



Oroville felon sentenced for firearms possession

By MIKE MALTAIS STAFF WRITER

OROVILLE - An Oroville man with a violent criminal history was sentenced to 101.5 months (nearly 8.5 years) on Dec. 17 after being found guilty of First-Degree Unlawful Possession of a Firearm.

A media release from the office of Okanogan County Prosecuting Attorney Arian Noma said Jon Devon was found guilty by a jury early last November. He is prohibited from possessing firearms due to his extensive violent criminal history including recent convictions for Domestic Violence Criminal Mischief with a Deadly Weapon (March 2020), Assault of Law Enforcement Officer (2017), and Second-Degree Manslaughter for the death of a child (2017).

"Felons with guns is something my office takes very



Courtesy Okanogan County Jail Jon Devon

seriously," said Noma praising the sentence. "Guns in the hands of violent criminals like Mr. Devon not only makes our community less safe, but smears and sullies the name of all the law-abiding gun owners of Okanogan County."

More doses coming

First COVID vaccine shipments arrive in Okanogan County

By MIKE MALTAIS STAFF WRITER

BREWSTER - The COVID-19 vaccine has arrived in Okanogan County at North Valley Hospital and as of this writing medical facilities in the south county including Three Rivers Hospital and Family Health Center expect to receive shipments in early January.

"We were notified that we

will receive 200 doses of the Moderna vaccine, soon, said Jennifer Best, TRH Public Records Officer. "We don't have an arrival date as of right now, but it should be shipped before the end of this month."

Best added that the Moderna vaccine does not require the storage level of extreme cold temperatures like that of the Pfizer vaccine, "so we

SEE VACCINE ON PAGE A2

Approve Professional Service Agreements

Pateros Council hears Pop-Up Market survey responses

By MIKE MALTAIS STAFF WRITER

PATEROS - The city's Pop-Up Outdoor Market proposal was the main item of discussion at the city council's regular meeting conducted by Zoom on Dec. 21. Included in the discussion were the survey results returned by 27 respondents.



Following three round-table Zoom meetings earlier in December designed to solicit public input for a pop-up market in the city's downtown, respondents completed the survey to give city leaders a better idea about what the public thinks of the project.

To the question: Do you like the idea of an outdoor market in downtown Pateros? More than 70 percent replied in the affirmative.

Another question asking

what type of business would be successful in a downtown outdoor market, more than 80 percent favored three general types: home grown and home-crafted, food and drink vendors, and vintage/retro and antiques.

To the question: Are you interested in participating in an outdoor market? The majority - more than 39 percent - answered that they knew someone who would be interested.

As to the time of year respondents would patronize an outdoor market, more than half preferred summer (Memorial Day through Labor Day) while the 33 percent of respondents chose summer weekends, holidays, and all year.

In other business the city approved two resolutions. The

SEE POP-UP MARKET ON PAGE A2

Gebbers Farms responds to L&I action

By MIKE MALTAIS STAFF WRITER

BREWSTER - The latest action by the Washington Department of Labor and Industries announced on Dec. 21 in the form of a \$2,038,200 fine against Gebbers Farms elicited a one-page response from the Brewster-based company on the same day.

Gebbers Farms Company Statement Regarding Dec. 21, 2020, L&I Announcement

December 21, 2020 - We are deeply disappointed by the agency's announcement. There is nothing more important to Gebbers Farms than our workers' health and safety, as evidenced by the fact that 99.3% of our entire workforce tested negative for the virus, which is better than county, state and national rates to date. While we cannot comment on the specific violations because we are evaluating our options to appeal, we strongly disagree with the agency's assessment. Gebbers Farms collaborated with an infectious disease specialist early in the pandemic to develop a group-shelter program that put employees' health, safety and well-being



Courtesy watsongreenllc.com Amy Philpott

first. Our group-shelter program had many of the same elements as the state's rule, including social distancing, mandatory facial coverings, reducing maximum occupancy of common areas, and using exhaust fans to create extra airflow in living quarters.

We had already established cohorts of 42 people before the state set a 15-person cohort. We consulted experts to develop our program, and there is nothing magical about the number 15. Consider that the state recommended size for community group gatherings is far fewer today than at any

other time in the year, and community cases are rising. We said that we would (and we did) change our program as quickly as possible to follow the state rules.

We changed our program to follow the rules as quickly as possible. Also, in spring and summer, testing was still difficult to obtain. CDC guidance and recommendations were frequently changing early in the pandemic. Like essential businesses everywhere, we were making corresponding operational changes as quickly as possible.

While we disagree with the agency, we will always do everything we can to keep employees safe in the workplace. COVID has taken a severe toll on communities, the state, and the country. We are deeply saddened by the loss of our team members and long-time workers who we considered family.

Gebbers Farm Management Company spokeswoman Amy Philpott of Watson Green, LLC, in Washington, D.C., added the following:

"The L&I based its fine on the same allegations it made last summer when it issued an Order of Notice of Immediate Restraint (OIR) against

Gebbers. We learned after the attached statement was released that the Board of Industry Insurance and Appeals (BIIA) ruled this week that Gebbers Farms was in compliance with the emergency rule on July 27 - the date that L&I issued the OIR. The judge also stated that the OIR makes no specific allegations as to how any worker's death might be related to any condition, practice, method, or process present in Gebbers' workplace(s) or how Gebbers specifically violated the COVID-19 emergency rules."

"In reference to the worker death that was not reported in eight hours - Gebbers Farms did not learn of the worker's passing for several days because the hospital would not release the information to the company," Philpott said.

Philpott noted that "the BIIA ruling doesn't negate the fine and the citations. It demonstrates that, during the inspections, Gebbers Fully intended (and did) comply with the emergency order."

"The company will be appealing the fine," Philpott said.

Editors Note: Read Washington Labor & Industries press release on our website qcherald.com

Wearing white camo

Wire thieves at work stripping wildfire-damaged PUD infrastructure

By MIKE MALTAIS STAFF WRITER

OKANOGAN - Copper wire thieves have been stripping copper wire from the Okanogan PUD infrastructure in the wake of last fall's Cole Spring wildfire.

"The PUD lost several miles of lines, and since it will all be rebuilt in 2021, not all of the damaged infrastructure has been removed," said PUD Community Relations Coordinator Sheila Corson. "Thieves in white camouflage have been sneaking into the rights-of-way of the PUD and trespassing on private property to take copper wire to sell for scrap."

Corson said PUD crews spent 23 hours of overtime Dec. 18-20 to safely remove as much of the damaged infrastructure as possible to curtail illegal activity.

"Thieves have resorted to knocking over good poles rather than just take what is on the ground," Corson said.

The PUD is working with the Okanogan County Sheriff's Office to catch the thieves whose actions could endanger the lives of not only themselves, but others.

"The danger is not just in the falling poles and other pieces of equipment," cautioned Corson. "The dangerous activities can also affect the line miles down the road and could cause the damaged lines to sag and drop on active distribution lines, causing the de-energized lines to become re-energized again, injuring anyone who might be in contact with those lines, as well as causing an outage."

What gain is made by wire thieves engaged in this risky activity is questionable



Mike Maltais/QCH

Downed utility wires are target-rich sites for copper wire thieves.

since most scrap dealers will not accept utility wire under the assumption that it is stolen property.

The PUD is asking that anyone who

sees suspicious activity on their own property or in powerline rights-of-way notify law enforcement immediately by calling 911.

SHOP LOCAL During this difficult time support your neighbors Most local businesses offer curbside service or delivery

INSIDE THIS WEEK

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QUAD CITY HERALD P.O. Box 37 Brewster, WA 98812-0037 509-689-2507 www.qcherald.com

SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans available to Washington small businesses

Deadline to apply Aug. 18, 2021

SUBMITTED BY SMALL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA—Small nonfarm businesses in 13 Washington counties are now eligible to apply for low interest federal disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration, announced Director Tanya N. Garfield of SBA's Disaster Field Operations Center-West. These loans offset economic losses because of reduced revenues caused by wildfire in the following primary counties that occurred Sept. 7 - Oct. 1.

Primary counties: Douglas, Lincoln and Okanogan;

Neighboring counties: Adams, Chelan, Ferry, Grant, Kittitas, Skagit, Spokane, Stevens, Whitcom and Whitman.

"SBA eligibility covers both the economic impacts on businesses dependent on farmers and ranchers that have suffered agricultural production losses caused by the disaster and businesses directly impacted by the disaster," Garfield said.

Small nonfarm businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private nonprofit organizations of any size may qualify for Economic Injury Disaster Loans of up to \$2 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses which could have been met had the disaster not occurred.

"Eligibility for these loans is

based on the financial impact of the disaster only and not on any actual property damage. These loans have an interest rate of 3 percent for businesses and 2.75 percent for private nonprofit organizations, a maximum term of 30 years, and are available to small businesses and most private nonprofits without the financial ability to offset the adverse impact without hardship," Garfield said.

By law, SBA makes Economic Injury Disaster Loans available when the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture designates an agricultural disaster. The Secretary declared this disaster on Dec. 18, 2020.

Businesses primarily engaged in farming or ranching are not eligible for SBA disaster assistance. Agricultural enterprises should contact the Farm Services Agency about the U.S. Department of Agriculture assistance made available by the Secretary's declaration.

Applicants may apply online, receive additional disaster assistance information and download applications at https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/. Applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more information on SBA disaster assistance. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing may call (800) 877-8339. Completed applications should be mailed to U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

The deadline to apply for economic injury is Aug. 18, 2021.

POP-UP MARKET

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

first renewed the Professional Services Agreement between contract planner Kurt Denison of Highlands & Associates for city planning services for 2021.

The second resolution was another Professional Service Agreement with Apollo Solutions Group to pursue a solar grant for installing a solar collector on the water reservoir that would be used for the sewer system and reservoir electric bills. The city's out-of-pocket expense for the project would amount to \$27,588, 30 percent of which would be for water capital expense and the remaining 70 percent for sewer capital expense.

City Administrator Jord Wilson reported replacement of 40 water meters in preparation for the total meter replacement project next spring.

"I will be sending out a utility notice talking about the new meters and their capabilities," said Wilson. "Customers may experience an increase in rates due to a more accurate accounting of the water they are consuming."

Wilson said manganese levels at pump station #4 remain an issue.

"We are monitoring it closely and will be working on strategies to mitigate it," Wilson said.

The good news is that problems that have been plaguing the downtown pump station electrical and computer processor have been resolved.

"Control Freak was here," said Wilson of the troubleshoot-

ing firm. "Throughout the summer they would come to repair and leave with more issues. (On their last visit) they were able to fully put the system through all of the faults and it functioned as designed."

SUBMITTED BY SHEILA CORSON PUD COMMUNITY RELATIONS COORDINATOR

OKANOGAN - PUD commissioners approved a 2021 budget, including expenditures of \$48.9 million, revenues of \$56.8 million and capital outlay of \$35.3 million.

Resolution 1733 also includes the approval of a 3.25 percent revenue increase, but how that will be applied across rate classes is yet to be determined. Staff are using the PUD's recent cost of service study to determine an equitable distribution.

Rate structures will also be adjusted to account for state public utility and privilege taxes on customer bills. The district pays about \$2.8 million per year to the state in taxes, but the bills currently do not designate that as a line item.

Residential customers will also see the two-tier structure of rates merged into one rate. The tiers are currently at about 4.5 cents for under 2,000 kWh monthly usage and 6.6 cents per kWh for

usage above 2,000 kWh. The new single rate (yet to be determined) will simplify billing and will give relief to low-income or fixed-income customers in the higher usage category.

The PUD has been considering rate increases to go into effect April 1, 2021, to keep up with the increasing costs the district faces, including rebuilding aging and damaged infrastructure.

The approved budget also includes a 1.3 percent cost of living adjustment (non-union), according to the Consumer Price Index.

In other business, the board:

• Observed Commissioner Scott Vejraska take his oath of office after his reelection this November to a six-year term.

• Heard that retail power sales were \$680,000 over the expected budget in October, making up for part of the year-long budgetary shortfall. Wholesale power sales were also over budget in November by \$155,000. The district is now \$617,000 under budget for total power sales (as

opposed to \$1.4 million the month before).

• Heard from Gadeberg that broadband billed more than \$285,000 Dec. 1, with 3,534 end users now on the fiber and wireless system.

• Heard that Douglas PUD has announced an increase to their power rates, so the Okanogan PUD expects to pay an additional \$452,000 for calendar year 2021. The increase is part of an ongoing effort to fund upgrades and repairs at Wells Dam.

• Heard that the SolarWinds hack affecting multiple national agencies did not compromise Okanogan County PUD systems. The version of SolarWinds that monitors the PUD's broadband network was not involved in the security breach.

• Authorized the general manager to execute Contract No. JT 2021-03 with McMillen, LLC dba McMillen Jacobs Associates in an amount not to exceed \$268,694 for Enloe Dam Owner's Advisor Services through Dec. 31, 2021.

NCW Libraries receives COVID-19 grant

BY MIKE MALTAIS STAFF WRITER

WENATCHEE - NCW Libraries has received another grant to aid in the district's response to COVID-19.

The \$3,000 is funded by the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act and was distributed through the Washington State Library (WSL).

The grant is being used to enhance the library district's digital offerings and bring

informative and entertaining virtual programming to communities at a time when in-person programs are not possible. NCW Libraries is currently providing digital storytimes, STEM activities, Meet the Employer events, a Social Justice Lecture series, and much more - all available on the library's website (ncwlibraries.org) and Facebook page.

The WSL received the funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Ser-

vices (IMLS) to support libraries in responding to the coronavirus pandemic. In March, Congress provided the federal agency a total of \$50 million in the CARES Act to distribute to states and territories.

IMLS Director Crosby Kemper III said, "COVID-19 has not only created a public health emergency, but it has also created a deep need for trusted community information, education, and connection that our libraries and museums

are designed to provide. Access to and use of all kinds of health, job, government, educational, and community resources are necessary to weathering the current situation, beginning efforts to reopen, and sustaining our institutions."

NCW Libraries received grants from the same program earlier this year for wireless hotspots and internet connectivity and to purchase washable keyboard covers at its libraries.

VACCINE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

already have what we need to safely store this vaccine."

Best said the TRH Board of Commissioners authorized the purchase of a commercial-grade extra cold freezer

capable of storing the Pfizer vaccine and that is scheduled to arrive at the end of January.

"This is because we don't get to choose which vaccine we receive," said Best. "We purchased the freezer so we could be prepared regardless."

Best said the TRH team is working on the logistics for administering the vaccine.

"As other facilities have done, we will start with front-line health care workers and first responders, such as Life-Flight and EMS," said Best. "As far as rolling it out to the community at large, that will take some time and access to more doses than what we will initially receive."

Okanogan County Public Health Community Health Director Lauri Jones said North Valley Hospital received 975 doses of the Pfizer vaccine on Dec. 14, and since then many first responders, healthcare workers and extended care

residents have already received vaccinations.

OCPH sources predict that it will require "many months until the vaccine is available to all residents of Okanogan County," according to the agency's Facebook page, facebook.com/OKCPH.

Last week the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) allocated 44,850 Pfizer doses and 127,900 Moderna doses, according to a bulletin issued Dec. 24. Those doses include: 153,925 doses distributed to more than 220 sites in 37 counties

18,825 doses distributed to support long-term care facilities, 14 Tribes and Urban

Indian Health Programs.

The week previous providers across the state began administering initial doses of COVID-19 vaccine to high-risk health workers. More than 30,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine have been administered per figures released by DOH on Christmas eve.

"In the meantime, we are still doing COVID testing for the community," said Best. "On weekdays, patients can call our clinic, Three Rivers Family Medicine, at 509-689-3749 to schedule an appointment and start the appropriate paperwork. They can also call our hospital after business hours or on weekends at 509-689-2517."

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A very COVID Christmas



Mike Maltais/QCH

The Christmas spirit is in overdrive on the Pateros Mall as this colorful display of lights around the city's new multi-purpose illustrates.

Washington's First Responders record holiday message: "Step In" to prevent impaired driving

Videos viewable at WADrivetoZero.com.

SUBMITTED BY MARK MEDALEN, WASHINGTON TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

NCW - In December 2019, there were 55 fatal crashes on Washington roads, the most crashes in any single month that year, and occurring in 37 of the state's 39 counties. Driver impairment from more than one substance - usually alcohol and cannabis - is the most common factor in deadly crashes.

This year, first responders in Washington are calling on residents to do something to keep our roads safe this holiday season. Through videos being shared on social media, police officers, state troopers, firefighters and EMTs have a simple message: "Step In" and prevent someone from driving while under the influence.

"Law enforcement will add patrols looking for impaired

drivers during the holidays and this year is no different," said Mark Medalen, Washington Traffic Safety Commission Impaired Driving Program Manager. "But law enforcement alone can't prevent all impaired drivers from possibly hurting themselves or others. We can all step in to offer someone a couch to sleep on or a sober ride home. When we step in, we can save lives."

First responders recorded the videos in early December, often recounting their stories of notifying a family that one of their own had been killed by a drunk or drugged driver. A few responders told their stories of being hit and injured by an impaired driver or losing their own family members to an impaired driver. And everyone agrees that these crashes and deaths are preventable - if people step in.

"We have heard from law enforcement officers, firefighters, EMTs, and others

who respond to these tragic and life-changing crashes every day. They have countless stories from their careers that are strong reminders that impaired drivers cause serious injuries and deaths on our roads."

Locally, an officer with the Douglas County and Chelan County Sheriff's Offices recorded messages about the difficulty of informing a loved one about the death of a family member from an impaired driver. An officer with the East Wenatchee Police Department talked about how he tells all his friends to call him if they need a ride, instead of driving impaired.

The videos are all viewable at WADrivetoZero.com.

Many Washingtonians already Step In; 81 percent take action to prevent someone from driving impaired when in a position to intervene. Interventions include:

Arrange or provide a ride

Offer your couch for the night

Arrange for a friend of loved one to stay where they are

Engage someone else to help, including calling 911

"Impaired driving crashes are devastating to not just the victims, but also the first responders, family, and friends," said Medalen. "We hope everyone will follow the examples of these first responders to step in and commit to preventing impaired driving in their own families. Saving a life is the greatest gift we can give."

DOH announces WA Notify phone app to combat COVID spread

SUBMITTED BY THE WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

- 12.5 - WA Notify can now be enabled on iPhone 6, 6 Plus, or 5s.

OLYMPIA - The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) today announced that in less than three weeks, more than 1.5 million people activated WA Notify, a simple, anonymous exposure notification tool that uses smartphones to help stop the spread of COVID-19. The number of WA Notify users puts Washington state among the top five states for the use of exposure notification technology, when compared to our state's adult population.

"By using WA Notify, Washington residents are stepping up to protect themselves and our communities from COVID-19," said Lacy Fehrenbach, deputy secretary of health for COVID-19 response. "The more people who use exposure notification technology, the more effective it is."

Thanks to a recent operating system update by Apple, people with an older iPhone who hoped to use WA Notify may now be able to. Once they are updated to the new version of the operating system

On Monday, Nov. 30, WA Notify launched in more than 29 languages so as many Washington residents as possible can access this tool. When people in Washington add WA Notify to their smartphones, they will get an alert if they spent time near another WA Notify user who later tests positive for COVID-19. WA Notify uses privacy-preserving technology jointly developed by Google and Apple and works without collecting or revealing any location or personal data.

WA Notify is free and can be enabled in iPhone settings or downloaded as an app from the Google Play Store for Android phones. Users can opt out at any time.

To learn more:

- Visit WANotify.org to see how easy it is to add WA Notify to your smartphone.
- Information about WA Notify is available in multiple languages: WANotify.org/languages.
- View a video that describes how WA Notify works.

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...but you can get the local news online at www.qcherald.com

Please have a Safe Holiday

DON'T DRINK OR TEXT WHILE DRIVING!

Thank you to our holiday sponsors!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Wishing you the best during the holidays.

So our staff can enjoy New Year's with their families our office will close at noon on Thurs., Dec.31 & be closed Fri., Jan. 1

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5 p.m. Wed., Dec. 30
Classifieds/Legals e-mail copy to:
heraldads@qcherald.com

OBITUARY

William “Bill” L. Kegley



William “Bill” L. Kegley, 96, of Coeur d’Alene, Idaho passed away December 12, 2020. He was born June, 1924 in Detroit, Michigan. He is preceded in death by the love of his life, Patsy Ruth who passed away in May of 1998. They were married 44 years. He is survived by his brother James “Tom” and his sister Nancy, his three sons, Michael (wife Diane) Rick (wife Sandy) Dan (wife Maura) and two step-daughters Cheryl (Anson) Fisher and Connie (Anson) Bott. He is also survived by seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren and one great- great-grandchild.

Bill was a World War II veteran that received accommodations for his service in the U.S. Navy, and kept in touch with his surviving veteran brothers over the years in numerous reunions. He remained active with the VFW and American Legion.

An avid photographer in retirement, Bill captured the beauty in nature and documented the growth of his family. In order to reach nature he would often ride his ATV in the mountains around Coeur d’Alene until the age of 92. He said with new radial tires that 4- wheeler would do 70 miles an hour on Highway 95. Bill worked as a cement mason on numerous hydro-electric projects on the Columbia River, Boeing Field and numerous

other construction sites in Washington and Idaho.

A private viewing for friends and family will be held at English Funeral Chapel at 1133 N. 4th St, in Coeur d’Alene, Thursday, Dec. 17, from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Please call 208-664-3143 to reserve for viewing. Due to current restrictions, 10 people are allowed on the premises at a time. The family wishes to express their apologies at this time that only immediate family will be able to attend a small service. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to be made to St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital or a charity of your choosing.

Reflecting on his life, he said it all went too fast, but wow, what a ride.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Okanogan County Transportation & Nutrition meal delivery

BREWSTER - Brewster Senior Center on Bridge Street is still serving hot meals Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Take out only. Please reserve your meal by calling 509-689-2815. Pick-up time is between 11 a.m. and 12 noon.

The home-delivered meal program is not interrupted and is on its regular schedule.

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

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday Senior meals, Dec. 30-31, Jan. 5-6-7

BREWSTER - The Brewster-Pateros-Bridgeport Senior Center hosts the Okanogan County Transportation and Nutrition (OCTN) meals Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Suggested donation for those over age 60 is \$4. For those 60 and under the cost is \$8.50.

Wednesday, Dec. 30

Chicken & Dumplings, Spring Salad, Mixed Berries, WW Roll, Dessert

Thursday, Dec. 31

Stuffed Cabbage Rolls, Caesar Salad, Chilled Pears, WW Roll, Dessert

Friday, Jan. 1 CLOSED

Tuesday, Jan. 5

Chicken & Rice Bake, Green Beans, Kale Slaw, Tropical Fruit, WW Roll, Dessert

Wednesday, Jan. 6

Meatloaf & Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Buttered Peas, Green Salad, Peaches, WW Bread or Roll, Dessert

Thursday, Jan. 7

Spaghetti & Meat Sauce, Caesar Salad, Chilled Pears, Garlic Bread, Dessert

Dec. 31, Jan. 5, 7

‘What’s Up Vet!’ - Informational Zoom meetings now available NCW - All Chelan and Douglas County veterans are invited to attend the new “What’s Up Vet!” informational meetings via Zoom!

Every Tuesday/Thursday from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Open to vets, spouses, dependents and anyone with questions regarding veteran benefits and resources.

Go to: us02web.zoom.us with Zoom platform meeting id: 863 5856 4972.

Call 509-664-6801 (Chelan County Veteran Service Office) or 509-683-3605 (DCVSO) for more information.

Sponsored by CCVSO, DCVSO, Wenatchee Valley College and the Washington State Veteran Corps Navigation project.

Greater Wenatchee Mended Hearts: Jan. 4

WENATCHEE/ZOOM - Greater Wenatchee Mended Hearts is inviting heart patients and their families in Chelan, Douglas, Grant and Okanogan Counties to attend the Greater Wenatchee Mended Hearts Chapter Meeting being held by Zoom on Monday, January 4, 2021 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Guest speaker, Dominick Ferraro, Mended Hearts Member and long-time heart patient, will talk about “Living with Heart Disease. To Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/8527811204?pwd=cDhZGdCSzBJSU80aFcvHpwBU0ZzZ099>. For more information, contact Zoom Host by email: atthelmsmsters@hotmail.com.

VFW Post #6853: Jan. 5

CHELAN - VFW Post #6853 meets the first Tuesday of the month, at the Clubhouse located at 427 S. Bradley St. (near Chelan Valley Hope) at 6:30 p.m. For information call 509-670-3346.

Jan. 8, 15

Brewster bus trips

BREWSTER - OCTN takes Brewster area residents to Wenatchee, second Friday of the month. Next trip is Jan. 8. 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 Jan. 15, 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.

VFWS Auxiliary: Jan. 8

CHELAN - VFW Post #6853 Auxiliary meets the second Friday of the month, at 1 p.m., via telephone or at the VFW Post Clubhouse at 427 S. Bradley Street (near Chelan Valley Hope). For information: 509-860-9892.

Jan. 11 Douglas County PUD meeting

EAST WENATCHEE - The next meeting of the Douglas County PUD Commission is Jan. 11, 1:30 p.m. at the District’s East Wenatchee office. To comply with the Open Public Meetings act due to COVID-19, a conference phone line number will be provided at the top of the Draft Agenda posted on their website under Latest News the Friday before the meeting.

Help available for Douglas County veterans

EAST WENATCHEE - Sarah Simonson the Veterans Service Officer for Douglas County, is available for appointments in her office at 211 11th St. NE in East Wenatchee. Call her at 509-683-3605. You can also find her on Facebook at [facebook.com/douglascountylvso](https://www.facebook.com/douglascountylvso)

DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF

Dec. 20

Parking/abandoned vehicle at 1544 Douglas Ave. in Bridgeport.

Agency assistance at 1919 Monroe Ave. in Bridgeport.

Domestic disturbance at 1800 Fisk Ave. in Bridgeport.

Traffic offense at Foster Creek Avenue and 25th Street in

Bridgeport.

Burglary at 117 Sage St. on Bridgeport Bar.

Suspicious incident at 410 23rd St. in Bridgeport.

911 at 2440 Bridgeport Hill Rd. in Bridgeport.

Dec. 22

Vehicle prowling at 400 Fairview Ave. in Bridgeport.

Civil incident at 1243 Douglas Ave. in Bridgeport.

Suspicious incident at 700 Fairview Ave. in Bridgeport.

Dec. 23

Child protective services/adult protective services at 2400 Tacoma Ave. in Bridgeport.

Animal problem at 10 block of

Church Road in Bridgeport.

Traumatic injury at 231 W. Railroad Ave. in Mansfield.

Dec. 24

Theft at 861 State Route 173 on Bridgeport Bar.

Weapons violation at 20th Street and Monroe Avenue in Bridgeport.

Obituary & Memorial Policies

NCW Media, Inc.: Leavenworth Echo, Cashmere Valley Record, Lake Chelan Mirror, Quad City Herald

An Obituary is a way for family member(s) to commemorate a loved one’s life and to notify the community of the passing of the loved one. Obituaries are also used for historical and ancestral data.

Memorials are another way to let the community know about the life and memories of the person who has passed. A Memorial is different from an Obituary. An Obituary is usually current, while a Memorial can be written later.

Obituaries and Memorials need to be typed and emailed as a Word Document. They can be placed in one or more papers - all publish weekly on Wednesday.

Obituaries are priced by the number of words and include one color photo and go online at no extra charge. Memorials are priced per column inch. Please call for cost. *Payment is due at the time of placement. *Exception: Chapels, funeral homes who have an account, can be billed. There is no charge for a Death Notice - information is limited.

Deadline is 4 p.m. on Friday - some exceptions may apply.

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

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at 360-333-8483 or
qchreporter@gmail.com

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Due to the COVID19 Virus, churches have suspended Saturday and Sunday Services, Sunday School and meetings.

Please call or email your church listed below if you need more information. May you take time to pray, rest, meditate and reflect during this time. Stay well, stay strong and stay informed.



QUAD CITY CHURCH GUIDE

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

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

- Matthew 19:26

To place your Church information in the Church Guide call Ruth at 682-2213 or email: ruthk@lakechelanmirror.com

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17 Hospital Way NE, Brewster
www.brewstersda.com
School: 509-689-3213
115 Valley Road, Brewster
www.brewsteradventistschool.com
Pastor Matthew Axford

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509-689-2920 • 6th & Jay
www.cbcbrewster.com
Pastor Greg Thorn

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Sunday Worship 10 a.m.
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www.communitylogchurch.com
Pastor Gordon Wright

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Pastor Kevin Moore

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Reps. Mike Steele, Keith Goehner announce committee assignments for 2021 session

Legislative session to begin on Jan. 11

SUBMITTED BY KELLEY PAYNE, SENIOR PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER, OLYMPIA

OLYMPIA - Washington State House Republicans Mike Steele, R-Chelan, and Keith Goehner, R-Dryden, recently received their committee assignments for the upcoming 2021 legislative session. Both 12th District legislators were selected to take the lead as ranking members on at least one committee.

Steele has been appointed to serve as the lead Republican on the House Capital Budget Committee, which considers funding for the construction and repair of public buildings and for other long-term investments, such as land acquisitions and transfers.

"It's an honor to take on this leadership role for one of our state's budgets," said Steele. "The long-term infrastructure investments made by this committee, especially during these challenging times, will help our communities to recover, grow, and thrive. I look forward to working with the other committee members to create an effective plan for our state."



Rep. Mike Steele

In addition, Steele will serve as a member of the House Education and Appropriations Committees.

"Our state has experienced devastating losses due to the pandemic. We're approaching more than 10 months of no in-person instruction for students, and the coronavirus continues to pose serious economic risks and uncertainty, both nationally and in our state. I welcome the opportunity to work with my fellow legislators to navigate our way through these critical issues," continued Steele.

Goehner has been selected as the lead Republican on the, which considers issues relating to the operations and financing of counties, cities and some



Rep. Keith Goehner

special purpose districts. It also considers proposals related to local government open meeting and public records obligations; and the administration of local land use, zoning, building, energy and health codes.

"Spending 16 years as a Chelan County Commissioner gives me a strong perspective on how our local entities view issues such as state agency rulemaking, performance audits and elections at the local level. I am pleased to be the Republican lead as these issues come before us," said Goehner, R-Dryden. "I look forward to bringing more attention to the challenges of our local governments including unfunded mandates, such as indigent de-

fense, and rules and regulations imposed by state agencies."

In addition to Local Government, Goehner will serve on the House Environment and Energy Committee.

"I was appointed to this committee last year and am excited to be selected for this committee assignment again. With the importance of the abundant, low-cost power in our region, it is great opportunity to be involved in energy and environmental policy coming out of the Legislature," said Goehner.

The committee considers issues relating to the Growth Management Act, Shoreline Management Act, air quality, climate change, renewable energy standards and energy availability.

Goehner will also serve on the Transportation Committee.

"Our region continues to grow and transportation and traffic relief are a high priority for North Central Washington and Washington state. Maintaining our roadways allows the safe and efficient delivery of goods and services we use daily. I look forward to being part of the committee as we discuss solutions and policy issues to improve our transportation system," said Goehner.

The 2021 legislative session is scheduled to begin on Jan. 11 and convene for 105 days.

Newhouse legislation to provide tax relief to small businesses using PPP funds included in relief package

SUBMITTED BY ELIZABETH DANIELS, OFFICE OF REP. NEWHOUSE (R-WA)



Rep. Dan Newhouse

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA) released the following statement after voting to support the Senate Amendment to H.R. 133, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, which included the language of his legislation, H.R. 6884, the FIRST Act:

"The Paycheck Protection Program has served as a lifeline for small businesses throughout Central Washington and across the country, but business owners have expressed unease about the unintended tax consequences of this historic program," said Rep. Newhouse. "This relief package includes language of a bill I introduced - the FIRST Act - that will ease these concerns by allowing businesses to continue taking tax deductions for ordinary business expenses. These funds were intended to help business owners, not tie their hands when they go to file their taxes for 2020. I am proud to have worked to include these clarifying provisions in the final bill."

In May, Rep. Newhouse introduced the FIRST Act to reiterate congressional intent of the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), allowing business owners who utilize PPP funds to continue to take tax deductions for ordinary business expenses.

The National Federation of Independent Businesses (NFIB) praised the inclusion

of the FIRST Act and Rep. Newhouse's leadership on behalf of small businesses:

"The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) provided vital financial assistance to 107,660 Washingtonian small businesses. Unfortunately, IRS guidance limited the benefit of the PPP by prohibiting the deductibility of forgiven expenses. Congressman Newhouse stood up for small businesses and pressed for Congressional action to ensure struggling businesses would avoid surprise tax increases as they try to emerge from the pandemic. As a result of this advocacy, today's legislation clarifies that forgiven PPP expenses are deductible - saving already-strained small businesses from an unexpected tax bill. NFIB appreciates Congressman Newhouse's continued leadership to protect small businesses." - Kevin Kuhlman, Vice President of Federal Government Relations, NFIB

Rep. Goehner's legislative update: Election-year restrictions lifted, COVID-19 restrictions, Employment Security Department

SUBMITTED BY REP. KEITH GOEHNER

OLYMPIA - Since May, legislators have been under election-year restrictions, limiting how we can communicate with our constituency. However, with the certification of the election the restrictions have been lifted and our lines of communication are now open.

The 2021 legislative session is fast approaching. It will be different in this era of COVID as our legislative session will be virtual. House facilities will remain closed to the public, floor sessions and committee meetings will be held remotely, and staff must telework. Click here for the full plan.

While it will be a "virtual" legislative session, please do not hesitate to contact me any time with ideas or questions you have about legislation or the session. Your input is important and I want to know how our state government is impacting you as I am fulfilling my legislative duties.

COVID-19

The fight against the COVID-19 virus continues across the country, in Washington state, and in our communities. There are no easy answers in dealing with this pandemic. We need to be cautious, diligent and find compassion for those who have lost loved ones or contracted the disease.

At the same time, we cannot forget those who have lost their jobs, businesses or their livelihoods. I am very concerned about the latest restrictions on our small businesses. There must be a balance. I believe we can be safe and smart, while working to maintain a sense of normalcy in our communities.

Businesses across the state are working diligently to stay open. I have been engaged in numerous discussions and written, as well as signed onto many letters to the governor since the pandemic began and he started closing our economy.

I spear-headed an effort by House Republicans requesting that the governor allow local, private and non-profit gyms and fitness facilities in our region and across the state to remain open. According to data and studies, the gyms have not been a source of COVID infections and the facilities have done a good job keeping their facilities and customers safe.

The letter requests the governor reconsider the restrictions on these facilities since they provide a place for folks to stay healthy, improve their physical condition and emotional well-being. To read the letter click here.

Earlier this month, I also signed onto a letter with more than 50 other legislators requesting the governor call an immediate special session.

Republicans asked for a special session as far back as April to make budget decisions that could put the state in a better position financially and more importantly, provide financial relief to businesses and families. This pandemic is not a partisan issue. Legislators from both parties should be included in the decisions being made. The governor should not be trying to manage this pandemic by himself. We as a legislative body have a responsibility and a right to be involved in the decisions that are being made and impacting all of our communities and citizens.

In a special session we could consider more funding for public health, property tax relief, assistance to our restaurants and small businesses, a break on unemployment taxes, more dollars from grant programs and other ideas.

Media outlets across the state also believe it is time for legislators to be at the table.

Editorial: Call special session now to give businesses badly needed financial aid | Yakima Herald

Editorial: Pandemic legislative session must be model of transparency | The Seattle Times

Editorial: Inslee should expand his bubble, call special session of Washington Legislature | The News Tribune

Editorial: If you want the GOP's help slowing COVID, Gov. Inslee, you need to let them in | Tri-City Herald

Editorial: Governor's new restrictions could have benefited from Republican input | Walla Walla Union-Bulletin

Column: Gov. Jay Inslee gets an 'A' in health, but so far he's marked absent on the pandemic economy | Danny Westneat, The Seattle Times

Many other states across the country, including our neighbors Idaho and Oregon, have called special sessions so lawmakers could address COVID-related policies and budget issues.

Employment Security Department

At one point in May, more than 800,000 Washingtonians had filed for unemployment insurance after the pandemic hit our state. While the pandemic is unprecedented, the Employment Security Department (ESD) has struggled with getting some folks their unemployment in a time manner.

It is also estimated that ESD lost up to \$576 million in unem-

ployment funds to fraud in the spring. The governor needs to take a close look at this state agency and its leadership. In October, the State Auditor's Office was trying to investigate the fraud and other issues within the ESD by conducting a series of audits. Unfortunately, State Auditor Pat McCarthy indicated in an Oct. 20 letter that ESD was being difficult and interfering with the audits.

It is critical the department allow the auditor's office to do their job so a thorough and independent investigation can be done to provide our citizens with some transparency and trust. Now, more than ever, our citizens need the ESD to function efficiently. This is also an issue we could look at during a special session - more caseworkers, additional funding, or other resources that may benefit the department. If you are having any issues with the ESD please do not hesitate to contact my office. For more background on the audit situation see below:

Washington state auditor warns unemployment agency on 'interference' with audits into massive fraud | Seattle Times

Editorial: ESD's efforts to hinder audits is shameful | Yakima Herald-Republic

Editorial: Time for Employment Security Department to come clean | The Seattle Times

Stay connected While the 2021 Legislature will be "virtual," I urge you to stay connected and be in touch. The simplest way to communicate with me is via our email system here. Below are some helpful links to keep you informed about what is happening in Olympia.

My legislative website: Here you will find my contact information, news releases, email updates, bills, and other information.

The Washington State Ledger: This is a legislative news aggregator administered by state House Republicans. It is a great source for information related to state government, public policy and the legislative process. Check it out!

The Current: This an online legislative publication from the Washington House Republicans that is sent out every week during the legislative session.

TVW: The state's own version of C-SPAN, TVW broadcasts floor and committee action live online. This will be an important tool with the session being "virtual."

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about legislative issues before us this year please do not hesitate to contact me. Your feedback is important as we consider the many issues

that impact our communities and state.

Finally, if you are able, please support your communities and local businesses. We want them to succeed and make it through this difficult time. We appreciate the commitment and support they have shown for our communities through service clubs, youth sports, parades and festivals and much more.

It is an honor to serve as your 12th District Representative.

How to contact: State Representative Keith Goehner, 12th Legislative District, RepresentativeKeithGoehner.com

122C Legislative Building, P.O. Box 40600, Olympia, WA 98504-0600, keith.goehner@leg.wa.gov, 360-786-7954, Toll-free: (800) 562-6000

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THE WASHINGTON OUTDOOR REPORT

Outdoors round-up

By JOHN KRUSE, THE WASHINGTON OUTDOOR REPORT

There is a lot of news to cover as we roll into the new year covering everything from salmon forecasts to adjusted sportsmen's show schedules to winter recreation in our state parks.

COLUMBIA RIVER FISH FORECAST – The Oregon and Washington Departments of Fish and Wildlife have issued their joint forecast for fish returning up the Columbia River in 2021. The good news is a number of projected runs are better than last year. Lower Columbia tributaries like the Cowlitz, Kalama and Lewis are expected to see higher numbers of Spring Chinook coming back. However, the overall return for springers past Bonneville Dam (and all the tributaries beyond) is again troubling with only 75,000 fish predicted to come back. This would be the second lowest year since 1999 for spring Chinook salmon.

As spring turns to summer the Chinook forecasts do get better. Nearly 78,000 summer Chinook are expected to head towards the Upper Columbia, which is nearly 20 percent over last year's run. We don't have hard numbers for fall bright Chinook but biologists expect continued improvement there as well. Coho salmon should see a banner year of young jacks returning, the highest number since 1977.

On the other hand, the Sockeye return is only expected to be around 156,000 with only 700 heading up the Snake River. This is less than half the number that returned last year up the Columbia. Then again, sockeye salmon forecasts have been notoriously inaccurate in recent years and most of the time Columbia River sockeye numbers have



Courtesy Team Takedown Guide Service
Jill Roth with a Columbia River fall Chinook salmon

for a fun day of casting and catching one to four-pound, scrappy fighting fish, consider a trip to the Columbia River below Bonneville or the John Day Dam between late May and mid-July to catch a whole bunch of shad and while you can fish from a boat, bank angling works just fine too.

FIRST DAY HIKES – Normally, Washington State Parks hosts a number of guided "First Day Hikes" on New Year's Day but because of Covid-19 restrictions your First Day Hike for 2021 will be a do-it-yourself affair. On the bright side, no Discover Pass is needed to enter any of Washington's State Parks on New Years Day and Martin Luther King Day (January 18th) is a free day for day use

sure to check in advance to see whether those huts are open. Covid-19 restrictions has forced the closure of several this winter.

SPORTSMEN'S SHOW SCHEDULES – Sportsmen's show season came to a crashing end last March as events were banned with the arrival of the Covid-19 pandemic and things are not much better right now. With that in mind, all of the sportsmen's shows scheduled for January have been postponed. Here's a current line-up of shows that producers are hoping to put on in the first quarter of 2021:

You can find out more details about these shows at www.shuylerproductions.com, www.otshows.com and www.inwc.org/big-horn-show. I'll also keep you posted on the

February 19 – 21	Central Washington Sportsmen's Show	Yakima Sun Dome
February 26 – 28	Tri-Cities Sportsmen's Show	Hapo Center in Pasco
March 4 - 7	Tacoma RV Show	Tacoma Dome
March 17 – 21	Washington Sportsmen's Show	Event Center in Puyallup
March 18 – 21	Bighorn Outdoor Adventure Show	Spokane Fair & Expo
March 24 – 28	Pacific NW Sportsmen's Show & Portland Boat Show	Expo Center, Portland
CANCELLED	Wenatchee Valley Sportsmen's Show	Town Toyota Center

been stronger than forecast. Finally, there's the American shad. Six million came back last year and another strong run is expected for 2021. If you are just looking

activities in Washington State Parks as well. If you decide to go cross-country skiing or snowshoeing at one of the state parks that has warming huts be

status of these shows as we get closer to each special event. John Kruse – www.northwesternoutdoors.com and www.americaoutdoorsradio.com

Newhouse led effort to modernize water supply infrastructure included in year-end spending package

SUBMITTED BY ELIZABETH DANIELS, OFFICE OF REP. NEWHOUSE (R-WA)

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The end-of-year spending package passed by both Chambers of Congress on December 21, included groundbreaking provisions Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA) introduced to maintain and update critical Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) water supply infrastructure projects across the rural West. The provisions establish a first-of-its-kind Aging Infrastructure Account to provide stability and flexibility for local water managers who maintain and operate federal BOR water infrastructure.

Rep. Newhouse released the following statement:

"I introduced the Water Supply Infrastructure Rehabilitation and Utilization Act to ensure federal water supply infrastructure, like irrigation canals and dams, remain functional and efficient for the families, communities, and huge sectors of our economy across the West that depend on these critical Bureau of Reclamation projects," said Rep. Newhouse. "The creation of an Aging Infrastructure Account demonstrates the federal government's commitment to modernizing and updating our nation's crumbling water supply infrastructure. This is a huge win for communities – like ours in rural Central Washington – that rely on this infrastructure for our way of life."

Rep. Newhouse was recently elected Chairman of the Congressional Western Caucus for the 117th Congress, with modernization of aging water infrastructure in the West serving as a key pillar of his platform. The inclusion of these provisions is a demonstration of his effective advocacy and leadership in securing these substantive improvements for rural communities.

"The National Water Resources Association thanks Congress for including water infrastructure legislation in the Consolidated Appropriations Act. We are especially grateful for the inclusion of Representative Newhouse's Water Supply Infrastructure Rehabilitation and Utilization Act. As the incoming Chairman of the Congressional Western Caucus, Representative Newhouse successfully advocated for the incorporation of language which will improve western water infrastructure and protect the health and livelihoods of millions of Americans while driving crucial economic activity." – Ian Lyle, National Water Resources Association

"The Washington State Water Resources Association recognizes and thanks Congressman Newhouse for his leadership in securing funding for the improvement of water infrastructure in Washington state and across the

West. His chairmanship of the Congressional Western Caucus will ensure continued focus on the importance of water supply to the future of irrigated agriculture and the economies that depend on those supplies. Passage of the Water Supply Infrastructure Revitalization and Utilization Act is evidence of Congressman Newhouse's vision for his constituents and all of the Western states. We thank him for his significant effort on this legislation." – Tom Myrum, Washington State Water Resources Association

"The Columbia Basin Project, while not yet completed, has components that are now 70+ years old. Aging infrastructure is an ongoing concern, and the Bureau has the permanent responsibility to address maintenance. Farmers need water to continue providing an affordable, safe, and reliable food supply. Without reliable water, farmers cannot meet ever-increasing food demands of the American people and the world. The Aging Infrastructure Account is a welcome and necessary component that allows water managers to access funds for outstanding maintenance needs on projects in the West including the Columbia Basin Project. These investments help support the \$5 billion economic activity generated from our region alone. Congressman Newhouse's longtime relationship and understanding of the needs of our region and specifically the Columbia Basin Project is to be applauded. We hope his chairmanship of the Congressional Western Caucus will continue to address the water infrastructure needs throughout the West." – Vicky Sharlau, Columbia Basin Development League

"Much of the water infrastructure throughout the Yakima Valley is in urgent need of replacement and improvement. This Aging Infrastructure Account will go a long way to help our local water managers and operators ensure that we can continue to provide reliable water deliveries to farmers and families, make ecosystem enhancements throughout our region, and maximize efficient use of water in drought years. Thank you, Congressman Newhouse, for being a champion for western water users." – Scott Revell, Roza Irrigation District

Background:

Rep. Newhouse introduced the Water Supply Infrastructure Revitalization and Utilization Act in October 2019. The legislation, which aims to help local water operators and managers maintain and repair critical water supply infrastructure, includes language to create an Aging Infrastructure Account for BOR maintenance projects and allows repayment of funds to be used by BOR on future "extraordinary maintenance" programs without further appropriations.

How COVID-19 Has Changed the Way We Do Business Forever

(STATEPOINT) - The COVID-19 pandemic has fundamentally changed how business gets done. And when it comes to midsize and small businesses, the importance of investing in new technology, facilitating remote work and maintaining a tech-savvy workforce has never been so clear, according to a new survey.

Conducted by The Harris Poll for CIT Group Inc., a leading national bank focused on empowering businesses and personal savers, the survey of leaders of U.S. middle-market and small businesses is designed to illuminate the intersection of technology and talent.

Compared to last year's survey, significantly more leaders today believe continuous technological investment is a business requirement.

"The resiliency and flexibility that technology can deliver businesses has been convincingly proven by COVID-19," says David Harnisch, president of CIT's Commercial Finance division. "Business leaders have taken that lesson to heart and are focused on making technology a fundamental part of their 'tomorrow thinking'."

Most executives surveyed wish that they'd invested even more in technology over the past 12 months. In fact, more than three in four middle market executives believe investments in technology would have helped their company fare better during the pandemic. For small businesses, roughly half felt similarly.

However, there's little question how important technology will be going forward, with the majority of respondents saying it's crucial to future success.



Courtesy StatePoint

When it comes to midsize and small businesses, the importance of investing in new technology, facilitating remote work and maintaining a tech-savvy workforce has never been so clear, according to a new survey.

Seemingly determined not to repeat the mistake of under-investing, the majority plan to invest as much or more in their business over the next 12 months as compared to the past year. Only 15% of small businesses say they may invest less this coming year, likely due to financial constraints resulting from the pandemic.

"Small businesses don't always have the financial resources that larger enterprises often enjoy," says Ken Martin, managing director of CIT's Small Business Solutions group. "When investments are imperative, borrowing or leasing may be the right solution to acquiring the technology needed to remain competitive."

When it comes to these upgrades, investments that make it easier for employees to work remotely are a clear priority. Over the next 12 months, 71% of middle market executives and 31% of small business leaders who plan to invest will spend on technology that facilitates remote work.

"It's not just a matter of convenience. Businesses that

empower employees to work remotely have a clear competitive advantage," says Denise Menelly, CIT's executive vice president and head of Technology and Operations. This is a trend that's likely here to stay. Approximately a quarter of small businesses operating remotely expect -- and want -- these changes to remain permanent after COVID-19 subsides, and about 40% of middle market executives expect the same, with some seeing it as a means to grow the company.

However, this digital transformation puts a premium on a tech-savvy workforce able to support customers and collaborate with colleagues remotely. While many believe their current workforce has the skills to keep up, businesses are also substantially more likely than last year to say companies need to focus on hiring tech-savvy talent.

While the COVID-19 pandemic has created a great deal of uncertainty for small and midsize businesses, it has in many ways clarified what's needed to remain successful in an evolving world.

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Announcements

Lost & Found

LOST AND FOUND
can be placed in our local newspaper and online for **ONE week for FREE.** Limit 30 words

Leavenworth/Cashmere
509-548-5286
or email
classifieds@leavenworthecho.com

or
Lake Chelan Mirror
509-682-2213
or
Quad City Herald
509-689-2507
or email
mirrorads@lakechelanmirror.com

Deadline: by Noon on Friday



Need to promote your event?
Have you thought about
NCWMarket.com
the best online promotion available

Happy Ads

Do you have a **SPECIAL EVENT COMING UP? HAPPY BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS! WILL YOU MARRY ME? HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

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

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

Ads will be placed in the following Wednesday edition of the papers. It is easy just Register and pay on our secure site 24/7 Or call 509-682-2213 to place ad or have questions.

The Lake Chelan or Quad City Herald or email mirrorads@lakechelanmirror.com

For **The Leavenworth Echo or Cashmere Valley Record**
Call 509-548-5286 or email classifieds@leavenworthecho.com

Commercial

Business opportunity

Very Successful Business for Sale

My wife and I have decided to retire and have chosen to sell our business **Your Family Name.** Go to our website: www.yfn.net and see some of the products we sell.

Since opening in 2006 with the "Name Store". We have added some new great selling products. Our most popular are the Rhythm Magic Motion clocks, House of Jerky products and Almond Blossom nuts. We have 2 great employees and are great at running the store in our absence. People come into the store all the time and say "Oh we have been here before, we just like to come in when in town and checkout all your great and new stuff." We have a lot of repeat customers who love coming in for the Nuts and Jerky. We are not asking any "Blue Sky" payment for the store. We are just asking for someone to purchase the inventory at cost and take over this well-established business. The inventory will run in the area of \$20K. As they say, the 3 things important to any business is Location, Location, and Location. This business is located at 933 Front Street, Suite D. Leavenworth—meaning traffic to our store is excellent. If interested, we can make ourselves available to you for training, or you can take advantage of our already trained employees, who are willing to stay on. Call Duane, 509-423-0553.

Employment

Help Wanted

Part-Time Office Assistant

The City of Leavenworth, an equal opportunity employer, is seeking applicants for a part-time non-union Office Assistant position in the Finance / Clerk Department. The Office Assistant is primarily responsible for the first contact as the City's Customer Service Representative for answering phones and/or directing citizen and visitor questions to the appropriate staff. The Office Assistant, under the direction of the Deputy Clerk, assists in the duties of accounts payable, accounts receivable and utility billing, collecting and processing mail and making bank deposits. To apply, contact the City of Leavenworth at 509-548-5275 or visit the City's website at www.cityofleavenworth.com to download the job description and application; application and resume shall be submitted to Chantell Steiner, Finance Director/City Clerk at financedir@cityofleavenworth.com or can be mailed to P.O. Box 287, Leavenworth, WA 98826. This position is open until filled, first review will occur on December 21, 2020.

Mansfield School District is accepting applications for the following part-time positions: Para-Educator, Bus Driver, Maintenance and Grounds. These positions are 4 hours per day, 20 hours a week. To view job descriptions and download an application, access our website at www.mansfield.wednet.edu We are an equal opportunity employer.

Hiring Housekeepers in Your Area Now!
Compensation: \$17.00/ hr. Apply online at vacasa.com/careers or text "Vacasa" to 97211

Looking for a great, local employee?

It is easy to place your ad online 24/7 at www.NCWMarket.com Register and pay on our secure site.

Want Print only for The Lake Chelan Mirror Quad City Herald, Brewster
Call 509-682-2213 or email Meg at mirrorads@lakechelanmirror.com OR
Leavenworth Echo
Cashmere Record
509-548-5286 or send email to classifieds@leavenworthecho.com

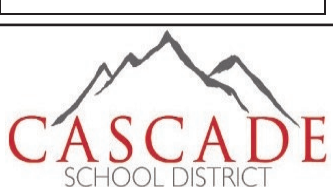
Deadline: Friday by Noon for the following Wednesday issues of all newspapers.

qcherald.com

Help Wanted

City of Leavenworth Job Opportunity for Deputy Clerk

The City of Leavenworth, an equal opportunity employer, is seeking applicants for a full-time Deputy Clerk union position in the Finance Department. This supervisory position includes oversight of the day-to-day financial operations and includes duties related to payroll, utility billing, customer service, and assisting the Finance Director with budgeting, annual reporting, contract/grant administration and bank reconciliations. Applicant must have experience in office administration, professional oral and written communication skills with exceptional attention to detail, and excellent customer service skills. Proficiency in Microsoft Office products required. To apply, contact the City of Leavenworth at 509-548-5275 or visit the City's website at www.cityofleavenworth.com to download the job description and application; application and resume shall be submitted to Chantell Steiner, Finance Director/City Clerk at financedir@cityofleavenworth.com or can be mailed to P.O. Box 287, Leavenworth, WA 98826. This position is open until filled, first review will occur on December 21, 2020.



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

- Substitute: Teachers
- Emergency Teachers
- Para Educators
- Custodians
- Bus Drivers

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



Help Wanted

Full and Part-Time Breakfast Catering Staff

The Enzian Inn is searching for energetic service oriented individuals to join our breakfast/ catering team. Position provides opportunities to learn and perform a variety of duties. Prepare, present and serve the daily breakfast buffet and at catered functions. Full and part-time positions requiring some weekends. Recreational amenities of hotel are available to employees including fitness center, indoor/ outdoor pool, spa and putting course. Apply in person. 590 Hwy. 2 Leavenworth

Caregiver needed for immediate hire!

Amada Senior Care is looking for compassionate, experienced, and reliable caregivers. Our caregivers are the heart and soul of what makes Amada Senior Care great! We are looking for CNAs and HCAs that are up to the challenge of meeting our high standards of care and are committed to improving the lives of the clients we serve.

We are currently hiring a caregiver to staff a client in Chelan, WA

Schedule is as follows: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10:30am-6:30pm

RATE: \$18.00/hour

APPLY NOW: <https://careers.hireology.com/amadaseniorcare-oregonwashington/485403/description>

Full and Part-time Bedmaker, Laundry and Housekeeping

The Enzian Inn is hiring for full and part-time Housekeeping, Laundry, Bedmakers. Enjoy a competitive wage and positive working environment. Shifts typically begin at 9 a.m. and end between 2- 4 p.m. daily. Hotel amenities such as fitness room, indoor pool and jacuzzi are available to employees and their immediate family to enjoy in the winter months. Apply in person Enzian Inn 590 US Hwy. 2 Leavenworth

Work Wanted

House Cleaning and have references. Call 509-557-2151

For Sale

Antiques & Collectibles

Get cold hard cash for your Antiques and Collectibles by placing them in our classifieds. Place your ad with pictures online 24/7 at NCWMarket.com Just register and pay online and you are done. Your ad will appear online and in the newspaper for one low price. Deadline: Friday by Noon for all papers. **Lake Chelan Mirror Quad City Herald** 509-682-2213 or email mirrorads@lakechelanmirror.com or call **The Leavenworth Echo Cashmere Valley Record** 509-548-5286 classifieds@leavenworthecho.com

Furniture

Cashmere Valley Record

Office furniture available. Items: 2 large wood desks with side desk attachment, One metal desk, one large wood conference table, a large counter approx. 7' x 3 1/2' tall with removable shelves, wood credenza 2 fabric room dividers with metal legs. One large framed whiteboard. All items only \$10 each. Cash and carry out. Call to arrange a time to examine or pick up. All items located in Cashmere. For information call Leavenworth Echo, 548-5286 or Bill, at 509-670-1837. Also see photos on NCWMarket.com

General Merchandise

Moving Sale! Items must go! 150- 331/2 Vinyl records, singles \$1.50 and albums \$3.00. Mostly 1950-60's country and western, some other genres as well. Call 509-679-9318

See **MORE CLASSIFIEDS & PUBLIC NOTICES on Page B4**

Check the weathercams online before traveling over the mountain passes!

www.qcherald.com



STEVENS PASS U.S. Highway 2 click here to see webcam

BLEWETT PASS U.S. Highway 97 click here to see webcam

SNOQUALMIE PASS Interstate 90 click here to see webcam

General Merchandise

Cards for Sale

To raise funds for the Royal Ladies of Autumn Leaves. Special Leavenworth cards. No boxed cards. Thank you for your support. Stop in The Leavenworth Echo office 215-14th St. Open 10-5 weekdays. 509-548-5286.

Real Estate

Rentals

Leavenworth Room for Rent, \$650/month including all utilities plus washer and dryer. On Busline. Available December 1. Call or Text: (509)699-9337

Legals

Public Notices

NOTICE OF EQUALIZATION
Brewster Flat Irrigation Board of Directors will meet as a Board of Equalization to Equalize the 2021 assessments Monday, January 11, 2021 at the hour of 6:15 p.m. of said day at the office of said District, which is at 94A Mountain View Dr. Brewster, at which time and place all persons objecting to said assessments may be heard. If the governor extends the mandate prohibiting a meeting the board will meet via telephone conference. If anyone wants to attend via telephone, call the district at 509-689-2634. Published in the Quad City Herald December 30, 2020 and January 6, 2021. #1287

Millions of Americans are facing hunger this holiday season

(STATEPOINT) - Millions of people nationwide face hunger every holiday season. And this year, the COVID-19 pandemic thrust even more Americans into this vulnerable position.

Before the COVID-19 crisis began, one in nine people, including 10 million children, already lived in a food insecure household. Communities of color are disproportionately affected by both poverty and hunger. For example, one in four Native American and Alaska Natives experience food insecurity. One in five Blacks and one in six Latinos experience food insecurity. As a result of the pandemic, unemployment has soared and the need for food assistance has increased.

"Unfortunately hunger impacts Americans every day of the year, but we know that this holiday season will look much different than last. More families are accessing food banks than ever

before, and many of them for the very first time, which is why it's really important for everyone to come together to help fight hunger this holiday season," says Casey Marsh, chief development officer for Feeding America, the nation's largest domestic hunger-relief organization.

Fortunately, efforts are being made to meet the sharp rise in food insecurity. As part of its "Many Hearts, One Community," holiday campaign, Wells Fargo is fulfilling its commitment to help provide 82 million meals to families in need through the Feeding America network of 200 food banks by year-end. This is a continuation of Wells Fargo's decade-long relationship with the Feeding America network which, since the start of the pandemic, has included efforts such as turning Wells Fargo corporate properties and branch locations into mobile food distribution centers. Additionally, during this holiday



Courtesy Statepoint

Before the COVID-19 crisis began, one in nine people, including 10 million children, already lived in a food insecure household.

season, grants will be made internationally to food banks operating in Wells Fargo's global footprint.

"It was life-changing," says

Andrea Thomas, a single mother who received food assistance in Mesa, Ariz. "I didn't have to figure out if I was going to pay for grocery

ies or pay for rent to keep my household afloat."

So how can you get involved? There are 200 Feeding America member food banks across the country, many of which need volunteers to help pack food boxes, distribute food at drive-through pantries and more. Feeding America food banks have adjusted their practices to ensure social distancing to keep everyone safe. Contact your local food bank to see how you can help families in need. You can also join the fight to end hunger by making a donation. For more information, visit feedingamerica.org.

While the issue of hunger is timely during the holidays, it doesn't stop once the season is over. Year-round philanthropy, volunteerism and innovative efforts like drive-up food banks, can help meet the needs of families across America.

Good healthy habits to practice daily

My husband and I celebrated our 38th wedding anniversary last week, on Dec. 21. We usually mark the occasion by having dinner with our oldest friends, Dick and Kay, a couple who stood up with us on that afternoon all those years ago. Although Dick passed away 6 years ago from pancreatic cancer, we still have dinner every year on Dec. 21 with Kay. Except for this year.

We couldn't make reservations at our favorite restaurant to eat, but that wasn't the only reason. Kay is in the hospital, fighting COVID.

Bombarded with reminders to "Mask Up," practice Social Distancing by staying 6 feet from each other, and avoid gatherings, it has been a lonelier holiday season for most of us.



Although these 3 habits have been proved to reduce the spread of COVID in communities, there are two OTHER habits that can make a difference in reducing the risk of transmitting COVID to our loved ones.

One of the best ways to stay healthy is to develop 2 habits that I call Healthy Habits: Wash or sanitize your hands frequently and thoroughly, and extinguish face touching behavior, particularly avoiding your eyes, nose, and mouth.

When I teach about antibiotics and infections with my pharmacy and physician assistant students, I always emphasize how they will be on the front lines of medical care. Whether as pharmacists or physician assistants, they'll be exposed to more infections than if they worked in other settings because their customers or patients will be coughing and sneezing near them.

These two habits have been shown to help reduce infection long before COVID showed up and will continue to be significant even when COVID is finally vanquished.

Long before COVID, face touching has been associated with the spread of respiratory illnesses such as common colds, influenza, and flu-like infections. The area most important to avoid touching is the "T-Zone" of your face: your eyes, nose, and mouth.

Touching our face with our hands is an unconscious habit for most people. One study done in 2008 observing behavior in the office work setting showed that workers touched their faces nearly 16 times every hour in that environment.

A group of 26 medical students in New South Wales, Australia, in 2015 was observed to

touch their faces an average of 23 times per hour. They handled the "T-Zone" of eyes, nose, or mouth 45% of the time.

Earlier this year, a group of 131 clinical staff working in a pediatric specialty clinic in San Francisco was surveyed on whether they thought wearing a mask would change face-touching behavior. Most participants believed that masks would change face-touching but were divided in whether they thought it would increase or decrease it. When clinic clinicians and staff were observed during their workday at the clinic, in situations where they were masked, they touched their face 5.4 times per hour, compared to 20 times an hour when not masked.

Dr. Will Sawyer is a family medicine physician with a passion for preventing infection. He is the founder of the Henry the Hand Foundation, which focuses on teaching school-age children good hand hygiene: washing their hands when dirty and before eating, avoiding coughing or sneezing into their hands, and not putting their fingers into their eyes, nose, or mouth.

Dr. Sawyer also has studied face-touching behavior in a clinical environment, observing nursing staff, and clinicians working in a family medicine office. Published in 2011, long before COVID and regular use of wearing a mask, the study showed staff and clinicians touched their eyes, nose, or mouth nearly 20 times in two hours.

Social distancing, wearing a mask, and avoiding gatherings effectively reduce COVID transmission and are TEMPORARY inconveniences. If we all do our best to practice them, we can preserve lives and access to medical care during the pandemic. Thankfully, the vaccines developed against COVID will eventually bring the COVID pandemic under control.

The first week of December is



SUDOKU PUZZLE

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

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

THEME: INTERNATIONAL MENU ACROSS

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74. Stainless material DOWN

- Catchall abbr.
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- DEA agent
- Jimmy Hoffa's organization
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- Bigwig in the Orient
- Approval of the audience
- Tow rope alternative
- River in Bohemia
- Comedian Rudolph
- "Dead Poets Society" school, e.g.
- Cowboy's prods
- Apple leftover
- Jekyll's alter ego
- Bucolic poem
- " mode

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Subject to Credit Approval

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

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