



Link opened Oct. 21

Video offers live access to ballot inspection boards

By MIKE MALTAIS
 STAFF WRITER

OKANOGAN – With general election ballots now in the hands of citizens and the exercise of completing and returning them well underway the attention of many participants is focusing on the outcome that will emerge from the tabulation of results.

That is where the office of the county auditor does some of its most important work, and this year citizens can watch the process at the office of Okanogan County Auditor Cari Hall thanks to a new service installed this year. On Oct. 12, Certified Elections Administrator Jamie Groomes issued a media release announcing a new link on the auditor's website okanogancounty.org/auditor/elections/elections.html that will allow online viewers to observe the ballot inspection boards. Once the site is accessed a Ballot Inspection Live link at the bottom of the page allows viewers to follow the ballot inspection process.

Hall said her office received two grants from the Secretary of State's office that provided the funding to install the video system.

"The grants were election-specific, one for COVID and the other for security," said Hall. "The chief deputy and I decided what better way to provide transparency than to have cameras."

Both the grants and the inspiration to put them to good use came at a critical time. While citizens have always been on hand to watch the ballot inspection process at every election, space limitations combined with COVID distancing requirements would have restricted that participation. The live link opens the process to anyone who wants to tune in online.

"We are very, very proud of it," said Hall of the new system. "It provides transparency and allows observers to watch the process who may not want to come in due to COVID."

Hall said two staffers are always involved when ballots are collected at drop boxes and through the mail. Once those ballots arrived at the Auditor's office, they undergo an initial count and are then organized in bundles of 25 ballots each. The unopened ballots are stored in the Auditor's vault until they are retrieved to undergo the signature verification process.

"We have staff members who are specialized training from the Secretary of State's office to verify signatures," said Hall. "They scan the signatures in front of a reader and compare them with those we have on file."

Anyone who accessed the video link on Thursday, Oct. 22, would have seen staff mem-



Courtesy okanogancounty.org
Cari Hall, Okanogan County Auditor

ber and signature specialist Matthew Schuh, who is also a Bridgeport city councilman, performing the signature verification process.

A missing signature or one that does not match the signature on file is the most common error that results in a ballot not being counted. Hall advises every voter who through an injury like a broken arm or other cause that might alter a signature to notify the auditor's office to have a new signature put on file that will match that on the ballot. Another option is to have the ballot signature witnessed by two individuals who can add their signatures to the appropriate witness spaces on the outside of the mailer envelope.

Hall said her office makes repeated attempts to contact a voter by phone and mail to correct any deficiency that brings a ballot under scrutiny.

"It really bothers me to see ballots we can't accept because of signature issues," said Hall. "but that's the law."

Problem ballots are referred to a canvassing board that is charged with making the final decision on their status. That board is comprised of the chair of the board of county commissioners or its designee, the prosecuting attorney or his designee, and the county auditor.

"We have representation from three branches, law, administration, and auditor," said Hall. "There are multiple RCW's that guide the procedures of the canvassing board."

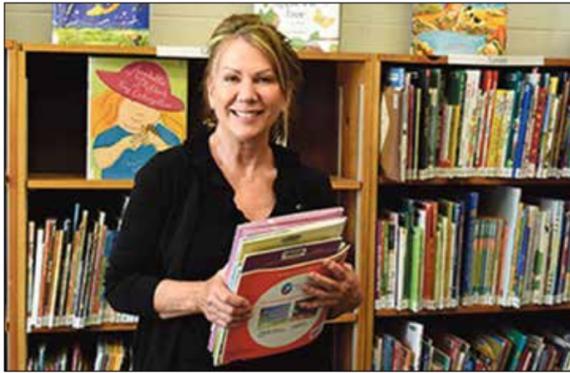
When the full inspection board comes in the envelopes are then opened and each ballot inspected to ensure there are no damages or discrepancies that would compromise its count. They are scanned, again by two staffers, and kept in bundles of 25 in secure storage.

"We are not allowed to tabulate results until after 8 p.m. on election night," Hall said.

That is when the ballots are pulled out of the scanning equipment and entered into the tabulation computer. From there they are uploaded onto

SEE **BALLOT** ON PAGE A3

NCW Libraries reopen Nov. 2



Pateros librarian Shari Houck

By MIKE MALTAIS
 STAFF WRITER

QUAD CITIES – NCW Libraries branches in Brewster, Pateros and Bridgeport will be among the 30 branches across NCW's five county network that will reopen to the public under designated COVID restrictions on Monday, Nov. 2.

Those restrictions include wearing masks, social distancing, and limited occupancy inside library premises. Okanogan, Douglas, Chelan, and Grant counties are now in the state's Phase 2 reopening status that allow for 25 percent capacity. Counties are allowed to move to Phase 2 for reporting less than 25 new coronavirus cases per 100,000 residents over a 14-day period.

Ferry County is in Phase 3. A county must have been in Phase 2 for at least two weeks in order to qualify for Phase 3.

"NCW Libraries will continue to offer a wide variety of programs and author events

online at ncwlibraries.org," said an NCW media release. "For patrons who prefer minimal contact service, curbside pickup will continue to be offered at all branches."

Patrons can browse bookshelves, read newspapers, access computer stations, and pick up DVDs, the media release said.

Pateros

Librarian Shari Houck said the Pateros Library curbside service will be open from 3-6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays.

"We will be offering team crafts for kids and adults on the curbside table," said Houck who has been the Pateros librarian for eight years.

Brewster

Librarian Rebecca Zion will observe her sixth year at the Brewster Library on Nov. 1, the day before its reopening. She said she made good use of the library's down time by



Brewster librarian Rebecca Zion



Bridgeport librarian Michelle Orosco

repainting bookshelves.

Brewster Library will be open from 3-6 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.

"There will be an additional hour of regular curbside service from 2-3 p.m. every day," Zion said.

Bridgeport

Librarian Michelle Orosco has been on the job at Bridgeport for 23 years. Curbside hours are 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, and 3-6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

All three libraries have Facebook pages and can also be accessed online through ncwlibraries.org

Ballots in the mail

Hover v. Haven, Branch v. Beeman in County Commissioner races

By MIKE MALTAIS
 STAFF WRITER

OKANOGAN – Ballots for the Nov. 4 general election went into the mail to voters last week and two county races many will be watching are the contests for Okanogan County Commissioner, District 1, between incumbent Chris Branch and his Republican opponent Shauna Beeman, and District 2 between Republican incumbent Andy Hover and his Democratic challenger Katie Haven.

Hover v. Haven

The results from the August primary election found Haven with a narrow half-percentage-point lead over Hover heading into the Nov. 3 general. The COVID-19 pandemic was a leading issue for primary voters, and it was joined by the August and September wildfires that factor into the upcoming vote.

Andy Hover

When asked what is new



AndyHover2020/Facebook
Andy Hover

on voters' minds since the primary, Hover was quick to cite the latest disaster.

"One big change has been the fires," said Hover. "We had lots of cattle ranches this time around; lots of structures."

Hover said he refers to after-action reports to clarify where mistakes were made and what can be done to better prepare for the next fire.

"We're trying to get that dialed in better so we can better serve our residents n the next one," said Hover. "We had our electrical backbone that went down and with the outages that resulted we have to do a better job of hardening structures to fire."

Earlier this month the Okanogan PUD announced that it will issue up to \$40 million in bonds and some of that money will be used to replace wooden poles with steel when rebuilding the Okanogan to Brewster transmission line that was damaged in the Cold Springs fire.

Hover also underscored the timeliness of the emergency communications tax that was passed by voters last year and took effect April 1 this year.

"We could not get emergency communications past Tonasket for dispatch during the fire," said Hover. "We actually had to bring in LifeLine and use their system. That's why we need the tax to bolster

that system." Hover observed that while the DNR has improved forest management practices on its land, "we do have a lot of forested land that is going to suffer the same wildfire fate if we can not get the Forest Service moving faster on things."

Hover pointed to the commissioners' involvement in the North Central Washington Forest Health Collaborative's Mission Restoration Project as a critical component of improving forest health.

"All those people together agreed that the Mission Project is a good project," said Hover. "I think some environmental groups around here are seeing that we can perform good practices."

Hover noted that Okanogan Public Health now has the resources it needs thanks in part of more than \$500,000 the county allocated of the \$800,000-plus OPH received in

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

INSIDE THIS WEEK

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CARES Act funds.

“We also allocated more than \$600,000 in grant money to the economic development district,” Hover added.

Hover said that among his goals for a second term include:

- Maintaining the fiscal responsibility of the last four years. Hover saved the county more than \$200,000 in legal fees when he assumed the role of labor contract negotiator for the county during his first term.
- Moving forward on water and land use issues.
- Keeping the level of service.

Katie Haven



Courtesy katiehaven.com

Katie Haven

QCH: When we last spoke before the primary you said that in addition to having to reinvent your plan, you heard from voters that the coronavirus pandemic had emerged as the leading issue in the county. It has been four months. What are you seeing now as your primary and secondary issues that will fire up voters in your contest?

The pandemic continues to be a concern, but it is now regarded as more of an overarching issue that is on-going. I've spent the last few months

calling voters and walking through the neighborhoods of all the major towns in our county and I'm hearing a common theme. People are saying that they are frustrated about the lack of information from the county in general and would like more outreach and easier access for participating in decisions at the local level. Wildfire protection and prevention has also understandably been on people's minds. This encompasses a broad range of issues involving how we manage our resources and plan for growth, which impact our ability to be resilient to the more frequent extreme events that are predicted.

QCH: Since this is not and has never been a wealthy county many of your constituents are struggling to keep businesses afloat while they await either permission to reopen or get another lifeline. What do they want you to do for their cause if you win the commissioner's seat?

I think that people just want this pandemic to be over and are hoping that we can start opening up our businesses and schools. But they also want to do it safely without putting their families and neighbors at risk. That means that we need to pull together as a county and follow the recommendations of the medical professionals who are learning more and more about what is more in preventing the spread and encouraging us all to do the simple things that will accomplish that. People look to their leaders for direction and reassurance that they are doing the right thing. They want their elected officials to model the behavior that they are asking others to do. And they want to be kept informed. An effective leader will motivate a group to work together to achieve a goal – in this case it's keeping the virus under control so that we can

move towards resuming our normal lives. That is what people want and what I will endeavor to do once I'm elected

QCH: Are you satisfied with what the SBA has done for the county so far? Is the PPP and EIDL still helping? If this pandemic is still hanging around after Jan. 1, what will be among your first actions?

I think that the loans and grants that the SBA provided did help our county a lot. According to the information that was released earlier this year there were over \$53 million in PPP payments alone that went to 634 businesses in our county. That represents over 6300 jobs that were saved. That is significant. In addition, most people got a \$1200 payment that many of them spent locally, which also helps. I think that we are still seeing the benefits of that boost and many businesses have figured out how to adjust their operations to stay open. Once elected I will stay on top of all opportunities for businesses and individuals to access any future funding that is made available and make sure the county is a resource for accurate information. I will work to ensure that people have access to the help they need.

QCH: Are you finding a growing landlord/renter crisis on top of the already existing affordable housing shortage? What is your plan to see more affordable housing projects in the county?

Affordable housing has been an issue for a while now, and the pandemic has complicated the situation. In parts of our county many homes are not available for long term rental because it is more profitable to rent them to short-term visitors. The pandemic seems to have initi-

ated a real estate boom in all parts of the county – people from urban areas such as Seattle or Spokane who can work from home are moving here permanently. They can afford to pay more, which drives the cost up. There is no easy answer, but the first step is to acknowledge that there is a problem and then bring our communities together to look for solutions. We all have an interest in making sure that our hospitals, schools, and other employers can hire the best people, which depends partly on making sure that there is housing to accommodate them. It's part of the bigger picture of having a solid plan for growth, which should address housing needs

in addition to other things.
QCH: With Mr. Culp as the main contender opposing the governor and you running as a Democrat, where do you disagree with him with respect to what path the county or businesses should follow during the pandemic?

I believe that when it comes to public health, we should continue to follow the methods that have been established and used for decades. Our Public Health department is not doing anything differently now that it has done in the past. Elected officials are entrusted with ensuring the safety and well-being of everyone in their jurisdiction and they are expected to use all the

tools at their disposal to do so. Issuing proclamations and directives are some of those tools. When there is verified data and evidence that taking certain steps will save lives, it is the duty of our elected leaders to take action. When the evidence shows that doing a simple thing like wearing a mask is highly effective, our leaders should do whatever it takes to get people to do so. Asking for voluntary compliance is good, but if it's not getting results then stronger steps must be taken. Asking businesses to make sacrifices is hard and should not be done lightly, but again, if it will ensure the safety of all our resi-

SEE ELECTION ON PAGE A3

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1994-1998	10	10	0
2000-2004	10	10	0
2004-2008	10	10	0
2008-2010	10	10	0
2010-2014	10	10	0
2014-2018	10	10	0
2018-2020	10	10	0

It's time to bring some *balance* back to our local government.

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QUAD CITY HERALD

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Bringing the community to your door

THE WASHINGTON OUTDOOR REPORT

By JOHN KRUSE

Between fall hunting, fishing, bighorn sheep and news from our state parks there's a lot to cover this week:

HUNTING: There were no official deer check stations set up last weekend for the modern firearm opening of deer season in Northeast Washington due to Covid-19 concerns but checking with several Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Officers, Spokane person Staci Lehman was able to relay hunting was slow in Pend Oreille County where one officer checked 29 hunters with no harvested deer. Other officers working in Stevens and Ferry Counties said Ferry County was the most productive and the majority of animals checked there were mule deer. Participation also appeared to be above normal in Ferry County during the opening weekend. Unfortunately, enforcement officers did cite several hunters for violations, the most common one, for having a loaded firearm in the vehicle.

On the duck hunting front participation was much greater than in recent years in the southern portion of the Desert State Wildlife Area encompassing the land around Potholes Reservoir as well as public land along Winchester and Frenchman Wasteways. That's where I went hunting with my longtime friend Rusty Johnston and we had a fine morning, bagging nine ducks. Checking a total of 19 hunters at access points along the two wasteways I found the average harvest to be between three and four ducks each, a bit higher than previous opening weekends. The majority of



Courtesy John Kruse

A brace of drake green-winged teal taken opening day

the ducks taken were green-winged teal.

FISHING: When it comes to coho salmon fishing the two hottest rivers in Southern Washington are the Kalama and Klickitat Rivers where state creel checkers found a number of anglers with not only coho, but also a few Chinook salmon too. There are also reports of better coho fishing on the Icicle River below the fish hatchery near Leavenworth though photos posted on social media of these fish indicate their table fare might be better out of the smoker as opposed to the grill. These Icicle River salmon are getting pretty dark in color.

BIGHORN SHEEP: The good news is as of October 22nd Kyle Garrison, an Ungulate Specialist with WDFW, says so far it does not appear a pneumonia causing bacte-

ria has spread from a domestic sheep to wild sheep in the Quilomene Herd, which calls the region between Vantage and Malaga home, though biologists continue to monitor this situation. Unfortunately, the Cleman Mountain Herd, has now been found to be infected. Located west of Yakima, a hunter found a dead bighorn lamb and several other lambs that were lethargic. WDFW biologists tested the dead lamb and found it tested positive for pneumonia.

The WDFW Regional Director for this area, Mike Livingston, stated "The fact that this bacteria has been found in the Cleman Mountain herd is significant, and we have limited options for how to address this positive test. We reviewed options such as lethal removal, testing, or increased monitor-

ing. Because of the size of the herd and their range, we don't believe that removing animals from the population is the best option at this time." WDFW officials plan to collect samples from legally harvested animals from this herd to get an idea of how far the bacteria and pneumonia, which is often fatal, has spread.

CAMPING SEASON EXTENDED AT STATE PARKS: Last but not least, Washington State Parks is keeping 100 of their parks open this winter and camping is available at many of them as well. This is due in part to the huge increase of usage of our state parks during this Covid-19 pandemic. You can find out exactly what parks are open and find out about making reservations at <https://parks.state.wa.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=650>

BALLOT

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the auditor's website and vote.wa.com, a statewide system.

"Both of the election systems are secured locations," said Hall. "There are no phone lines, no modems, nothing. A

high clearance is required for access."

Hall's office continues to process ballots every three days to account for all ballots received on election day or postmarked by election day.

"Sometimes they come in four to five days after election day," said Hall. "The results

are certified 21 days after the election."

"I grew up with a passion for the process, for the people's voice," said Hall of her responsibilities.

Hall's mother, Mila Jury, one among the volunteers helping with this year's election, served at the county's chief

deputy auditor for more than 40 years before her 2018 retirement. Hall was elected county auditor in 2019.

"My goal is to have a super-high turnout," Hall said of this year's election.

And thanks to the new video system, people will be watching.

ELECTION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A2

dents, it is the right thing to do. I have had feedback from people who say that it is actually easier on everyone if there are mandatory rules – it takes pressure off having to make a tough decision or justify your actions. In general, we are a society that supports and follows safety rules – we wear our seatbelts, we don't tolerate drunk driving, we refrain from smoking in public places, etc. Taking steps that will protect ourselves and others from a potentially deadly disease should be no different.

QCH: What other issues have come to your attention during the last four months?

One question I hear a lot is "what have we accomplished in the past 4 years?" There is a general sense that our county could do a lot better on building relationships with our partners at the state and in seeking out opportunities to fund projects that will benefit our residents. These opportunities rarely just fall into our lap – we have to go out and find them. Another concern I'm hearing is that our Community Wildfire Protection Plan is out of date and hasn't been updated as required. That plan contains a list of projects that could help us build resilience to fires and protect people's lives and property but most of them have not been implemented. I am hearing from folks that they would like to see us do much better in that area. We need to do everything we can to qualify for the funding that will help us accomplish that, and make sure that we don't miss deadlines for applying.

Branch v. Beeman

Incumbent Chris Branch rides a comfortable primary margin into the general election as he seeks a second term in the face of his well-known Democratic opponent Shauna

Beeman.
Shauna Beeman



Courtesy Committee to Elect Shauna Beeman

Shauna Beeman

QCH: As a rancher you must have some firm ideas about water rights and access to crop water. In the backwash of the HIRST decision of 2016 and the threat it posed to rural water access, do you propose a strategy or action(s) to strengthen private water rights in the county?

Okanogan County is very diverse in its communities, crops, and environment. We range from high mountains to more arid land. We need to get a new Comprehensive Resource Plan in place. This plan would clearly address water and land usage throughout our county. It need not be filled with pages of government regulation. A simple well-thought-out sustainable plan that addresses and protects environmental concerns while meeting human needs. Cooperatively we can protect and preserve the beauty, heritage, and diversity of our county for future generations while still allowing for growth, crop needs and development.

QCH: As a rancher what do you propose to promote multi-use of public lands for such activities as livestock grazing or other rural needs that might encounter opposition from conservation groups?

Yes, I do promote multi-use

of public lands. It is proven that grazing helps to reduce the fuels that increase fire danger. Outdoor activities are what attract people to our county and those activities, in one form or another, are what most of our residents enjoy about the county. By being considerate of each other and by being good stewards, public lands can be successfully used by everyone.

QCH: You support the North Central Washington Narcotics Task Force. Do you think the NCWNTF is of adequate size and strength to meet the needs of a growing county? If now, what would you propose to enhance it?

We need to strengthen our ability to help those with addictions and mental health issues by developing more accessible and affordable programs that use a more long term approach. The drug task force is one area I am passionate about strengthening. If we sharpen our focus on substance abuse it would strengthen our community by helping our kids avoid substance related issues. Less drug related issues will lead to less crime and make our communities a safer place.

QCH: What would you do to address more adequate and affordable housing?

A starting point for me would be to reach out to companies and businesses and attract them to our county. This would help to bring in Living Wage Jobs. Low paying jobs make it difficult for people to pay rent. We need this job development in our country while still being mindful of and protecting our natural resources.

Chris Branch

QCH: You have expressed concerns about unfunded federal and state mandates that place extra burdens on the county. Have there been one or two that stand out



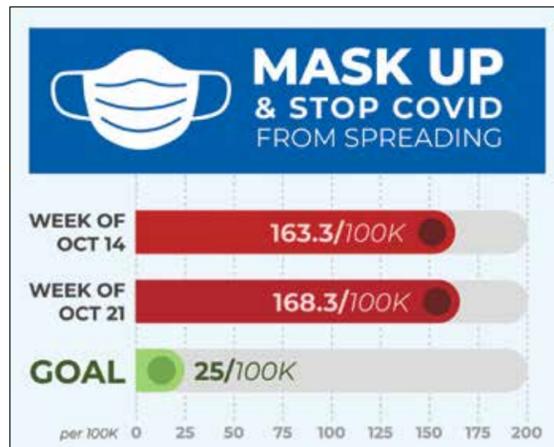
Courtesy chrisbranchforcommissioner.com

Chris Branch

for you?

A recent example would be the requirement set forth in SB 5472 which required County Auditors to increase the number of ballot drop boxes. Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) and I as a County Commissioner fully support more convenient access for voters. Our County Auditor supports voter accessibility as well and went to work immediately to implement the law. However, according to the State Constitution, counties are extensions of state government, so we continue to remind the Legislature that we need compensation for the impacts of laws that result in fiscal impacts. The estimated capital costs statewide were over one million dollars annually in operating and maintenance costs which includes two employees traveling to each of these boxes to retrieve the ballots. Some Counties filed claims and WSAC of which I am a board member and member of the Legislative Steering Committee filed suit pursuant to RCW 43.135.060 which prohibits such mandates without funding. WSAC recently prevailed in this case and the Court ordered payment to those counties that had filed claims for the cost.

Other examples of unfunded or underfunded services include indigent defense,



CDHD Health Officer asks families to avoid trick-or-treating this year

SUBMITTED BY VERONICA FARIAS, CHELAN DOUGLAS HEALTH DISTRICT

EAST WENATCHEE – The health officer for the Chelan-Douglas Health District urges families to skip the tradition of trick-or-treating this year and plan holiday activities closer to home.

It may be a hard message for some families to hear, but trick-or-treating during a pandemic is a bad idea, said Dr. Malcolm Butler, CDHD health officer.

"I know Halloween is a very exciting time, especially for our kids," he said. "But I have to tell you, if I was an evil virus and I wanted to design the perfect holiday to make sure I could spread myself around the community, what I would do is encourage young people with a sweet tooth to go house to house, passing infection around."

For the past three weeks, Douglas and Chelan counties have seen their case counts per 100,000 people rise weekly. On Sept. 30, the positive case count was at 114 per 100,000 people. This week, that number is 168 per 100,000 people.

Butler stressed that he would like to see families

celebrating the holiday within their households, continuing to follow COVID-19 safety precautions, such as social distancing, wearing a cloth mask when outside the home and washing hands frequently.

"This Halloween needs to be a holiday that we stay home and focus on family," Butler said. The health district offers the following family friendly activities to safely celebrate Halloween:

- Visit a local pumpkin patch and bring a pumpkin home to carve. When outside your home, always wear a cloth mask and maintain social distancing, even in the outdoors.
- Put a new twist on trick-or-treating. Try a candy scavenger hunt in your yard, or fill up a pinata.
- Have a costume parade with your family.
- Throw a Halloween movie marathon. Settle in for the night with your holiday favorites.

Local communities also are organizing events in place of trick-or-treating. Candy drive-thrus are being organized in Cashmere and Chelan. With the drive-thrus, families will be able to drive up to locations to receive individually bagged candy.

public health services and inmate medical care. These are services that the County is mandated to provide but are significantly underfunded.

QCH: What are your feelings about WDFW's policy of purchasing private lands and is PILT (Payment In Lieu of Taxes) comparable to individual property taxes.

In regard to the policy to purchase private lands it is important to recognize that such purchases are made to ensure that there is adequate public land for public access and ample habitat to maintain the fish and wildlife resource that so many of our residents and visitors expect. WDFW owned properties provide not only local but important statewide conservation and recreation opportunities that result in business and revenue the County may not otherwise experience in the local economy. Large parcels of land may otherwise be developed that often result in an increase in cost of services provided by the County. Since I have been in office, we have engaged in respectful discussions with WDFW to consider the pros and cons of acquisition proposals. The last three that we supported were properties that made perfect sense to be in public ownership.

If paid at the appropriate value I consider the PILT as reasonable compensation for removing these public properties from the tax roll. However, in their efforts to control spending, the state Legislature, in 2018 and years prior, capped the payment of PILT at a level that results in nearly half of the revenue that we might receive otherwise. I have been involved at the legislative level to support a proposal by WDFW to standardize the method of calculating PILT at a level comparable to open space assessments. In Okanogan County the payments are capped at about \$264,000 when the full calculation is estimated at \$552,000.

QCH: Was it at your - or the commissioners' - directive that the landfill fees be temporarily waived for fire debris dumping?

Such a directive requires consideration of the entire board and not just one commissioner. However, I prepared the resolution that waived the tipping fee for those whose homes were destroyed in the Palmer and Cold Springs Fires. In certain circumstances I prepare resolutions for consideration of the board, aided by my many years of experience developing resolutions and ordinances.

QCH: Other comments?

In my years of working in the timber industry I experienced fire in the forests of Okanogan County but times have changed where wildland fires that affect life and property are becoming more prevalent across the West which is genuinely concerning in my role as a Commissioner. I am proud of the people of this County who show such resilience in responding to community disaster. Government simply can't do everything but our role in immediate emergency response is critical to ensure that our people are stabilized and on the road to recovery.

I was involved in helping protect homes at the start of the fire and attended meetings with victims and those responding to their needs. County Emergency Management and other County departments worked well with the Colville Tribes and volunteer recovery groups in addressing those immediate needs. My personal policy is to provide support to all our departments in performing their duties and to avoid micro-managing situations where those with the expertise should be in charge. We always find room for improvement and I am in office to both lead and support that effort to be the best that we can be.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Election Season 2020

The General Election Day is near and our ballots and the Voters Pamphlet are here. Read it and learn about the issues and candidates. Go to votewa.gov to check out your own voter registration status, see your voting history, and learn more about voting.

Make sure you fill out your ballot correctly and, if you change your mind on a candidate or issue, draw a line through it and choose again. Look on both sides of the ballot.

Then place it in the pink envelope, which is placed inside the white return envelope. Be sure to sign and date it.

With handy and free Ballot Boxes in town, my choice is to drop my ballot off there. The secure boxes will be emptied every few days. If it is easier, use your mailbox. It's still free; no stamp is needed.

Be sure to vote as soon as you can. Don't put it off!

Salley Bull
Oroville

DEATH NOTICES

Jose Maria Torres-Maciell

Jose Maria Torres-Maciell, 60, of Bridgeport, Washington, passed away on October 19, 2020.

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

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, Oct. 29, Nov. 3-5

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.

Thursday, Oct. 29
Clam Chowder, Tuna Salad on Croissant, 49'er Chopped Salad, Fruit Tray, Dessert

Tuesday, Nov. 3
Pot Roast, Roasted Potatoes, Green Beans, Spinach Salad, Waldorf Salad, WW Roll, Dessert

Wednesday, Nov. 4
Cheddar Potato Soup, 1/2 Turkey Sandwich, Pea Salad, Fresh Fruit Tray, Whole Grain Crackers, Dessert

Thursday, Nov. 5
Tuna & Rice Bake, California Veg-

etables, Greek Salad, Peaches, Garlic Bread, Dessert

Nov. 13, 20
Brewster bus trips
BREWSTER - OCTN takes Brewster area residents to Wenatchee, second Friday of the month. Next trip is Nov. 13. 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 Nov. 20, 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.

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: <https://www.facebook.com/douglascountyyvso>

Submitting your Bulletin Board item - Deadline Friday at Noon p.m.

Who: Any non-profit 501(c)3 group. Person(s) must submit full name and contact phone number. What: Items pertaining to local events, meetings etc., that are free or a minimum charge. Where: email to: ruthk@lakechelanmirror.com, subject line QCH Bulletin. Deadline: Friday at Noon p.m. Be sure and include date, time, place and cost if any.

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Hate

Hate can cause you to despise people for the color of their skin.

Today most of us see racism as the biggest social problem in history. The quickest way to end any discussion is to call someone a racist.

Hate can cause you to dismiss people based on their religious beliefs.

Wars have been fought and people have been executed because of what they believe. Even those who profess a common understanding of faith often dismiss those who see its tenets differently. There is rarely any attempt to reconcile those issues.

Hate can cause us to despise people who are wealthy

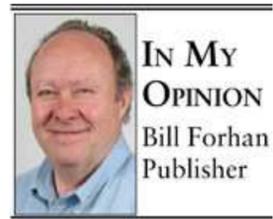
Many people today believe rich people had to steal or cheat to become wealthy. They ignore the fact that most successful people were creative, lucky or possessed a special talent. Many great singers and actors of our time are creative and talented but many are not very intelligent.

Hate can cause you to despise and mistrust the opposite sex.

Need I say more?

The problem is that hate can cause us to dismiss people because they are different. It is an ugly part of our nature. Very few people are racists, sexists or homophobic in our society today, but too often we all make decisions about them based on those acerbic descriptions.

We are faced with a decision in the next week that



will likely change our country for decades to come. Decisions that have caused other people in other countries and other times to have their lives plunged into darkness and despair.

We have a President who is quarrelsome, confrontational, and yes, even arrogant.

We have a challenger who will not answer specific questions, who bases his campaign on besmirching the character and record of his opponent.

Joe Biden ostensibly represents the party of the working man. A once proud party that today stands together with groups and activists who would tear our country down. Black Lives Matter, Antifa, and most Climate Activist groups want you to believe that our country is "fundamentally flawed." These groups do not represent the interests of the working man or woman. They would destroy many of the good paying jobs that currently provide hard working Americans with gainful employment.

Biden promises he will replace their jobs with new higher paid, green energy jobs that will make the world

a better place by 2035 - long after he would be out of office.

Biden said oil pollutes and he would replace it with green energy jobs. Wind and solar cannot begin to provide the energy needed to power our economy. The batteries that now power electric cars are toxic. As usual the dreamers have not thought the entire issue through. They have no plan to dispose of those batteries when they have exhausted their usefulness.

The horrible forest fires that have ravaged the west are blamed on climate change. The problem is the fires are primarily the result of misguided green policies that have left our forests overgrown with dead and diseased trees and brush. Healthy trees scrub the air by absorbing carbon dioxide and producing oxygen for us humans to breathe. Let it burn policies demanded by many climate activists have exacerbated the current problem.

Despite 3 years of resisting President Trump's policies with lies and contrived conspiracies regarding foreign influence, Trump has made significant progress in reviving a moribund American economy. He has made incredible progress in building new alliances in the Middle East that promise more peace in a corner of the world torn by strife. He has gotten America's allies in Europe to pony up for the cost of the American military's defense of their homelands. He has eliminated thousands of Federal regulations, strengthened border security and provided funding to minority colleges. All with little help from the op-

position party. He continues to expose the corruption and bureaucratic abuse from our Federal agencies. His policies created the lowest unemployment rates in our history for minorities.

With all of their attempts to unseat him through impeachment finally defeated. The only issue they have left to blame him for is mismanagement of the COVID-19 pandemic. The hypocrisy is incredible. This is a disease that the medical experts have no real idea about what caused it, how it is spread, or how to treat it. Early predictions said there would be over two million dead. It has been devastating to over 200,000 but that is far from the early projections.

All Biden can promise to do is to install a national mask mandate. He says because of Trump's inept handling of the pandemic, we are about to enter a dark winter with little hope that a vaccine will be available before the middle of next year.

President Trump on the other hand continues to be derided for his attempts to encourage Americans to be hopeful and works to reopen the economy.

If you are on the fence about this election, do not let the panderers of hate dissuade you from supporting the only candidate who has delivered on his campaign promises. Trump might offend your sense of decorum but give him a chance to continue to drain the swamp. Otherwise the Washington alligators will move back in and the Constitution that built this great country will be shredded.

qcherald.com

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
BREWSTER • BRIDGEPORT • PATEROS

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

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Saturday Worship 10:45 a.m.
Church: 509-689-3537
17 Hospital Way NE, Brewster
www.brewstersda.com
School: 509-689-3213
115 Valley Road, Brewster
www.brewsteradventistschool.com
Pastor Matthew Axford

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
509-689-2920 • 6th & Jay
www.cbcbrewster.com
Pastor Greg Thorn

COMMUNITY LOG CHURCH

Sunday Worship 10 a.m.
509-689-2224 • 501 W. Indian Avenue
www.communitylogchurch.com
Pastor Gordon Wright

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Holy Communion 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sunday
Bible Study & Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
509-689-3106 • 1520 Sunset Dr.
Pastor Kevin Moore

NEW TESTAMENT BAPTIST

Sunday 10 a.m., 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Wednesday 7 p.m.
Adult Prayer & Bible Study and King's Kids
509-689-2420 • 412 W. Hanson

“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

\$40M COVID relief fund opens for Immigrants

SUBMITTED BY PYRAMID COMMUNICATIONS

SEATTLE—A new \$4 million fund to provide economic relief to immigrants in Washington state began accepting applications last week. The Washington COVID-19 Immigrant Relief Fund will distribute \$1,000 per person (up to \$3,000 per household) to Washington residents who are ineligible because of immigration status for federal stimulus funds or unemployment benefits.

Governor Jay Inslee announced the fund in August after working with a coalition of more than 400 community organizations across the state.

The fund is managed by a leadership team of 11 immigrant-led community organizations, along with the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, the Legal Founda-

tion of Washington and Seattle Credit Union.

To apply, individuals must be Washington residents, at least 18 years old, have been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and be ineligible for federal stimulus funding and unemployment insurance because of their immigration status. Applications are open at immigrantrelief-wa.org from Oct. 21-Dec. 6. Money will be disbursed by Dec. 28, 2020.

The fund was created in response to the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on immigrant communities. Many immigrants are essential workers in Washington's biggest industries, including agriculture, construction and health care. Latino immigrants in particular are at risk from COVID-19. As of August, Latino residents make up 40 percent of COVID-19 infections in Washington state,

but only 13 percent of the population.

While most immigrants (regardless of immigration status) pay local, state and federal taxes, about 250,000 people in Washington state do not have access to federal CARES Act stimulus payments or unemployment benefits because of their immigration status.

The community organizations administering the Washington COVID-19 Immigrant Relief Fund include:

- Asian Counseling and Referral Service
- Colectiva Legal del Pueblo
- Fair Work Center
- Northwest Immigrant Rights Project
- Nuestra Casa
- OneAmerica
- Raiz of Planned Parenthood
- Scholarship Junkies
- Washington Census Alliance

· Washington Dream Coalition

· Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network

Organizations involved in the leadership of the fund issued the following statements:

"Undocumented, immigrant and refugee communities live essential lives and most are work essential jobs. During this global pandemic that has impacted everyone, immigrant communities have been left behind and excluded from most safety net programs that are keeping everyone healthy and safe. As American's we know that during a disaster no one should be left behind, as Washingtonians we are walking the talk and we are ensuring our deserving communities have access to the COVID19 relief tools to keep their families and neighbors healthy," said Monserrat Padilla, Director, Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network

"During the pandemic, as immigrants we have been at the highest risk for getting the virus, losing work, or losing loved ones. But the federal government intentionally left millions of us out of financial support based on our immigration status. This is wrong: all of us who call Washington home deserve support to make it through this time. The \$40M state fund, which immigrants fought for and will be administering, is a victory," said Alejandra Pérez, Organizer, Washington Dream Coalition

"ACRS is proud to support the Washington COVID-19 Immigrant Relief Fund and help support undocumented AAPI Washingtonians in solidarity with other immigrant communities across the state. American Community Survey data has shown that AAPIs represent around a quarter of all undocumented Washingtonians, but the need to

support undocumented AAPIs has gone largely unnoticed, and we look forward to finding more ways to connect our most vulnerable community members with the resources they are entitled to and need to provide for themselves and their loved ones during these nearly unprecedented times of economic insecurity," said Joseph Lachman, Policy Analyst, Asian Counseling and Referral Services

"We are proud to be part of the very broad coalition that made the case for this critical funding and we thank Governor Inslee for making this a priority. This is an important step toward recognizing both the critical role undocumented immigrants play in our economy and the fact that they have been excluded from all previous pandemic relief programs," said Larry Brown, President of the Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

Washington's 'Interim COVID-19 Vaccination Plan' submitted to CDC

SUBMITTED BY WASHINGTON STATE DEPT. OF HEALTH

OLYMPIA - The Washington State Department of Health submitted its interim vaccination plan for COVID-19 vaccine distribution to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) by the stated deadline of October 16, 2020.

This plan is Washington state's response to the request from the CDC for state and territorial health departments to answer questions and outline their preliminary plans for vaccine distribution. It describes how the department will approach the work of planning for and distributing an U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine once available. It also describes how our crucial lessons learned from the H1N1 pandemic vaccine distribution in 2009 informed our COVID-19 vaccine plan.

"We want to emphasize that this is the first version of our plan," said Michele Roberts, Acting Assistant Secretary with executive oversight for COVID-19 vaccines. "This is essentially a living document. But the one thing that won't change is our focus on equitable distribution of the vaccine as a priority. As we learn more about the vaccine, and as we learn more specifically from communities and partners most impacted by COVID-19, this plan will evolve."

Overall, Washington state is well positioned to receive, handle, distribute, and administer COVID-19 vaccine once an FDA-approved safe and effective vaccine is available. DOH has started its planning through intentional engagement and collaboration with other, state agencies, local government, health care

providers, neighboring states, and community partners. In compliance with the government-to-government process, the department will follow its consultation and collaboration procedure for engaging with tribal nations.

Areas of Action

The plan itself outlines specific action steps the department will take. Major areas of action include:

Provider and public health actions
Develop a community and partner-informed that identifies critical and disproportionately impacted populations to receive vaccine in each phase of the COVID-19 vaccination response.

Identify and recruit COVID-19 vaccination providers.

Train enrolled providers on proper vaccine storage, handling, and administration.

Train enrolled providers on reminder/recall techniques and effective vaccine promotion.

Gather and monitor vaccine administration data and provider enrollment data.

Community actions
Support distribution of the vaccine in phases according to the allocation framework.

Gather feedback from communities that are disproportionately affected by COVID-19 or at higher risk of contracting the disease.

Conduct outreach and education in an equitable way. Ensure our materials are culturally and linguistically appropriate for communities disproportionately affected by COVID-19.

Build vaccine confidence and trust within Washington communities.

Provide timely, accurate, and credible

information to the people of Washington on COVID-19 vaccine, including safety information.

Promote COVID-19 vaccination to everyone who qualifies to receive it in each phase.

Department officials want to emphasize that this is a starting place. Crucial feedback from statewide partners, impacted communities, and the public will help us understand the best ways to equitably distribute the vaccine as the department moves forward with further plans. "While we plan to open up the doors to feedback about this plan, it's said Lacy Fehrenbach, deputy secretary for COVID-19 Response. "Decision-making is happening alongside our many partners at the local, state, and federal levels."

Expected Outcomes

The department's expected outcomes include ensuring people in Washington will understand the phased approach to vaccination and know when and how they may receive their vaccination. In addition, vaccine providers will properly offer and administer an FDA-approved safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine as it becomes available. Finally, people in Washington will have the option to receive an FDA-approved safe and effective vaccine during the appropriate phase to protect them against COVID-19.

The department is committed to continuing listening to the community and preparing to deploy a vaccine in a way that is equitable, safe, and timely for the people of Washington.

The DOH website is your source for a healthy dose of information. Find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. Sign up for the DOH blog, Public Health Connection.

Secretary of State issues statement regarding attempts from foreign adversaries to interfere with General Election

SUBMITTED BY OFFICE OF WASHINGTON SECRETARY OF STATE KIM WYMAN

OLYMPIA - Washington Secretary of State Kim Wyman issued the following statement after federal intelligence officials held a briefing announcing attempts from foreign actors to interfere in the upcoming Nov. 3 general election.

"Foreign adversaries are working around the clock to interfere in U.S. elections and undermine confidence in the electoral process. Despite the disinformation circulating from bad actors, know there has been no indication of compromise at the Office of the Secretary of State or with our elections system.

"We continually work with state and federal security experts, and are actively partnering with the Department of Homeland Security and the FBI throughout this election

cycle to monitor the threat landscape and enhance our security stance.

"Washington voters should continue to be critical of the information they receive on social media from unknown sources, and should report any concerning information they see to their county elections office and the Secretary of State's Office. This is why my office has partnered with the National Association of Secretaries of State on the information campaign #TrustEdInfo2020. Before you share, make sure the information is coming from a trusted source."

As of Oct. 21, 25% of Washington voters have already returned their ballots for the upcoming election. Wyman encourages voters who have not yet voted to do so early, and place it in an official ballot drop box or the U.S. mail. Ballots returned by mail must be postmarked by Election Day, Nov. 3.

qcherald.com

Paula Arno Martinez appointed as new WVC Board of Trustees member

SUBMITTED BY WENATCHEE VALLEY COLLEGE

WENATCHEE - A new member was appointed to a five-year term with the Wenatchee Valley College Board of Trustees this month. Paula Arno Martinez attended her first board meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 21.

"I want to be more involved

in local community issues and am passionate about working with students," Arno Martinez said. "Knowing that the college is a Hispanic-Serving Institution, I wanted to lend my support."

Arno Martinez is an attorney and co-founded the Arno Martinez Law Firm, PLLC, with her wife and fellow attorney Vanessa Arno

Martinez. She practices immigration law exclusively. She is from Houston and has lived in Wenatchee for six years.

Arno Martinez currently serves as the National President of Kappa Delta Chi Sorority, Inc., a Latina founded nonprofit focused on community service. She is also a member of the Latino/a Bar

Association of Washington and the National Lawyers Guild, Wenatchee Chapter. She previously served on the City of Wenatchee Diversity Council and as a commissioner for the Washington Commission on Hispanic Affairs. She has worked for the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, Colectiva Legal del Pueblo

and Rios & Cruz, P.S.

She received her bachelor's degree at the University of Texas at San Antonio and her juris doctorate at Texas Southern University.

Arno Martinez fills the position left vacant by Dr. June Darling in September after serving 10 years as a board member.

Wenatchee Valley College

enriches North Central Washington by serving educational and cultural needs of communities and residents throughout the service area. The college provides high-quality transfer, liberal arts, professional/technical, basic skills and continuing education for students of diverse ethnic and economic backgrounds. Visit wvc.edu.



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Icicle Canyon climbing area protected as public land

USFS, Access Fund leverage Land and Water Conservation Fund to protect critical inholding

LEAVENWORTH – Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest and Access Fund, the only nationally accredited land trust dedicated to protecting America's climbing, are pleased to announce that 11 acres in Icicle Canyon outside Leavenworth, Washington, are now permanently protected as public land. This conservation project is the result of a collaboration between Access Fund, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), and local partner organizations.

The parcel includes popular climbing areas known as Alphabet Rock and Icehouse Boulders, as well as the initial access path to the historic crag of Givler's Dome farther uphill on adjacent USFS lands. Together, this critical inholding features more than 40 historic cracks, slabs, faces, and hueco-filled roofs, as well as dozens of boulder problems.

"Access to these iconic climbing areas could have been lost forever if the property had sold to a new private landowner," Access Fund Executive Director Chris Winter says. "Now that they are protected as public lands, local residents and visitors can enjoy these areas indefinitely."

To prevent the potential loss of access, the private landowner, Scot Brower, agreed to a two-year option agreement, giving the local climbing community and USFS time to secure

funding and sever mineral rights, which were held by a separate party. Access Fund purchased the property using funds from its Climbing Conservation Loan Program (CCLP), and it has now been transferred to Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest for long-term conservation and climbing-friendly management.

"The acquisition of this inholding is a great example of what we can accomplish by working collaboratively with partners," Forest Supervisor Kristin Bail says. "The successful partnership with Access Fund and numerous local organizations has resulted in securing recreational access for the American public to en-

joy these lands into the future. Acquiring the inholding also allows for more effective land management by eliminating potential for incompatible uses and improving our ability to manage resources at a landscape level."

This is another success story for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), which was permanently funded through the Great American Outdoors Act, signed into law earlier this year. The LWCF program is a primary funding source used to acquire and conserve important lands for resource protection, recreational opportunities, and public access. The USFS was able to obtain LWCF funds to acquire the property for long-term protection, enabling Access Fund to reinvest CCLP dollars to save other threatened climbing areas.

"We're excited to see climbers' efforts to advocate for permanent, dedicated funding for LWCF put to good work," says Tom Vogl, CEO of The Mountaineers. "Along with other historic crags in Icicle Canyon, our volunteers use Alphabet Rock to teach new climbers how to climb safely each year. Our members are proud to support a project that contributes to recreation opportunities, access protection, and conservation goals."

Special thanks to all of the partners and climbers who helped make this conservation victory possible, especially Chelan-Douglas Land Trust, Leavenworth Mountain Association, The Mountaineers, Northwest Mountain School, and Washington Climbers Coalition.

Access Fund and the USFS will continue to work with local climbing organizations to steward and manage the area for sustainable climbing. There's already a strong spirit of collaboration between these partners—just last year, Access Fund, the USFS, and partners teamed up to restore the Snow Lakes Trail into the Enchantments, as well as Fun Rock in Mazama and Liberty Bell spires at Washington Pass.

"We are so happy to see a local landowner, the USFS, and the climbing community all come together on this one," says John Race, IFMGA certified guide and co-owner of Northwest Mountain School in Leavenworth. "It would have been impossible without the guidance of Access Fund. Incremental, sustained effort can lead to watershed change. Let's get some kids out climbing!"

Twisp Restoration Project seeks to improve landscape health and fire resilience;

30 day public comment period now open

SUBMITTED BY USFS

WINTHROP - The Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest is proposing a variety of treatments across the approximately 77,000 acre Twisp Restoration Project area. A primary focus of this project is thinning overstocked areas to improve stand health and prescribed fire treatments to restore good fire to the landscape and reduce the risk of catastrophic fires impacting habitat and the local communities.

"Something I think about often as the District Ranger for the Methow Valley is the history of large fires in the area and how significantly the community has been impacted by those fires," said Ranger Chris Furr. "More than 50% of this project area has not experienced fire within the past 80 years. There are over 40 miles of boundary with private lands in the project area. The 2018 Crescent Fire is a recent reminder that this forest is fire-adapted and will eventually experience fire. If we treat these areas now, we reduce potential for future high severity, long duration fires that impact not just forest habitat, but also smoke-sensitive residents and the local economy."



Courtesy USDA Forest Service/Eireann Pederson.

Overlooking the project area from McClure Mountain.

Proposed restoration includes thinning, prescribed fire, adding large wood to streams to improve fish habitat, road decommissioning, decommissioning of the Roads End Campground, and more. The proposed activities will help restore the landscape to conditions more consistent with naturally occurring disturbance regimes. Improved resistance and resilience to forest disturbance, such as wildfires or insect and disease outbreaks, over

the long-term will protect and provide more productive wildlife habitat while also achieving a sustainable restoration economy.

We invite you to comment on the Twisp Restoration Project environmental assessment and share your knowledge of the area with the planning team. Comments are requested by November 21, 2020. In lieu of an in-person public meeting or field trip, an online public meeting is planned for November 5, 2020 at 6:30

pm. A virtual tour app was developed for this project and will be available on October 23, 2020 for self-guided tours of the project area.

For information on how to access the virtual meeting and field tour, as well as to submit comments on the project, please visit the project web page: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=56554>. For more information on the project, please contact project lead Eireann Pederson at Eireann.Pederson@usda.gov.

Good fire projects planned across 3,500 National Forest acres

SUBMITTED BY U.S. FOREST SERVICE

NCW - This fall, firefighters across Central Washington will once again be using fire to help restore watersheds and better protect nearby communities. Excluded from the ecosystem for nearly 100 years, frequent, low-intensity fire is essential for restoring public lands and the communities who depend on them.

"We are taking advantage of favorable weather conditions to start prescribed burning where we can safely do so. It is important for us to be proactive when we have these fall burning opportunities," said



Courtesy USDA Forest Service/Meshach Padilla

Firefighters ignite a prescribed fire on national forest public lands to help restore dry forests and better protect nearby communities from high intensity wildfires.

Forest Fire Management Officer Rob Allen.

Just over 3,500 acres of prescribed burning is planned this fall, but fewer acres may be completed if conditions are not favorable. Conditions include correct temperature, wind, fuel moisture, and ventilation for smoke. When these criteria are met, firefighters implement, monitor, and patrol each burn to ensure it meets forest health and public safety goals including air quality.

"These prescribed fire projects reduce the amount of burnable fuels in the forest and help lower the risk of

future high-intensity wildfires and related dense smoke," Allen said.

Residents and visitors can expect to see and smell some smoke during burning operations. For more information on smoke and public health, please visit wasmoke.blogspot.com

Prescribed burning operations are planned on national forest lands in the following counties.

- Okanogan County:
 - Benzer project, 76 acres, located 11 miles SE of Twisp
 - Upper Rendezvous, 210 acres, located 8 miles NW of Winthrop

- Lost Driveway hand pile burning project, 646 acres adjacent to the community of Mazama,

- Eightmile/Chewuch project, 17 acres, 5 miles north of Winthrop

- South Summit, 853 acres near Mt. Leecher, 11 miles SE of Twisp

- North Summit, a single hand pile at the sno-park near Loup Loup Ski Bowl

- Yakima County:
 - Benton Creek project, 100 acres, located 15 miles NW of Naches

- Yellow Jacket Creek, 54 acres, 17 miles NW of Naches,

- Three projects totaling 1,570 acres, located in the S. Fork of Wenas Creek in the Four Corners Junction area approximately 16 miles NW of Naches

Real-time prescribed fire maps and updates:

- Facebook: [facebook.com/OkaWenNF/](https://www.facebook.com/OkaWenNF/)
- Twitter: twitter.com/OkaWenNF

- Text message: text 'follow OkaWenNF' to 40404 (Apple/iPhone)

- Interactive map: tinyurl.com/harqnw8

- Phone: 509-996-4040
- Additional prescribed fires and pile burns may be conducted if favorable conditions allow.

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NOTICE:

New Deadlines now in effect for

Classifieds/Legals, Display Ads & Obituaries

- Display Ads 5 p.m., Thursday
- Classifieds/Legals Noon, Friday
- Obituaries/Death Notices 4 p.m. Friday

- Letters to the Editor - Noon Friday
- Calendar Listings - Noon Friday
- News Submissions - Noon Friday
- Display Advertising - 5 p.m. Thursday
- Legals/Public Notices - Noon Friday
- Classified Ads - Noon Friday

To place a Legal/Public Notice, Classified Ad or Obituary/Death Notice

email it to: heraldads@qcherald.com or call 509-689-2507

To place a Display Ad call or email

Ruth Keys - 509-682-2213, ruthk@lakechelanmirror.com

Call or send your news to:

Mike Maltais - 360-333-8443, qchreporter@gmail.com

Send your Calendars Listings to:

ruthk@lakechelanmirror.com

Send your Letters to the Editor to:

publisher@leavenworthecho.com

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509-682-2213 - Lake Chelan Mirror • 509-689-2507 - Quad City Herald

CLASSIFIEDS

Administrative

Publisher's notice

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

CORRECTIONS: NCW Media Inc. shall be responsible for corrections to advertisements on the first publication only. The advertiser will be responsible for corrections made thereafter. NCW Media Inc. shall not be responsible for slight changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value of the advertisement. NCW Media Inc.'s liability for other errors or omissions in connection with an advertisement is strictly limited to the publication of the advertisement in any subsequent issue. No monetary refunds will be given. For more information call (509) 548-5286.



Administrative

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8	1	7	3	4	5	2	9	6

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 Lake Chelan Mirror 509-682-2213 or Quad City Herald 509-689-2507
Deadline is Noon on Friday

Happy Ads

HAVE A SPECIAL EVENT COMING UP? PLACE IT IN OUR CLASSIFIEDS IN THE PAPER AND ONLINE
24/7 at www.NCWMarket.com
HAPPY BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS!
WILL YOU MARRY ME?
HAPPY ANNIVERSARY Only \$15 for 30 days includes 3 photos
Chelan-Brewster 682-2213 or Leavenworth-Cashmere 548-5286

Employment

Help Wanted

Chelan Auto Parts is hiring Countermen for retail sales. Must be able to lift 50 pounds and have excellent customer service skills. Automotive knowledge is a plus. Must have Washington Drivers License in good standing. Full-time, competitive wage DOE and health benefits. Pick up an application or bring a resume to Chelan Auto Parts. Call Robert at 682-4561 for more information.

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

Popular Boutique in Leavenworth now hiring, part or full-time. Fun and enjoyable environment. Email resume to frenchquail@gmail.com or pick up an application at Simply Found, 833 Front Street. Cynthia 425-330-2756

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

Place your Help Wanted and find the best qualified local employee
• Place your ad 24/7 at ncwmarket.com
• Email: heraldads@qcherald.com
• Call 689-2507

Help Wanted

Brewster School District is seeing a para professional with a positive and enthusiastic personality who has an interest in working with Alternative and High School Students for the 2020-21 school year. The successful candidate will work within the Migrant/Bilingual Program serving small groups in classrooms who need support. The specific duties will include, but are not limited to: providing instruction in vocabulary, supervision and translation. Other duties as assigned by the Special Programs Director. Qualifications:
• High School Diploma
• Spanish Required
• Must meet Title 1 requirements which are:
1. AA Degree or
2. 2 years of college course work documented with transcripts or
3. Pass the ETS paraprofessional test in areas of math, reading and writing (test given at the school). The successful candidate will be placed on the district salary schedule for classified employees according to years of experience. Starting salary is \$14.64 with medical, dental and optical benefits offered. Applications may be obtained on the district's website www.brewsterbears.org or by contacting the district office at 689-3418. A completed application consists of the following:
• Letter of Interest
• District Application
• Resume
• Three Current Letters of Recommendation
This position is open until filled. Brewster School District is equal opportunity employer.

Find the Best Qualified Local Employee in our Classifieds Ads.
Place your ad online 24/7 at www.NCWMarket.com It is easy, just register and pay online.
Print only? Deadline is Monday by Noon for all papers:
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Leavenworth Echo Cashmere Record 548-5286
Your ad will appear online and in the newspapers for one low price!

qcherald.com

Help Wanted

Mountain Meadows Senior Living Campus is currently hiring a Dining Services Assistant. Full-time benefited position ranging from 32 to 40 hours per week. Must be available for afternoon shifts ending at 8:00pm and also weekends. Pay range \$13.50 to \$14.50/hour DOE. Primary responsibility is to provide outstanding customer service and an excellent dining experience for our Seniors including efficient order taking, serving of meals, busing and general clean up. Will assist with meal preparation when needed. Apply at 320 Park Ave., Leavenworth. Criminal Background and Personal reference checks required.

OCTN is accepting applications for a part-time cook in Brewster. See us online at www.octn.org for complete job description and application information. **OCTN** is an EOE

For Sale

Antiques & Collectibles

Get cold hard cash for your Antiques and Collectibles by placing them in our classifieds.
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Deadline Monday at Noon for all papers:
Lake Chelan Mirror Quad City Herald 682-2213 or call **Leavenworth Echo Cashmere Record** 548-5286

Furniture

NCW Media Newspapers Cashmere 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 metal and fabric room dividers. All other items are now only \$10 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

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Real Estate

Acreage

Rare opportunity! 20 acre parcel near Manson. Great views of Lake Chelan! Water, power available. Pick from many parts of the land to build your dream home or cabin. 206-310-4904. See more photos, information at <https://www.ncwmarket.com/classified/20-acres-wit-h-great-views-of-lake-chelan-listing-2120.aspx>

Rentals

Your Trailer on my lot. Leisure Manor has an opening for a mobile home or 5th wheel. 1 year lease. \$400 a month for lot. You pay utilities. Very desirable location. Available now. Bridgeport, WA. 425-301-2328.

Legals

Public Notices

Request for Qualifications / Proposal from qualified Energy Services Performance Contracting Providers
The City of Pateros City Council of Pateros, Washington requests qualifications and proposals from energy services providers licensed in the State of Washington. A qualified provider will be selected for the purpose of implementing a solar project and will develop and prepare a Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract pursuant to the guidelines set forth in Washington Code RCW 39.35A.030. The Request for Proposal (RFP) is due on **November 28, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.** Those interested may obtain a copy of the Request for Proposal (RFP) response guideline by contacting: Jord L. Wilson City Administrator Public Works Supervisor City of Pateros 113 Lakeshore Drive, Pateros Washington Office 509.923.2571 paterosparks@outlook.com Published in the Quad City Herald October 28 and November 4, 2020 #1034

Public Notices

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

A Preliminary Budget hearing for the Douglas-Okanogan County Fire District #15 Fire District and Ambulance 2021 calendar year budgets will be taken at a regular meeting held remotely on Monday, November 09, 2020, at 7p.m. as pursuant to RCW 84.55.120. Join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/272879189> or connect by phone 1-866-899-4679, Access Code: 272-879-189. Public comments will be taken at this time concerning the budgets. The 2021 final budget will be adopted at a special meeting to be held Monday, November 23, 2020 at 1 p.m. Connect from your computer, tablet or smartphone <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/535499837> or connect by phone 1-866-899-4679, Access Code: 535-499-837. In addition, Commissioners will consider any supplemental budgets to the 2020 Fire District and Ambulance operating budgets to appropriate additional revenues received during the current year to the expense fund. Published in the Quad City Herald October 28 and November 4, 2020 #1039

Public Notices

NOTICE OF FINAL BUDGET HEARING

The final budget hearing for the Town of Mansfield will be held Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at the Mansfield City Hall at 6:00 PM to afford citizens the opportunity to provide written or oral comments on the 2021 budget. Copies of the preliminary budget may be obtained from the City Clerk. Published in the Quad City Herald October 28 and November 4, 2020#1054



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Remedies for vaginal dryness

Q: Since menopause, I've noticed more and more vaginal dryness. Is there anything besides hormone pills that can help?

You are not alone. Over 75% of post-menopausal women, plus many women taking anti-estrogen medicines like aromatase inhibitors for breast cancer treatment or prevention, suffer from vaginal dryness and discomfort. Without estrogen, the cells lining the vagina and birth canal begin to shrink or atrophy, losing elasticity and secreting less lubricating fluid. Vaginal atrophy creates dryness, itching, burning, even pain or bleeding during sexual intercourse. Vaginal secretions are also crucial in maintaining an optimum level of vaginal acidity, supporting the growth of "friendly" bacteria like lacto-



bacillus, discouraging yeast infections. Our bodies host many different types of bacteria. These "good bacteria" live on our skin, inside our mouth, and along our intestines and vagina. Some are helpful, but others aren't. Lactobacillus is a "good" bacteria, helping to keep out "bad" bacteria and prevent vaginal infections. Today there are low-dose estrogen and non-estrogen options that can successfully treat vaginal atrophy and discomfort. Replens® is a long-acting moisturizing vaginal gel that gives up to 3 days of moisture between applica-

tions. It's available without a prescription in premeasured doses inside individual plastic applicators and as a tube with a reusable applicator. Although it relieves dryness and burning and makes sexual intercourse more comfortable, Replens® won't change your vaginal cells, the pH of your vagina, or restore lactobacillus.

Instead of estrogen pills, low-dose vaginal estrogen reverses the atrophy of the vagina's lining by supplying estrogen directly to those cells. This approach restores vaginal elasticity and its ability to secrete lubricating fluids. Vaginal secretions encourage beneficial lactobacillus, reduce dryness, and make sexual activity more comfortable.

Can a breast cancer survi-

vor safely use low-dose vaginal estrogen to reverse the symptoms of vaginal atrophy? The evidence suggests YES. You don't need much estrogen when applying it directly to vaginal cells. When used at appropriate doses, it doesn't create detectable estrogen levels in the blood that could reach endometrial or breast tissue.

There are several forms of low-dose vaginal estrogen: vaginal creams used with an applicator (Premarin®, Estrace®), vaginal tablets with individual applicators (Vagifem®), and a gelatin ring that releases estrogen (Estring®). The starting dose for the cream and vaginal tablet is once daily at bedtime for 2 weeks, then twice a week as maintenance.

Estring® is a vaginal ring that's inserted and left in for up to 3 months. As a pharmacist, I have to be careful when filling prescriptions for vaginal rings. There are 3 different vaginal ring products available, each containing different estrogen concentrations.

Estring® has the least amount of estrogen and is worn for 90 days at a time for vaginal atrophy. Femring® has two strengths available to relieve hot flashes and other menopausal symptoms, worn for up to 90 days. NuvaRing® is

used for birth control and worn for 3 weeks at a time with one week off.

Other prescription options for vaginal atrophy include Ospheña® and Intrarosa®. Ospheña® mimics estrogen's action in vaginal tissue but blocks estrogen action in breast tissue. Ospheña® is a pill taken daily by mouth.

Intrarosa® is a tablet containing DHEA (dehydroepiandrosterone) inserted into the vagina every night. This is more effective than supplements containing DHEA, which don't work well to ease vaginal dryness and increase breast cancer risk.

Testosterone vaginal cream is in clinical trials as an alternative to vaginal estrogen.

If you have significant vaginal discomfort, see your doctor. After ruling out infection or other issues, ask about whether low-dose vaginal estrogen or another medicine is a possible option for you.

Here Are 5 Tips to Help Relieve Vaginal Dryness:

1. Use a long-acting vaginal moisturizer.
2. Estrogen-free Replens® is available without a prescription. If you try it, watch out for some weird vaginal discharge during the first week of use, when dried out vaginal cells slough off and come out, look-

ing like cottage cheese.

2. Apply a lubricant. You'll find a lot of choices available today for a "personal lubricant" for sexual contact besides the old standby, K-Y Jelly®.

3. Assess the relative risks between the various options available.

Discuss your options for vaginal estrogen and other prescription medicines for relief of vaginal dryness with your physician.

4. Premarin® vaginal cream is more effective than Estrace® or estradiol.

Although Estrace® and estradiol vaginal creams are slightly cheaper than Premarin®, they don't relieve symptoms as well.

5. Use more than one product.

Using a vaginal moisturizer plus locally applied estrogen, a lubricant, or all three, can improve your results.

Dr. Louise Achey, Doctor of Pharmacy, is a 40-year veteran of pharmacology and author of Why Dogs Can't Eat Chocolate: How Medicines Work and How YOU Can Take Them Safely. Check out her NEW website TheMedication-Insider.com for daily tips on how to take your medicine safely. ©2020 Louise Achey

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How regular maintenance keeps your car firing on all cylinders

5 reasons to accelerate your car maintenance

(BPT) - Car maintenance is often a scheduled chore when you're regularly driving. However, if you're driving less due to the current environment, maintenance can easily become a lesser priority or even completely forgotten. Hankook Tire's latest Gauge Index found that as daily driving decreased as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, nearly one-third (30%) of Americans have done less car cleaning and maintenance too. But car maintenance is always important, especially as drivers around the country gradually resume their travels and hit the road. Hankook Tire found that 60% of Americans expect to take more car trips moving forward. With that in mind, the following are five reasons it's important to keep up with regular car maintenance:

1. **Safety First and foremost:** Regular car maintenance helps increase safety when driving. This is especially important if your car has been parked for a while. Be sure to check your fluids (oil, washer, coolant, etc.) and inspect the tires to make sure that they haven't lost their pressure. After all, the Gauge revealed 70% of Americans have not regularly been checking tire pressure during the pandemic. Low tire pressure can lead to several issues such as poor performance, premature wear and higher rolling resistance, which

can impact fuel efficiency.

2. **Save time and money:** Consistent car maintenance also helps extend the overall life of not only your tires, but the systems that drive them, including the engine, suspension, brakes and transmission. With the median price of a set of four tires ranging from \$300 to \$600, investing in regular tire upkeep such as rotations and alignment when necessary, helps deter more costly repairs down the road - making both your car, and your money, go further. And, you'll save time. Regularly scheduled basic maintenance appointments traditionally don't take too long - and some dealerships even offer special pick-up and drop-off appointments so you never have to leave the comfort of your home.

3. **First place performance:** Just like a regular gym routine helps keep your muscle groups firing on all cylinders, regular trips to the mechanic can provide the same benefit to your car. Whether it's a crushing leg day (suspension) or a cardio workout (engine), routine inspection of your shoes (tires) will help you maximize your workout traction so you're ready for the next round and running at peak performance.

4. **Cleanliness:** While cleaning the vehicle's interior and exterior was the primary maintenance measure (40%) Americans took at the height of quarantine, the idea of clean cars goes beyond

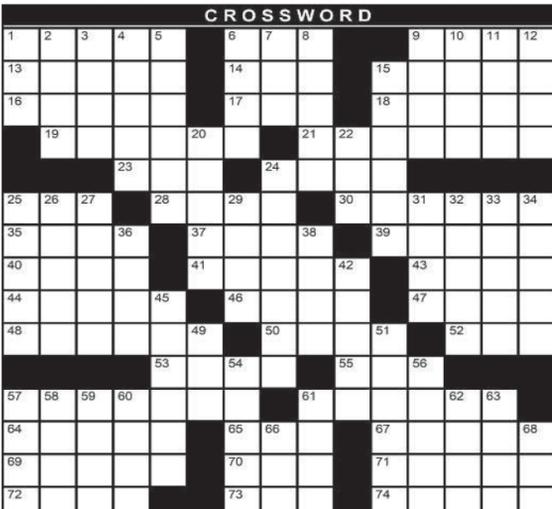
just dust on the dashboard and sanitized seatbelts. It keeps the environment clean, too. Little maintenance checks add up to a big environmental impact. For example, regular oil changes contribute to a cleaner engine and lower vehicle emissions, while properly inflated tires can contribute to better fuel efficiency.

5. **Vehicle value:** When the time comes to upgrade your vehicle, one of the first points of inspection is on the inside. A vehicle's internal condition is one of the key factors in determining its worth, so it's best keep everything well-oiled and running smoothly, even if you don't have any immediate plans to trade it in.

While it is recommended to adhere to your vehicle's outlined maintenance schedule, there are a few things that drivers can do on a regular basis to provide added value. Every month, double-check to make sure headlights and taillights are working, fluids are topped off, and your belt and hose systems are running smoothly. Use the penny test to check your tire's tread. In addition, keeping a vehicle maintenance log helps you stay organized and ensure good habits that can have a real impact when it comes time to trade in. If any issues do arise, Hankook recommends getting your vehicle checked out by a certified mechanic before getting back behind the wheel.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

THEME: PROVERBIAL SPEAKING



- ACROSS**
1. Bornean ape
 6. Casino's pull
 9. Elbow-wrist connection
 13. Paralyzing disease
 14. Pigeon sound
 15. Teething drops
 16. Mary's subjects (1542-1567)
 17. Ostrich-like bird
 18. September stone
 19. *One responsible for someone else's welfare
 21. *Both rodents and humans like to come up with these
 23. Name fit for a king
 24. Wedding cover
 25. Like a dim star
 28. Head vermin
 30. *Like the schemes of a fool, biblically speaking
 35. Thor's father
 37. Cleopatra's necklace
 39. Blood carrier
 40. Ice on a window
 41. Famous Teatro alla _____
 43. Took to court
 44. Prevent
 46. Burden of proof
 47. Leprechaun's land
 50. Cabinet div.
 52. Steadfast Soldier's material
 53. Letter before kappa
 55. European Economic Community
 57. *It increases love and friendship
 61. *It will cause additional harm
 64. Raccoon relative
 65. Short for the Metropolitan Museum of Art in NYC
 67. Huey, Duey and Louie, e.g.
 69. #41 Across location
 70. Prior to, pref.
 71. Organ swelling
 72. Benevolent fellows
 73. African tam-_____
 74. English county
- DOWN**
1. Roman goddess of plenty
 2. *It's just as unpleasant as a hard place
 3. Sunburn soother
 4. Fertilizer ingredient
 5. Luke's teaching, e.g.
 6. Laptop manufacturer
 7. Data storage acronym
 8. *Cowards are sometimes compared to this
 9. Encourage
 10. Good earth
 11. Sound on a scale
 12. Saloon selections
 15. Perennial garden flower
 20. Signs for escape
 22. Post-Soviet Union alliance, acr.
 24. Covered porch
 25. *Can't use these to break a skeleton
 26. Farewell, to ami
 27. Nimbus, pl.
 29. Gabrielle Chanel's nickname
 31. *Keep it clean to stay out of trouble
 32. *It's tastier if one is not allowed to have it
 33. First cradles
 34. Filled with cargo
 36. Like whiskey right out of bottle
 38. Classic board game
 42. Colorado ski resort
 45. Curb, two words
 49. Disney dwarf
 51. ACT taker, e.g.
 54. Dangle a carrot
 56. Miss Muffet's meal
 57. *The Road Runner" corporation
 58. Skin infection
 59. #13 Across conqueror
 60. J.F.K. postings
 61. Bookkeeping entry
 62. *Don't make inquiries if you don't want to hear this
 63. Hefty volume
 66. Chapter in history
 68. Coltrane's woodwind

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	4			3	6				9
			1			4	3	2	
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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.