understanding of Omicron will improve as we learn more about it.

Thankfully, that knowledge could come sooner rather than later—WHO's Van Kerkhove has said her agency expects to know more about the new variant in days rather than weeks as initially projected, according to Reuters.

Yet despite our limited information on the new variant, as well as early indications that it may not be very severe, the United States and other governments have already reacted strongly, banning travel from southern Africa.

The WHO and other experts have criticized such restrictions, as has the U.S. Travel Association.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, President Joe Biden's chief medical adviser, told ABC's George Stephanopoulos on Nov. 28 that it was "too early to say" whether new lockdowns or mandates would be implemented in response to Omicron in the United States.

"We just really need to, as I've said so often, prepare for the worst," Fauci said in that interview.

More and more experts have voiced concerns about the use of lockdowns and similarly sweeping measures. Economist Donald Boudreaux told The Epoch Times that such shutdowns have "massive, gigantic, maybe even unprecedented" effects.

Writing in The Daily Wire, Dr. Scott Atlas, a coronavirus adviser under President Donald Trump, said that even if COVID-19 deaths stop rising quickly alongside cases during recurring spikes, "it is unlikely the recurring hysteria and mismanagement by those in power will end so quickly."

# Florida Prison System in Crisis, State Senator Says

JANNIS FALKENSTERN

Florida is facing a "tsunami of inmates" who may be released from local and county jails due to a critical staff shortage, according to state Sen. Jeff Brandes, a Republican.

As a result of inaction by state leadership, Brandes said, the state may have to release some prisoners because facilities are overcrowded and there are not enough corrections officers.

He said Florida's prisons could house 60,000 inmates appropriately, and manage them adequately, but there are more than 80,000 incarcerated. The total does not include defendants behind bars while their cases are heard.

"I say overcrowded, but it is not because we do not have enough bed space—it is because of the lack of staff," he said, adding that the system currently has one guard for every 250 inmates.

The state senator blamed the state's legislators on both sides of the aisle for the problem,

"The state legislature failed to put any plan in place," he said. "They don't understand the depth of the problem."

In 2016, the Florida legislature commissioned a study on the prison system and asked for recommenda-

tions. The Crime and Justice Institute conducted the study and released a report in 2018.

"The analysis found that Florida is sending fewer people to prison than in years past, but those who do end up there are serving longer sentences, including those convicted of low-level, nonviolent offenses," the report said.

The report found that Florida's prison population stagnated at 100,000 inmates, making it the third-largest in the United States.

In late August 2021, staff shortages caused three Florida facilities to close—Cross City, Baker and New River correctional institutions, all in north Florida.

They don't understand the depth of the problem.

Sen. Jeff Brandes

The affected inmates were sent to other facilities, where Brandes said many were sleeping on floors.

Brandes said the incarceration rate is 21 percent higher than the national average. Florida's elderly prison population is rapidly growing and is expect-



Storm clouds pass over the Booking and Release Center at the Orange County Jail in Orlando on July 16, 2011.

ed to reach more than 27,700 inmates by 2023. Most elderly inmates have significant medical needs. In 2015 the FDC spent more than \$366 million on health care for inmates.

Along with staffing issues, programs for the inmates have been cut because of lack of teachers, Brandes said.

"We are just warehousing and not correcting anything," he said. "There may be one teacher to every 1,500 inmates. We just don't have the teachers; you can only cut the grass a few times with a person."

## Solutions

According to Brandes, a pay increase for correction officers was a priority—which Gov. Ron DeSantis addressed at a press conference on Nov. 29.

The governor proposed \$400 million in new funding to increase the salaries of all of Florida's law enforcement officers, including correctional officers.

Brandes agreed this was a start, but more needed to be done.

The senator proposed several things for the upcoming January legislative session, but he said the top priority

should be reducing sentences for non-violent offenders.

Other issues such as the aging population of the inmates needed attention, as well as the possibility of releasing inmates who were terminally ill, he said.

"These [terminally ill] inmates, instead of spending their last few weeks, or months, in confinement, they could be at home surrounded by family in their final hours."

Also, Brandes was proposing a "second look" at the inmate's court case.

"This will allow a judge to take a second look at their case and the judge will determine early release based on their prison record," he explained.

"If the inmate has had good behavior, and participated in programs while incarcerated, the judge can reduce their sentence."

Brandes didn't expect a lot out of this legislative session, because similar bills have been introduced in the past.

He said he feared the department of corrections was in crisis mode would stay there for a long time to come if something wasn't done now.

"I think the legislature will continue to punt on this issue because it is an election year," he said. "Everyone likes law and order, but revamping the prison system to where it works is part of that."

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**Employment**

**Help Wanted**




**RADIOLOGY/ CT TECH**  
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Three Rivers Hospital is seeking a Rad/ CT Tech to produce CT scans and assist the Radiologist with interventional procedures that require CT guidance and to provide the best diagnostic images possible for the providers. Registered by the ARRT and Certified WA State. Graduation from an AMA – approved school of Radiologic Technology. Minimum of one year CT experience. (Technical staff can be crossed trained). Current BLS certification. Prefer ARRT certification in CT. 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](http://www.threerivershospital.net) [opportunity@trhospital.net](mailto:opportunity@trhospital.net) EOE


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**COVID-19 COORDINATOR / MA-C**  
**Full-time/Temporary**  
Three Rivers Hospital is seeking a COVID-19 Coordinator to work in our medical clinic. This position performs essential tasks, which includes answering and returning phone calls to patients related to questions around the COVID vaccine, testing, results, and general questions; administrator COVID-19 vaccinations. High school graduate or equivalent, must have valid WA State MA License. Required: ability to communicate in English and Spanish. Interested Candidates may apply in person or by mailing their resume to: Three Rivers Hospital Human Resources PO Box 577 Brewster, WA 98812 (509) 689-2517 [www.threerivershospital.net](http://www.threerivershospital.net) [opportunity@trhospital.net](mailto:opportunity@trhospital.net) EOE



**PROGRAM MANAGER - RN**  
**Full-time**  
Three Rivers Hospital is seeking a Program Manager-RN to oversee the Utilization Review and Discharge Planning Department, Infection Control Program, Employee Health Program, and provides support to the Quality Improvement Department. Current WA State RN license and three years' experience in Infection Control, Utilization Review, and Quality in a healthcare setting. 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](http://www.threerivershospital.net) [opportunity@trhospital.net](mailto:opportunity@trhospital.net) EOE



**ULTRASOUND TECHNOLOGIST**  
**Part-time**  
Three Rivers Hospital is seeking an Ultrasound Tech responsible for the independent operation of sonographic equipment, and for performing and communicating results of diagnostic examinations using sonography. Candidate must have an active ARDMS, ARRT, RDMS or RDCS certification and a minimum of one year clinical experience. Graduate of a formal Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program or Cardiovascular Technology Program that is accredited by CAAHEP. Candidate must be able to perform general, OB and abdomen studies; vascular studies (i.e. Echo, Carotid, Arterial) and Cardiac capabilities are required. 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](http://www.threerivershospital.net) [opportunity@trhospital.net](mailto:opportunity@trhospital.net) EOE




**Med/ Surg RN**  
**Full-time/ Nights**  
Three Rivers Hospital is seeking a Med/ Surg RN to perform general nursing duties in an acute care setting with adequate supervision. Current WA State RN license and must have current BLS/ CPR & obtain ACLS certification within one year. 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](http://www.threerivershospital.net) [opportunity@trhospital.net](mailto:opportunity@trhospital.net) EOE




**OR Circulator Nurse**  
**Full-time**  
Three Rivers Hospital is seeking an OR Circulator Nurse. Current WA State RN license. Two years' experience as a full-time circulator. BLS and ACLS certifications. Basic computer 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](http://www.threerivershospital.net) [opportunity@trhospital.net](mailto:opportunity@trhospital.net) EOE




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**MEDICAL INTERPRETER**  
**Full-time**  
Three Rivers Hospital is seeking a Medical Interpreter to provide communication support services to hospital and medical staff, as well as hospital Limited English Proficiency patients. Required: High School Diploma, current WA DSHS Medical Interpreter Certification or obtain the WA DSHS Medical Interpreter Certification within 120 days of acceptance of position. One year experience in the medical field with use of medical terminology. Experience in the areas of cultural awareness, public speaking, translation, and interpretation is preferred. Interested Candidates may apply in person or by mailing their resume to: Three Rivers Hospital Human Resources PO Box 577 Brewster, WA 98812 (509) 689-2517 [www.threerivershospital.net](http://www.threerivershospital.net) [opportunity@trhospital.net](mailto:opportunity@trhospital.net) EOE




**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](http://www.threerivershospital.net) [opportunity@trhospital.net](mailto:opportunity@trhospital.net) EOE



**OR Circulator Nurse**  
**Part-time**  
Three Rivers Hospital is seeking an OR Circulator Nurse. Current WA State RN license. Two years' experience as a full-time circulator. BLS and ACLS certifications. Basic computer skills. Days will vary, 8-hour shifts. No call time. 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](http://www.threerivershospital.net) [opportunity@trhospital.net](mailto:opportunity@trhospital.net) EOE




**LAB TECHNICIAN TECHNOLOGIST**  
**Temporary / Full-time**  
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](http://www.threerivershospital.net) [opportunity@trhospital.net](mailto:opportunity@trhospital.net) EOE



**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](http://www.threerivershospital.net) [opportunity@trhospital.net](mailto:opportunity@trhospital.net) EOE

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**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](http://www.threerivershospital.net) [opportunity@trhospital.net](mailto:opportunity@trhospital.net) EOE



**DIETARY MANAGER**  
**Full-time**  
Three Rivers Hospital is seeking a Dietary Manager responsible for directing and assisting dietary staff with food preparation, helps with establishing patient menus and monitors departmental compliance with federal/ state guidelines and sanitary practices. Candidate must have one year food service management experience or a bachelor's degree in related field. CDM and ServSafe Certification, CPR and Food Handler's permit are required. Sign-on Bonus: \$5,000. Interested Candidates may apply in person or by mailing their resume to: Three Rivers Hospital Human Resources PO Box 577 Brewster, WA 98812 (509) 689-2517 [www.threerivershospital.net](http://www.threerivershospital.net) [opportunity@trhospital.net](mailto:opportunity@trhospital.net) EOE



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Help Wanted



**DIETARY COOK/AIDE**  
**Full-time**  
Three Rivers Hospital is seeking a full-time Dietary Cook/Aide. This position is responsible for preparing food in accordance with established menus, recipes, and sanitary standards in a healthcare facility. High School Diploma or equivalent required and previous experience in food service is preferred. Food Handler's permit is required and ServSafe certification is preferred. Rotating schedule, will include some weekends. Sign-on Bonus: \$2,500. 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](mailto:www.threerivershospital.net) [opportunity@trhospital.net](mailto:opportunity@trhospital.net) EOE



**RADIOLOGY/ MAMMOGRAPHY TECH**  
**Part-time**  
Three Rivers Hospital is seeking a Radiology/ Mammography Tech to provide the best diagnostic images possible for the Radiologists, Physicians and ER Providers. Requirements: Registered by the ARRT and Certified by the State of WA. Graduation from an AMA – approved school of Radiologic Technology. Must have ARRT advanced certification in mammography, and completed an accredited program in radiology or imaging and have a minimum of 1 year experience as a Mammography Tech. 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](mailto:www.threerivershospital.net) [opportunity@trhospital.net](mailto:opportunity@trhospital.net) EOE

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**Public Notices**  
  
**PATEROS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 122-70J BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING DAY CHANGE**  
Thursday, December 16, 2021  
As directed by the Board of Directors of the Pateros School District 122-70J; the December Regular School Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 pm on Thursday, December 16, 2021 in the Pateros School Library and via electronic Zoom. Visit [www.pateros.org](http://www.pateros.org) board of directors for electronic meeting address.  
The Pateros School District is a barrier free facility accessible to persons with disabilities. Additional information is available in the superintendent's office 509-923-2751 ext. 4.  
Greg Goodnight  
Clerk of the Board  
Pateros School District  
Published in the Quad City Herald December 8, 2021 #3170



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Classifieds/Public Notices

# Can Bag Balm cure foot fungus?

One of my neighbors swears that Bag Balm® helps cure foot fungus. Is that true?

No, not really. Applying Bag Balm® to a fungal infection might help it keep from spreading, but it's far more likely to make it worse.

Most organisms grow better when placed in specific conditions that help them thrive. Most plants grow faster when planted in areas that receive many hours of direct sunlight each day. Other plants grow better in filtered light or areas out of the direct sun. Grasses and corn thrive in wet areas and will wither unless they get regular watering. Yet, iris and cacti have roots that can quickly rot if exposed to too much water.

Foot fungus and yeast organisms grow best in warm, dark, and moist places. This is why you'll find fungus and yeast thrive in the spaces between your toes and in the groin area rather than on the tops of your feet or on your elbows. Yeast can infect the diaper area because wet diapers provide a warm, dark and moist environment.

Bag Balm® has 3 main



ingredients: petroleum jelly (Vaseline®), lanolin (wool fat), and 8-hydroxyquinoline, an anti-infective agent. Bag Balm® was initially marketed to dairy farmers to apply to cow udders to reduce skin irritation and speed the healing of minor cuts and scrapes. Although licensed for veterinary use only, most farmers also used it on themselves and their family members for their cuts and chapped skin, with good results. Today, many homes wouldn't be without Bag Balm® in its iconic bright green square can.

8-hydroxyquinoline is considered an effective topical anti-infective. It has been used as an active ingredient in liquid bandages such as New Skin®. The 19th edition of the United States Dispensatory published in 1907 describes 8-hydroxyquinoline as a potent antiseptic.

8-hydroxyquinoline can stop the growth of bacteria and fungi by combining with specific trace minerals found on the surface of bacteria

and fungi. This poisons them and prevents these microorganisms from reproducing, inhibiting their growth and ability to cause infection.

Although 8-hydroxyquinoline can inhibit fungus reproduction, slathering it on your feet won't ensure a cure for Athlete's foot. The main reason is that Bag Balm® is an ointment.

Your body continuously gives off moisture through your breath, your sweat, and the pores of your skin. Creams help trap that moisture next to your skin before it evaporates, but ointments do that even better. One of the best ways to soothe dry skin is to get it wet, pat it only partly dry and then apply an ointment. Ointment traps moisture next to the skin and prevents it from evaporating.

Bag Balm® is only available as an ointment. Applying ointment to your feet moisturizes dry, chapped, or cracked skin. But if that skin is infected with fungus, using an ointment will encourage it to spread.

Ointment applied to feet covered in socks and shoes provides a warm, dark, and moist place, the perfect spot for growing fungus.

Instead of reaching for a can of Bag Balm® when fighting foot fungus, I recommend keeping your feet as dry as possible and using a non-prescription antifungal agent.

Here are 3 keys to a Successfully Battling Foot Fungus:

- 1.Change your socks frequently
- 2.Apply a medicated antifungal cream until the infection is under control
- 3.Keep fungus under control by using an antifungal spray powder daily

Q: Can I use Bag Balm®

for my baby's diaper rash?

I don't recommend it. Babies have much thinner skin than children or adults, and the genital area has the most delicate skin of all.

The thinner your skin, the more likely that compounds applied to your skin can be absorbed through it into your bloodstream. Broken or blistered skin is even more likely to absorb stuff that's intended only for use on the outside, not the inside.

Years ago, an antiseptic cleanser called Phisohex® was used to wash newborn infants. It contained hexachlorophene, an antiseptic skin cleanser that killed bacteria. When used as a body wash, some babies absorbed enough hexachlorophene through their skin to trigger seizures and other life-threatening reactions.

When treating a diaper rash, wash the area very gently and let it dry completely before applying any cream, ointment or other protectant. Creams or ointments containing zinc oxide protect the skin from contact with irritants like urine and feces without encouraging yeast infection.

The skin of babies younger than 6 months is particularly sensitive to perfumes; avoid highly scented baby wipes and soaps which can trigger diaper rash.

Dr. Louise Achey, Doctor of Pharmacy, is a 42-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*. ©2021 Louise Achey

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THEME: Year in Review ACROSS

- Coalition of countries
- King trump-er, sometimes
- Cuckoo bird
- \_\_\_\_\_ weevil
- Smelting waste
- Kitchen-wear
- Coke or Pepsi
- Check-in via text, email, etc.
- Settler transport
- \*2021 Super Bowl winner, two words
- Before long, to Shakespeare
- Jeopardy
- Auction action
- Puts down
- Coroner's performance
- Band booking
- Snicket of "A Series of Unfortunate Events"
- Stravinsky's "The \_\_\_\_\_ of Spring"
- Mine passages
- \*"Build Back Better \_\_\_\_\_"
- Eucharist plate
- Table hill
- "Tit for \_\_\_\_\_"
- Buck feature, pl.
- \*First female VP
- Evergreen creeper
- It goes with gin, according to Snoop Dogg
- Mongolian desert
- \*COVID-19, e.g.
- Poison ivy or Poison oak
- International Civil Aviation Org.
- Distinctive smell
- House coat
- Asian cuisine food thickener
- Pelvic parts
- Gallery display
- Self-proclaimed greatest boxer
- Count on

DOWN

- "Monty Python" broadcaster
- Rioter's take
- Cantina pot
- Fasteners or holders
- Cover story
- \*Suez \_\_\_\_\_, too tight for Ever Given
- Like custard
- Mythological ship
- "High" time
- Wayside stop
- Thinly spread
- Look forward to
- \* \_\_\_\_\_ Papers, leaked offshore account information
- Banana refuse, pl.
- Exchange for money
23. Old World lizard
- \*January 20th honoree
- Anti-elderly one
- Those not in favor
- Pita, alt. sp.
- Take without asking
- Gossiper, Yiddish
- \*Perseverance landing spot
- Edible tuber
- Kabul's organization in power
- \*The Nobel \_\_\_\_\_ Prize was awarded to Ressa and Muratov
- Snoop around
- Snowmobile brand
- Give the boot
- \*"Stronger" by Cindy McCain, e.g.
- Southwestern hut
- Sushi restaurant staple
- \_\_\_\_\_ gum, food additive
- Leave out
- Home to the Leaning Tower
- Not in use
- One in mattress
- Spot for a facial
- \*Actor Liotta, star in "The Many Saints of Newark"

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