Quad City

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YOUR BEST SOURCE OF NEWS FOR LOWER OKANOGAN AND DOUGLAS COUNTIES





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Photo by Mike Maltais)

Brewster resident Ron Paslay's home shown here at 410 Lakeview Drive is one of several located in the C2 commercial zoning area that will be allowed more flexibility under the newly approved zoning amendment.

Resolves residential conflict

Brewster city council amends BMC to allow dormitory housing

Pateros School

Board appoints

2019 officers

BY MIKE MALTAIS STAFF WRITER

BREWSTER –At its regular monthly meeting on Jan. 9, the city council put its final stamp of approval on a zoning code amendment that will give owners of residential property currently located in a C1 commercial zone more

flexibility to purchase, repair, and sell their holdings. The new amendment will also allow multiple-dwelling (dormitory housing) units in C1, PU (Public Use), and AI (Airport Industrial) zones to accommodate future demands for

SEE ZONING ON PAGE A2

Sell? Vacate? Other? **Bridgeport council schedules public** hearing to discuss future of Atomic Way By MIKE MALTAIS

STAFF WRITER

BRIDGEPORT - A decision on the final disposition of Atomic Way, a small parcel of real estate located on Columbia Boulevard between 20th and 22nd streets may finally be in the works, thanks to recent actions taken by the city council at its regular meeting on Jan. 16.

Council members voted to schedule a public hearing at their next regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 20, to give Bridgeport residents the opportunity to comment on whether the city should sell, vacate, retain or pursue another use of the site.

"I hope we got some citizens to turn out," said council member Phil Lee, who also serves on the committee studying Atomic Way.

Bridgeport resident Scott Wright, who owns property adjacent to Atomic Way has been negotiating with the city to create something positive for the site that remains unbuildable parcel as it currently stands. Wright said

SEE FUTURE ON PAGE A2



Photo by Mike Maltais

With the help of a little imagination - O.K., a lot of imagination - a viewer might still see remnants of what was once an eye-catching billboard, set along the south side of State Route 173 coming into Bridgeport from the west side. A Bridgeport resident recently suggested that city council members remove what now is considered more of an eyesore.

Pateros sledding accident claims life of Lake Stevens youngster

PATEROS - A sled-vehicle collision at an active city intersection claimed the life of an 11-year-old Lake Stevens youngster visiting relatives over the Christmas holidays,



BY MIKE MALTAIS STAFF WRITER

PATEROS – The Pateros School Board elected its 2019 officers in its annual board reorganization during the

10 PAC meeting.

Kim Beard was hired as longterm high school math/junior high science substitute.

Cindy Cavasos was hired

Miller will attend the April Under personnel matters,



BY MIKE MALTAIS STAFF WRITER

group's regular meeting on Dec. 10, 2018.

Grace Larsen, 2018 board chair person was appointed as board chair for the coming year. Chad Miller was appointed board vice-chair.

No board members were available to fill the position as Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA) legislative representative, so school superintendent Greg Goodnight will assume the role as the board's proxy.

The board approved a request by the Pateros Apple Pie Jamboree to use school busses to transport youth performers to practices with the Missoula Children's Theatre this summer.

Consideration of several levy taxation options was tabled by a vote to the board to allow members additional time to discuss the issue.

Marc Armstrong and Parker Barth were selected to represent the board at the Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meeting on Feb. 6. Charles Miller and Chad

to assist varsity wrestling coach Shane Kelly.

Jason Getzin was promoted to Transportation Director.

Mike Hull delivered the principal's report which included the unscheduled evacuation drill when the city's new water system came online and triggered a sensor alarm from the spike in water pressure.

Hull also thanked North Central Regional Library for the visit of author Ruta Sepetys whose presentation of her book, Between Shades of Gray, "was amazing." Hull said.

Hull reported that students are receiving certificates for participating in "unplugged" as part of a program to reduce cell phone use.

Students from grades eight through sophomore visited Wenatchee Valley College on Dec. 7, as part of GEAR UP College.

The next regular meeting of the school board is 6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 28, in the school library.

Dec. 26.

According to a report released by the Okanogan County Sheriff's Office on Jan. 16, the fatality occurred on a snowy morning at the intersection of West Warren Avenue and North Eveline Street. The report said a youngster on a snow sled traveling east on Eveline collided with a pickup traveling northbound on Warren.

While an Okanogan County Deputy was questioning the driver, inspecting the pickup, and taking photos of the accident site, he was advised by a homeowner who lived nearby that the homeowner's security camera covered the intersection where the incident occurred and captured the tragedy.

"The camera...points from the north toward the south of the intersection on the west side of Warren," the report said. "In the video you can see the child walk across Warren from the west to Eveline St., up the west side of Eveline St., and the child goes out of



Photo by Mike Maltais

This view of Eveline Street where it intersects with West Warren Avenue shows the straight, steep incline where a sled-vehicle collision claimed the life of a Lake Stevens youngster over the Christmas holidays.

view."

The report states that about two minutes after the child goes out of view "you see the pickup traveling north on Warren Avenue. As the truck is about ³/₄ of the way through the intersection you see the child come into view."

The section of West Eveline

the youngster was sledding on includes "a large hill approximately one-quarter-mile long," the report said.

The video shows the child strike the truck on the driver's rear side just ahead of the rear tire, continue under the vehicle and exit the rear of the vehicle and come to rest in the middle of the intersection.

"Looking at the vehicle it didn't appear the tires ran over the child," the incident report said. "It looks like the child struck the undercarriage as the vehicle rolls forward." In a statement to the deputy

SEE ACCIDENT ON PAGE A2



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A4

A4

. A4

. B1-B2

. B1-B2

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INSIDE TH	HIS WEEK
Community A1-4, B4	Health Care Directory
Sports/School B1	Church Directory
Okanogan & Douglas Sheriff/EMS/Fire A4	
Births, Obituaries, Death Notices	Classified Index
Community & Bulletin Board A4	Classifieds



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ZONING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

livable accommodations.

Specifically, the council changed certain provisions in title 17 of the Brewster Municipal Code (BMC), amending the city zoning code to define and provide for dormitory housing in the city.

Acting on a recommendation from the Brewster Planning Commission, the council approved the amended zoning as the most efficient fix to a problem that came to its attention last fall by several residential owners.

An earlier code change around the turn of the century left several home owners, whose properties were previously in a residential zone, in an expanded commercial zone which made their homes nonconforming under the new rules. Despite public hearings and published legal notices, the affected homeowners were unaware that their ability to finance, remodel, or sell their properties had been restricted.

Council members became aware that a resident was affected by the zone change when a homeowner in the commercial zone requested a variance early in 2018. The homeowner, Joyce Steele,

wanted to apply for a reverse mortgage, but banks and finance companies would not approve her nonconforming application absent the variance. Council members denied the request.

Later that year, Ron Paslay a resident on Lakeview Way, secured a buyer for his home at 410 Lakeview Way, in a different commercial zone in the city. When the prospective purchaser was denied financing Paslay, along with several Lakeview neighbors, discovered that their properties fell under the C1 zone. With no rapid remedy available to amend the zoning, Paslay's home sale fell through.

Planning Commission members convened and considered the most efficient avenue to correct the problem, retain the city's development vision and still accommodate the growing need for more and affordable housing. The dormitory housing designation fits the need.

Acting as quickly as state and county statues would allow, it still required some three months to fast-track the new amendment into the BMC books.

Paslay said he is pleased at the news that the new amendment is in place and now plans to resume his efforts to find another purchaser for his property.

FUTURE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

he has offered to purchase the property or work with officials to help the city vacate the property.

"Atomic Way has a negative value and has not been maintained for 20 years," Wright said.

He said his property line takes in a portion of Columbia Boulevard as far as the soccer field and has offered to trade that to the city for Atomic Way, a swap that would give the city title to his portion of the street and reduce his property taxes as well.

"I've been paying property taxes on Columbia Boulevard

ACCIDENT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

the vehicle's driver did not see the youngster on the sled as he drove through the intersection but "felt something," looked in his rear-view mirror and saw something in the road behind him. The vehicle had traveled about 30 feet when the driver stopped and backed up to the side of the victim.

"After seeing the video, it

Vans, the original action

resolved.

for a decade," Wright said. Wright said vacating Atomic Way should not be a difficult issue because he has already participated in vacating two other properties with the city in the past. He said he also receives notices to clear brush on Atomic Way that Wright claims is actually growing on city land.

"As it is now, it's a fire hazard," said Wright and added that access down the bank leading to the river is so overgrown it is nothing more than a deer trail.

While many parties agree than something needs to be done with the boulder-blocked parcel, state, county and city regulations required several issues to be first clarified and

was clear that (the driver) was not at fault in the collision and had no time to react before the incident occurred," the deputy reported.

As it turned out the driver and victim were related, and the deputy learned that the child was told by his grandmother not to sled down the hill until she was present at the location.

Emergency responders arrived at the scene and administered CPR to the child who sustained a head injury and

City contract planner Kurt Danison advised council members that any possible right-of-way claims with the state Department of Ecology needed to be investigated. There was also some concern that the Douglas County PUD might have a voice in the transaction.

City attorneys Chuck Zimmerman and Julie Norton of Ogden, Murphy, Wallace in Wenatchee have recently weighed in to advise on state and county conflicts

In other business council members renewed the city's annual contract with Okanogan County Transit and Nutrition in the amount of \$1,250. Bridgeport resident Mike

was not breathing. He was transported to a Spokane hospital where it was reported on Jan. 2 that the child passed away, the report said. The report did not mention that the injured youngster was first taken to Three Rivers Hospital in Brewster before being transported to Spokane.

At the time of the sledding accident, Brewster Police Chief Nattalie Cariker said she "was working that day and assisting another agency with a complaint at that time. Very

Bjorstad brought a photo to the council meeting of a billboard along State Route 173 outside the city limits on the west end of town that has seen better days. Bjorstad suggested that the city contact the owner of the property on which the old sign is located and arrange to have it dismantled.

The old sign has been around for well more than a half century. Mayor Conklin shared a recollection of her husband, Ed, who remembered the sign being built when he was just a youngster. Conklin said the property owner has been contacted and discussions are underway to hire a contractor to remove the structure.

sad incident in Pateros."

Ironically, just eight days earlier the Brewster Police Department and Brewster Boys and Girls Club (BBGC) teamed up to host a Cops N Kids event at the BBGC that included a Snow Safety Contest with 20 donated sleds awarded the winning entries. The contest was open to youngsters from the Pateros-Brewster-Bridgeport area and was part of an annual Christmas Shop and Winter Carnival.

High school art competition offers \$75k to winner

sports brand and icon of cre-Have a ative expression, invites pub-Community Story idea? Mike Maltais at 360-333-8483 or qchreporter@gmail.com

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lic and private high school art students to participate in the tenth year of Vans Custom Culture. Vans Custom Culture was created to provide high school students a platform to showcase their creative abilities, while providing access to underfunded art programs. This year marks a decade of Vans' continued dedication to giving back to the arts through its competition where students have a chance to win a grand prize of \$75,000 and \$10,000 to four runner-up schools

"Vans Custom Culture is a shining example of how we bring our brand's purpose of enabling creative expression to life," shares Kristy Van Doren, Senior Director of Brand Marketing in North America. "The competition has inspired more than 12,000 high schools and Vans has donated more than a million dollars to support art education to fuel creativity across the country. We've reached a huge milestone of 10 years and are proud of what's to come."



Through January 31 at 5 p.m., high school art teachers and administrators can register their schools on the Vans Custom Culture website to be one of the 500 schools vying to win the grand prize. Vans has partnered with Yoobi, who will provide a box of basic art supplies to help students bring their artwork to life. The selected schools will

"Off The Wall." In addition to their shoes, schools will also submit their Impact Document to help Vans determine the top 50 participants. Then it's up to each school to rally the public to vote on April 22 – May 3 to be one of the top five finalists. The grand prizewinning school will receive a surprise visit from Vans and its partners, Americans for tation of the \$75,000 check. The four runner-up schools will each be awarded with \$10,000 and a limited-edition Vans gift.

"Vans Custom Culture is creative expression," said Mitch Whitaker, General Manager of Vans North America. "We are committed to inspiring our youth community to not only express themselves through

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the Arts and Journeys, for a pairs of shoes illustrating the lunch time celebration, filled themes of: "Local Flavor" and with giveaways and a presen- ativity can take them."

art but to showcase that there is no limit to where their cre-

Observational survey shows number of drivers distracted by cell phones down

SUBMITTED BY WASHINGTON TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

OLYMPIA - The Washington Traffic Safety Commission (WTSC) has released a report on its observational survey of distracted driving performed in June 2018.

The survey findings estimate the driver distraction rate was 8.2

percent in 2018, down from 9.2 percent in both 2016 and 2017, although this change was not significant. Driver distraction includes all activities that divert attention and full engagement from the task of driving including general inattention (lost in thought), smoking, eating, grooming, reading, interactions with passengers or vehicle controls, and electronic device use.

In 2018, there was a significant decrease in the percentage of drivers holding a cell phone. In 2016 and 2017, 5.6 and 5.7 percent (respectively) of observed drivers were holding or manipulating cell phones. In 2018, this dropped to 3.4 percent of drivers. However, in 2018 there was also a significant increase in drivers engaged in "other distracting behavior," such as eating, tuning a radio, or attending to pets or children. In 2016 and 2017, cell phones were the source of three quarters of distractions. In 2018, due to the decrease in handheld cell phone use and the increase in "other distractions," cell phones are the source of just over half of driver distractions.

In 2017, Washington passed the Driving Under the Influence of Electronics (E-DUI) Act, which prohibits any handheld device use while operating a vehicle. The report provides the baseline measure of driver distraction prior to the new law's effective date and one year following.

The Washington Traffic Safety Commission (WTSC) is Washington's designated highway safety office. We share a vision with numerous other state and local public agencies. That vision is to reduce traffic fatalities and serious injuries to zero. The WTSC Director is the Governor's Highway Safety Representative, which is a designated position each state is required to have in order to qualify for federal traffic safety funding. Our Commission is made up of 26 employees and 10 Commissioners chaired by Washington's Governor Jay Inslee.



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Newhouse statement on President Trump's **DACA and Border Security Compromise**

SUBMITTED BY **Rep. Dan Newhouse office**

WASHINGTON, D.C. -Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA) released the following statement on President Trump's announcement of a proposal to reopen the federal government, secure the Southern border, and give certainty to DACA recipients.

"President Trump today laid out a reasonable compromise to break the funding and border security stalemate

government shutdown," said Rep. Newhouse. "President Trump has offered to give legal certainty to DACA recipients as part of a deal to secure the border and reopen the federal government. In addition, the President announced that after this initial proposal passes he will convene weekly bipartisan meetings to fundamentally reform our broken immigration system including helping farmers and working

that has resulted in a partial

on the President's previous offer providing a pathway to citizenship for DACA eligible individuals.

"Before the President had even spoken, Speaker Nancy Pelosi already rejected a deal. If Democrats are serious about reopening the federal government and giving certainty to DACA recipients, then they must come to the table to support a common sense compromise instead of simply obstructing the President."

Kindergartners could be taking over the month of September

• Lawmakers want to celebrate young students as they begin K-12 schooling

• Bill created by 5th graders to support kindergartners · September could be dedicated to kindergartners

By MADELINE COATS WNPA OLYMPIA NEWS BUREAU

OLYMPIA - September could be declared as the month of the kindergartner, encouraging elementary schools to celebrate young students as they begin their lives in education.

Senate Bill 5028 was cosponsored by Senators Sam Hunt, D-Olympia, Steve O'Ban, R-Pierce County and Claire Wilson, D-Auburn.

Hunt introduced SB 5028 with a push from Mary Clift, 5th grade teacher from Bordeaux Elementary School in Shelton, Wash. The longtime teacher has supported this bill for many years, Hunt said at a public hearing on Friday

lawmaker attention

introduced the same bill in 2017, but it did not move from the floor. Clift, originally from Olympia, reached out to Hunt to give the bill a second chance.

"There is no cost to this bill," said Clift. "It's a nobrainer." The elementary teacher teaches English language arts and civics. Her students wanted to propose a bill with a focus on school kids and the importance of making them feel wanted and welcome, explained Clift.

Testimonies were given by three of Clift's previous students who now attend Oakland Bay Junior High School in Shelton School District. Graysen Reveal, 14, Ethan Roberts, 14, and Anthony Pagel, 13, spoke in support of SB 5028.

"As a class, we created an idea for a bill and we hope it will become a law in Washington state," said Roberts, former class president of the elementary school.

With the help of Clift, her Rep. Dan Griffey, R-Allyn, class of 5th graders cre-

Watering your lawn and water

conservation in a drought draw

Many HOAs or condo-

minium associations have

requirements on the type of

landscaping allowed – which

ated this bill three years ago. They reached out to senators and representatives, lobbied for the bill and talked to Gov. Inslee in his office about next steps, explained Roberts during the hearing.

Reveal, a current 8th grader, believes this bill will help kindergartners get off to a great start as they begin their years in education.

"It is my hope, along with my fellow classmates, that this bill will help all kindergartners across the state," said Reveal. He wants all students to begin the learning process with a positive start, in addition to forming friendships and creating life experiences.

Hunt clarified that the description of the bill should be altered to specify the beginning of a child's K-12 education, rather than their education as a whole.

"This is the start of their K-12 education, but certainly not the start of their education," said Hunt at the hearing

Colville tribal delegation calls on Sen. Brad Hawkins



Photo courtesy of Legislative Service Photography Department

Senator Brad Hawkins (R-12th District) met with a delegation from the Colville Confederated Tribes in the Washington state Legislature's Senate chambers on Jan. 16. Pictured from left are Janet Nicholson, Tribal Council; Sen. Hawkins; Andy Joseph, Jr., (seated) Tribal Council; Norma Sanchez, Tribal Council; and Dylan Dressler, the NATIVE Project.



Photo submitted

Rep. Keith Goehner takes the oath of office in the state House of Representatives. Legislative **Support Services Photo**

Dryden's Goehner takes oath in House on day 1

often excludes fire resistant support of the bill on behalf LEGISLATIVE NEWS RELEASE

OLYMPIA -- Rep. Keith

Goehner, R-Dryden, officially

took the oath of office and was

sworn in as a member of the

Washington State House of

Representatives January 14

during the opening ceremo-

"The opening ceremonies

were very humbling. It is

a great honor to serve the

citizens of the 12th Legislative

District," said Goehner. "We

have a lot of work to do over

the next few months. However,

I look forward to working with

colleagues on both sides of

the aisle to move this state

as the assistant ranking member on the House State

Government and Tribal Re-

lations Committee. He will

also serve on the Local Gov-

Goehner will be serving

forward."

nies of the 2019 Legislature.

ernment and Transporta- third committee assignment

follow landscaping conservation best practices

Would align HOA regulations

with water conservation best

• Would encourage state-

funded building projects

practices

BY EMMA EPPERLY WNPA OLYMPIA NEWS BUREAU

OLYMPIA - Differences in water usage best practices during a drought and homeowners' association landscaping requirements are the target of new legislation.

The goal of House Bill 1165, introduced by District 34 Rep. Tina Orwall, D-Des Moines, is to require HOAs' landscaping guidelines to align with water conservation guidelines during a drought.

or low-water plants. The bill would prohibit HOAs from fining residents for employing low-water landscaping, but does not require them to meet conservation standards.

Section 4 of the bill addresses the public sector by encouraging state-funded large building projects to use drought-resistant landscaping and wildfire-ignitionresistant landscaping.

Carrie Sessions from the Department of Ecology mentioned that her department received complaints during Washington's last drought emergency in 2015 from inof the Sierra Club. Bryant noted that often in new developments that have HOAs the landscaping requirements are based on the grass that was planted to sell the house. Yet, over time keeping that grass green takes a lot of water.

dividuals who were still re-

quired to water their lawns

Kristen Bryant spoke in

to avoid HOA fines.

The four people who spoke at Tuesday's Committee on Rural Development, Agriculture & Natural Resources hearing supported the bill.

Orwall voiced her hopes that this year the bill would pass, as it is something she has been working on for three years.

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tion committees.

"I am very excited about my committee assignments. Spending the last sixteen years as a Chelan County Commissioner gives me a strong perspective on local government issues. The state government committee covers a lot of issues we have dealt with at the local level - state agency rulemaking, performance audits and elections," said Goehner. "My

is very important to our region. Transportation and traffic relief are critical as we move forward and North Central Washington continues to grow."

Goehner encourages constituents to stay in touch during the legislative session with questions or concerns. He can be reached at his legislative office at (360) 786-7954 or keith.goehner@leg. wa.gov.





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OBITUARIES

Timothy George Rankin

Timothy George Rankin, age 55, moved on to bigger and better things on January 16.2019.

Tim was born in Brewster, Wash. on December 2, 1963 to George and Margaret (Starcher) Rankin. He is survived by his daughter Trista (Jesse) Dinjian, stepdaughter Diane (Kevin) Jacobson, stepson Justin (Stephanie) Wuolle, grandchildren Chelsea, Danikah, Kirra, brother Delford Rankin, sisters Patty Rankin, Susan (Ken) Selzer, Hatti (Neal) Mc-Kee, and by many nieces and nephews.

Preceded in death by his father George Rankin, mother

Margaret Rankin and sister Catherine Swenson.

Tim was a fun loving soul who would do just about anything for anyone. His children and granddaughters were his world. He loved to hunt, fish, hike, ride his Harley and be on the open road. He was most known for always being able to put a smile on anyone's face and leaving such an impression that you could keep on smiling for days.

Please help us celebrate his life on Saturday, January 26, 2019 at the Brewster American Legion, 102 E Main St, at 11 a.m. Come share your stories, smiles, laughter, and tears and help him ride free once again.

DEATH NOTICE

Carol Ann (Clevenger) Nehls

Carol Ann (Clevenger) Nehls, 57, of Carlton, Wash., passed away at home on Jan. 21,2019. Graveside Services will be held at 1 p.m. on Sat., Jan. 26, 2018 at the Malott Cemetery.

Please leave any thoughts and memories for the family at www.barneschapel.com. Barnes Chapel of Brewster is entrusted with the services.

Obituaries and Death Notices also appear online at www.qcherald.com



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COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Senior Center S.A.I.L classes, lunch, Rummage Room

BREWSTER - Hours at the Brewster-Pateros-Bridgeport Senior Center are 8 to 12:45 a.m. Tuesday through Thursday, Donations will be accepted during store hours at the back door or just knock or come on in. They take just about everything except children's clothing. The Center will also take "small pieces of furniture and sometimes larger items. S.A.I.L (Stay Active and Independent for Life) classes are on every Tuesday and Thursday from 10-11 a.m. The Center is hosting Okanogan County Transportation and Nutrition (OCTN) meals Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The suggested donation for those over age 60 is \$4. For those 60 and under the cost is \$8.50. All diners are welcome.

Jan. 24

Red Cross Blood drives

WINTHROP - An American Cross Blood Drive will be held in Winthrop: Jan. 24, 11:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., at the Barn, 51 Highway 20. **How to donate blood:** Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at checkin. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Jan. 25

School Retirees Assn. to meet

OMAK - Okanogan County School Retirees' Association meets 11:15 a.m., Friday, Jan. 25 for a no-host luncheon meeting at Roadhouse 97, 914 Koala St, Omak. Jon Wyss of Brewster, will speak on changes in agriculture and the fruit industry in Okanogan County and Washington State. Information: Jennie Hedington: (509) 422-2954.

Jan. 26

Story Time at library

Saturday story time

BRIDGEPORT - The Washington Reading Corps Program holds a story time at the Bridgeport Public Library every Saturday morning at 10 a.m. Story Times will be for the school year and reading will be in English. For more information call Molly Westlund at (509) 449-2009.

Jan. 28

TOPS® meeting

BREWSTER - TOPS® (Take Off Pounds Sensibly®) meets every week on Monday at 10 a.m. at Brewster Boys and Girls Club, located at 601 Cliff Ave W., Brewster. Visitors are always welcome (preteens, teens, and adults - male and female). First meeting is free. TOPS Club, Inc. ® is an affordable, nonprofit, weight-loss support and wellness education organization with thousands of associate chapters in the United States and

DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF

Jan. 14

Suspicious incident at 107 Whitlam Ave. on Bridgeport Bar.

Jan. 16 Suspicious incident at 76 Gun Club Road on Bridgeport Bar.

Jan.17 Agency assistance at 1100 Hayes Rd. in Mansfield.

Hazard at the 1100 block of Douglas Avenue in Bridgeport.



Jan. 30

Community Action Council to meet

OKANOGAN - The Okanogan County Community Action Council Board of Directors will hold their Regular Board Meeting Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2019, at 5:15 p.m. at Community Action, 424 S. 2nd Avenue, Okanogan. The public is invited and encouraged to attend. "Leading a revolt on poverty through Education, Empowerment, and Engagement" If you have questions or need additional information please contact Lael Duncan at OCCAC, (509) 422-4041.

Jan. 30/yoga, Feb. 12/meeting

Cancer Support Group, yoga class

- CHELAN The Women's Wellness Group, cancer support group, meets the second Tuesday of each month with lunch provided by the Wenatchee Wellness Place, at the Lake Chelan Community Hospital Board Room at 11:45 a.m. For more information, contact Anne at 682-8718.
- Wellness/Restorative yoga, a guided practice of gentle yoga postures and movement designed for cancer survivors, individuals living with acute or chronic illnesses, and caregivers is available at no charge. This class is held each Wednesday at 3:45 p.m. at Yogachelan. Contact Yogachelan for more information.

Feb. 6

Brewster Chamber to meet

BREWSTER - The regular Brewster Chamber of Commerce meeting will be held Wednesday, Feb. 6, 9-10 a.m. at the Columbia Post 97 American Legion building at 102 N. Third Street in Brewster. All are welcome to join them for community updates, lively discussions and business education opportunities. For information: Mike Mauk, (509) 593-0771.

Feb. 8, 15

Brewster area monthly bus trips to Omak and Wenatchee

BREWSTER - OCTN takes Brewster area residents to Wenatchee

for the day, every second Friday of the month. Next trip will be Feb. 8. The bus starts picking folks up at their homes at 7:30 a.m. Riders may request the destination(s); typically, it will be medical appointments, the mall, Walmart, a restaurant and so on. On the third Friday of each month, Feb. 15, riders will be taken to Omak for the day. Again, riders request their destination(s) and make a day of socializing, shopping and errands. 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). Call (509) 826-4391 to reserve your seat.

Submitting your Bulletin Board item

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: Monday at 5 p.m. Be sure and include Date, time, place and cost if any.



OBITUARY & MEMORIAL POLICIES

NCW MEDIA, INC.

An **obituary** is a way for family member(s) to commemorate a loved one's life and to notify the larger community of the deceased. Obituaries are also used for historical and ancestral data.

Memorials are another way of letting the community know about the life and memories of the person who has died. 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 no later than Friday by 4:00 p.m. to be placed in the next available issue(s). Please call for cost of an obituary and which NCW paper(s) that it will be placed in to.

Cost of the obituary/ memorial is due at the time of placement. Funeral homes and chapels can submit obituaries by Noon on Monday, unless a holiday.

Obituaries are priced per word while Memorial ads are per column-inch.

For info call Ruth 509-682-2213, or email ruthk@lakechelanmirror.com

DIRECTORY



CITY CHURCH GUIDE

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

BREWSTER • BRIDGEPORT • PATEROS

BREWSTER

BREWSTER

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

CHURCH AND SCHOOL Saturday Bible Study 9:30 a.m. 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 Ryan Kilgore

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

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

BREWSTER

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

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. Kevin Moore, Pastor

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 possíble." -Matthew 19:26



TO PLACE YOUR CHURCH INFORMATION OR SPECIAL EVENT **IN THE CHURCH GUIDE CALL RUTH 682-2213**



Photos by Mike Maltais The Shockers' Kody Angus (red) get a shot rejected during action at Pateros last Saturday, Jan. 19.

Nannies fall by 34

Pateros splits non-league home stand against CW2B Shockers

By Mike Maltais Staff writer

PATEROS – The Billygoats and Nannies varsity basketball teams split a home stand against the visiting Waterville-Mansfield Shockers last Saturday, Jan. 19, with the boys winning by 15 points, 58-43, and the girls losing, 51-17.

"We were able to pressure Waterville and force them to turn (the ball) over 16 times," said Billygoats head coach Marcus Stennes. "We also were able to transition those turnovers into baskets."

In all, eight Billygoats contributed to the scoring as sophomore forward Ethan Wall and junior guard Ivan Ceniceros led in double figures with 13 and 10 points respectively.

"We distributed the ball well





Miriam Garcia, 1, goes after a loose ball.

First CW2B league loss

Liberty Bell tolls out coldshooting Lady Bears, 43-39

By Mike Maltais Staff writer

BREWSTER – One of only two schools that came within three points of beating the Lady Bears varsity basketball team earlier this season got the job done the second time around last Friday, Jan. 18, when the Liberty Bell Lady Mountain Lions defeated Brewster, 43-39, on the Lady Bears' home court.

Behind the seven firstquarter points of freshman Jadyn Mitchell, Liberty Bell took a four-point, 12-8 lead in the opening eight minutes. Through the second quarter Liberty Bell padded its lead with another two points on five baskets while the Lady Bears experienced cold shooting with only three buckets from two-point range and a pair of three throws.

The anticipated momentum shift that often marks a second half rally did not show up in the third quarter as both teams exchanged point-for-point and both stayed in single digit territory. Trailing 31-24 going into the fourth quarter the Lady Bears made a run at

Liberty Bell with junior for-

ward Sammi Emigh leading

range around the perimeter

of the basket and scored 11 of

Brewster's 15 fourth-quarter

points including three-of-

four on a technical foul to

pull the Lady Bears within

two baskets of the leaders.

Brewster was unable to close

the gap despite some good

looks from the field. Emigh

led all scorers with 15 points.

Mitchell scored 11 for Lib-

Emigh began finding her

the way.



ABOVE: Sammi Emigh, 34, hit several fourth quarter shots from around the key. BELOW: Mikenna Keloman gets by Liberty Bell's Tommie

BELOW: Mikenna Kelpman gets by Liberty Bell's Tommie Ochoa for a basket.

with our balanced scoring," Stennes said.

Pateros led at all stops during the game beginning with a 19-15 first-quarter lead and build that to 32-23 at halftime. The Billygoats had their largest lead at the end of the third quarter, 48-31, and only allowed the Shockers to shave that margin by two points at the final buzzer.

It was the first non-league meeting this season between the Central Washington 2B league Shockers and the CW1B Billygoats. The Waterville-Mansfield boys have been struggling this season to rise in the CW2B ranks and currently stand eighth among nine teams with a 2-9 league record. The Billygoats are chasing Moses Lake Christian and Riverside Christian in the CW1B and will get a shot at the second-place Crusaders this Friday.

"We now focus our efforts to a big game," said Stennes of the upcoming RC game. "We need a big performance to redeem ourselves from our loss there in December."

In their first meeting at RC Dec. 18, the Billygoats came out on the short end of a 51-43 final score.

Pateros: 19-13-16-10 58 W-M: 15-8-8-12 43

Pateros stats Ethan Wall: 13 points, 10 rebounds. Ivan Ceniceros: 10 pts, 9 reb, 5 steals. Ethan Freels: 9 pts, 5 assists. Sam Larsen: 8 pts, 7 asst. Andrew Gonzalez: 7 pts, 5 reb.



ABOVE: Jillian Piechalski (white) puts up a shot guarded by W-M defender Meredith Middlestaedt (5).

BELOW: The Lady Shockers' Elizabeth Katovich, 10, shoots from the foul line over Samantha White, 22.



forced dozens of Pateros turn-

overs that the Lady Shockers

converted into points. The Lady

Shockers opened the first quar-

ter with a 17-point 20-3 lead and

held the Nannies to single-digit

scoring through every quarter while hitting in double digits

themselves in all but the final

Waterville-Mansfield showed

the balance that has rewarded it

with a 9-3 record and third place

in the CW2B behind Brewster

to Tonasket on Friday, Jan. 25,

and host Oroville on Saturday,

W-M: 20-12-13-6 51

Pateros: 3-5-3-7 17

The Shockers teams travel

and Liberty Bell.

period.

Jan. 26.

Aiden Hall: 5 pts, 4 reb. Jeremy Piechalski: 3 pts, 2 reb. Omar Mota: 3 pts. Tag Easter: 7 reb, 5 asst. Max Ewing: 2 reb.

Nannies fall by 34 The Nannies could not come up with an answer to the Waerty Bell. The loss does not topple 11-1 Brewster from first place in the Central Washington and elevates 9-2 Liberty Bell to second place ahead of Waterville-Mansfield (9-3) and Lake Roosevelt (8-3).

Earlier on Tuesday, Jan. 15, the Lady Bears easily handled the Oroville Hornets on the road, 52-21, and defeated non-league Kittitas-Thorp, 60-34, in girls-only basketball last Saturday, Jan. 19.

The Lady Bears host 4-7 Soap Lake at 6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 25, and meet Lake Roosevelt on the road, Tuesday, Jan. 29.

Brewster: 8-8-8-15 39 LBHS: 12-10-9-12 43 Brewster scoring: Sammi Emigh: 15



Michaun Kelpman: 10 Brooklynne Boesel: 5 Mikenna Kelpman: 4 Kimberly Nila: 3 Cynthia Sanchez: 2 Miriam Garcia Kelsey Ochoa Alexia Hurtado Anah Wulf Victoria Sanchez



Billygoats bump CCA, lose by chin whisker to MCLA

BY MIKE MALTAIS STAFF WRITER

WENATCHEE - The Billygoats varsity basketball team split a pair of road games last week, beating the team trailing them in the Central Washington 1B league, but losing to the CW1B leaders.

Cascade Christian Academy, currently fifth in the CW1B with a 1-5 league record, could not keep pace with Pateros from the opening basket on Monday, Jan. 14. The Billygoats took a nine-point lead in the first quarter while holding CCA to single digits and did the same in the second, to ride a 14-point advantage into the locker room.

CCA played the third quarter with a purpose, outscoring Pateros by three points but not enough to take the lead. The Billygoats matched CCA point for point through the

fourth quarter to emerge the winners, 43-31.

Sam Larsen and Ethan Wall hit in double figures for the Billygoats with 16 and 12 points respectively. Wall also pulled down 14 rebounds.

Coach Marcus Stennes said while his team struggled with ball control and 23 turnovers, the Billygoats held CCA to a single shot on most scoring attempts and ruled the board on defensive rebounds.

Pateros: 13-12-8-10 43

CCA: 4-5-11-11 31 Pateros stats Sam Larsen: 16 points, 7 rebounds. Ethan Wall: 12 pts, 14 reb. Andres Gonzalez: 9 pts, 4 reb, 5 steals

Tag Easter: 2 pts, 5 stl. Jeremy Piechalski: 2 pts, 3 assists. Aiden Hall: 2 pts, 5 reb. Ivan Ceniceros: 8 reb. Max Ewing: 1 reb Ethan Freels: DNP Omar Mota

MLCA by a point

MOSES LAKE – Games don't get much closer than the double-overtime duel that greeted Pateros on the home court of the Moses Lake Christian Academy Lions last Thursday, Jan. 17.

'We couldn't hit a shot in the first half going 5-33," said Stennes, "but luckily we were getting defensive stops and able to hold them to 18 points.'

Pateros took a narrow threepoint 21-17 lead into the half and saw that margin shrink to a one point, 36-35 by the end of the third quarter. From that point the two teams tied more than one on the way to a 52-all score at the final bell.

"We had an opportunity in the first overtime with free throws but came up short," said Stennes, "and then broke down defensively to let them score and force a second overtime."

The first OT ended with the score knotted at 54.

"The second overtime went back and forth, and we had the last shot to win it but came up short," Stennes said.

Ethan Freels led Pateros with 27 points. Wall and Ivan Ceniceros each added 10. Wall had another big rebounding night with 15.

The win moved Moses Lake Christian to 5-1 to retain its hold on first place. Pateros will meet second place Riverside Christian at home next Friday, Jan. 25, in a game that will decide the pecking order of the CW1B's top three teams.

"This will be a very big game

for us," said Stennes, "and a must win to continue to try to seal a home site for first round of districts."

In their first meeting this season on RC's home court, Dec. 18, the Crusaders won, 51-43, and are currently ranked second in the CW1B with a 4-1 record.

Pateros: 8-7-21-16 52 (OT) 54 64 MLCA: 12-6-17-17 52 (OT) 54 65 Pateros stats

E. Freels: 27 pts, 6 reb, 5 asst. E. Wall: 10 pts, 15 reb. Gonzalez: 10 pts, 4 reb. T. Easter: 7 pts, 5 asst. S. Larsen: 6 pts, 4 reb. A. Hall: 6 pts, 3 reb. I. Ceniceros: 5 pts. 5 reb. J. Piechalski: 2 reb.

M. Ewing

O. Mota

Nannies win

The Nannies varsity basketball team remains in the driver's seat in the CW1B with a 6-1 record after getting a forfeit win over CCA, drubbing Easton on the road, 66-14, and stopping MLCA, 41-24. The only teams that can threaten the Pateros girls, Riverside Christian and Entiat, will play the Nannies at home on Friday, Jan. 25 (RCA), and Tuesday, Jan. 29 (Entiat).

The Billygoats and Nannies were scheduled to host Waterville-Mansfield in non-league action, Saturday, Jan. 19.

The persecution of Tim Eyeman continues

If you are going to challenge the political system be sure you have a lot of money and the help of a major law firm. Otherwise, you are in for a fight you cannot win.

It appears Attorney General Bob Ferguson continues his legal persecution of political activist Tim Eyman. Last week he requested the court declare Eyman's attorney unqualified to represent Eyman.

It seems the AG has invoked the nuclear option by convincing the court to declare no individual practitioner can keep up with the army of lawyers employed by the state. So only hours before he was to appear in court Eyman found himself without legal council.

It has been said that anyone who chooses to represent themself in court has a fool for a client. The problem is Eyman did not choose to represent himself he was forced to by the very people who have filed the actions against him.

Of course he lost the hearing grounds on procedural that he didn't follow proper court procedures. Of course he didn't. Eyman is not an attorney.

The goal of all of this appears to be nothing more than an attempt to silence Eyman. A blatant attempt to strip Eyman of his civil rights under our Constitution.

Ferguson is using the Campaign Finance Laws to persecute Eyman. Claiming Eyman did not file proper reports with the Public Disclosure Commission. The suit is for \$2.1 million dollars and a lifetime ban from participating in any political activity. It has forced Evman



The problem is the penalty far outweighs other suits by the AG's office for similar violations of Campaign Finance law. A review of the Attorney General's website regarding enforcement action against campaign finance law violations shows the action against Eyman is remarkable. Only one other claim exceeds the amount sought against Eyman. That was against the Grocery Manufacturers Association for \$19.1 million. The next closest claim was against the Washington Association Education for \$975,000. The other 32 cases listed averaged \$74,609 including AGO costs for prosecuting the cases.

In December of 2017 The Spokesman Review ran a story about how Campaign Finance complaints were becoming the newest political weapon in Washington politics. Bob Ferguson's assault on Tim Eyman is moving that weapon from the big money politics of labor unions and political parties to individual citizens who are simply seeking to petition their government for redress of their grievances.

That is unconstitutional. As the chief legal officer for the state, Attorney General Robert (Bob) Ferguson should know that.

There is another political

bring suit against Ferguson for violation of the very Campaign Finance laws he is charging Tim Eyman with violating. Glen Morgan of WeTheGoverned.com has filed 14 claims of violation of Campaign Finance Laws by Ferguson according to a story on his website.

There is no reason that individual citizens should need to hire a major law firm to represent them when they are simply exercising their Constitutionally protected rights.

It is time for political activists and organizations that claim to support holding government accountable to come together to support Tim Eyman. Organizations like Glen Morgan's WeTheGoverned and The Freedom Foundation need to call on Ferguson, Governor Inslee and both political parties to end this travesty.

The suit needs to be dropped. The state needs to agree to pay for Eyman's current legal costs and Attorney General Bob Ferguson needs to resign. It is the only fair solution to this egregious abuse of an ordinary citizen.

In light of the Supreme Court Decision in Citizens United there is some question about the legality of the entire Campaign Finance Law and the Public Disclosure Commission. That law was passed as a result of a citizen's initiative but now is being used as a political weapon not a tool for citizens to make more informed decisions.

In light of the travesty being perpetrated on Tim Evman as a result of this law it may be time for an Initiative to

Bears bounce easy win off visiting Liberty Bell



ABOVE: Ricky Vazquez gets an easy two. BELOW: Alfredo Nila tries a shot from the side.

BY MIKE MALTAIS STAFF WRITER

BREWSTER - While the Lady Bears suffered their first league loss this season to Liberty Bell in the Central Washington 2B last Friday, Jan. 18, the Brewster boys had no such problem as they cruised to a 64-20 home win over the struggling Mountain Lions.

The Bears led from the opening tip-off and held Liberty Bell to single-digit scoring through all four quarters while Brewster hit in double figures in all but the final quarter.

The Mountain Lions got off many good shot attempts but could not connect on a large majority of their shots and the Bears quickly converted defensive rebounds to scores on the opposite end of the court.

Corey Jarrell had the hot hand for Brewster with 18 points while just about every other player on the 12-man roster scored in single figures.

Starting with a 15-point lead in the first quarter the Bears continually built on that advantage, adding another 20 in the second quarter and 15 in the third.

The win leaves the Bears at

11-1 on top of the CW2B while Liberty Bell is seventh at 2-9. The Bears host Soap Lake

at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 25, and travel to Lake Roosevelt on Tuesday, Jan. 29.



activist who has promised to disband the PDC. to file for bankruptcy.

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HELP WANTED

Brewster School District is accepting applications for a Head High School Girls Varsity Softball Coach.

qualified applicant The will be placed on the Coaches Salary Schedule according to verified paid coaching experi-Applications are ence. available on the district's website: www.brewsterbears.org or by contacting the disltrict office 509-689-3418. This position is open until filled.

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Located in Chelan WA Will be accepting applications for a full time Administrative Assistant/ Receptionist position February 1, 2019. Start-ing wage \$18.00 to \$20.00 an hour DOE. benefit generous Α package that includes medical/dental, retire ment, and life insurance. Application and information available at 232 East Wapato Avenue 0 download at www.chelan7.com (Operations/ employment-volunteer/) information for more contact Faye Barker at fayeb@cfr7.org or call 509-682-4476

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

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Fast Track application process and information

can be found on our website at: www.cascadesed.org EOE



Front Office Receptionist The Leavenworth Echo Newspaper is looking for an outgoing individual to serve as a receptionist Monday- Friday. 9-5. A qualified individual will answer phones, take classified and legal ads, and other office duties

qualified

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

2018-19 Budget Hearing

Notice is hereby given that Brewster School District No. Brewster 111/203J is preparing to make changes to the 2018-19 Transportation Vehicle Fund Budget. The Board of Directors will meet on January 28, 2019 at 6:50 p.m., in the high school library for the purpose of updating and adopting these changes for the current fiscal year. Any person may appear at this time and be heard for or against any change. The regular monthly board meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m., following the budget hearing. By order of the Board of Di-rectors, Eric Driessen, Superintendent.

Published in the Quad City Her-ald January 17 and 24, 2019. #84000

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PUBLIC NOTICES

B4

Request for Statement of Qualifications

The Town of Mansfield is inviting Statements of Qualifica-tions and performance information from firms interested in providing professional engineering, architectural and land surveying services for the 2019-2021 calendar years in conjunction with town sponsored projects. The Town projects for which serv-The ices are sought may include: In-Improvements. frastructure Improvements, Roadway and planning studies.

Qualifications and performance statements will be reviewed and placed on file for the 2019-2021 calendar years. These qualifica-tions will be used as the source from which to select qualified firms to complete projects. Proposal Elements

proposal is limited to fif-(15) double-sided pages Each teen (excluding cover and dividers), and should present the team qualifications for projects and identify the following:

The Project Team, including Sub-consultants, exper-tise and experience with similar projects including designing Infrastructure projects, streets, sidewalks, water, public sani tary sewer, and storm drainage facilities. Include the following: *Project Name

*Location

*Brief description of the project *Firms role in the project *Project reference and contact phone number

The Projects Team's ap proach to the engineering and architectural projects.

Project The Team's proach to coordinating with the Town.

Qualifications of the proposed Project Team members, including any sub-consultants for the design efproposed fort and their availability

A description of experience in working with the public sector and elected officials in small communities.

A description of experience in working on projects and with state and/or federal funding. Firms shall submit three (3) copies of their qualificabound tions.

Selection of Process and **Evaluation Criteria**

A committee of City personnel will evaluate and rate the proposals to these criteria:

1. Project team experience with similar projects. (15%) Project team experience federally funded projects. with

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BUSINESSJOURNAL

NCW

• New distance requirements for marijuana businesses in Washington

· A proposed bill could shield children from marijuana

Lawmakers aim to keep

dispensaries away from places frequented by children

By MADELINE COATS WNPA OLYMPIA NEWS BUREAU

OLYMPIA - The House Committee on Commerce and Gaming took up a bill that would include preschools and school bus stops within the buffer requirements of

state-licensed marijuana businesses.

House Bill 1003, introduced by Rep. Brad Klippert, R-Kennewick, would further restrict marijuana businesses from operating in areas frequently visited by children.

The Liquor and Cannabis Board is barred from issuing a marijuana license to any business within 1,000 feet of an elementary or secondary school, playground, recreation center, child care center, public park, public transit center or library.

This bill would also prohibit

the board from issuing or renewing a license for any locations within 1,000 feet of any preschool or bus stop.

Lawmakers propose law to shield children from marijuana

Seth Dawson testified in general support of the legislation on behalf of the Washington Association for Substance Abuse.

The negative effect of marijuana on youth brain development and his desire for children to be protected from advertising near bus stops and institutions prompted the bill.

"I have six schools that I am responsible for and kids are a

passion of mine," Klippert said during the hearing. "Protecting them is my life's goal."

Klippert is a law enforcement officer and also serves as a school resource officer. He has taught kids about the dangerous effects of marijuana for many years.

Klippert filed HB 1003 on behalf of one of his constituents.

He explained times he walked into homes and found parents legally smoking marijuana while they still had children in diapers. Klippert ended the testimony by telling the story of a boy who smoked marijuana before school, at lunch and after school. Stopping improved the adolescent's grades and life substantially, he said.

The location of pot shops close to bus stops has been a hot-button issue in Klippert's district for a couple years.

According to the bill, this act is necessary for the health and safety of public institutions.

The bill contains an emergency clause and would take effect immediately if signed into law.

Creation of State Broadband Office focus for Gov. Inslee

 New agency aims to make internet access statewide · Wide rural and tribal support

By Emma Epperly WNPA OLYMPIA NEWS BUREAU

OLYMPIA - The creation of a Statewide Broadband Office and an initial investment of \$25 million into getting broadband into "every nook and cranny" was announced by Governor Jay Inslee on Wednesday.

"We know the reality on the

ground is that there are just too many places that do not have access," said Inslee. "So, we know that fundamentally the digital divide should not and will not be able to divide those haves and have nots when it comes to digital and broadband access.

Inslee's proposal targets extending the reach of broadband through a variety of programs, including partnerships with public and private providers.

Inslee gave a press conference on his broadband initiative that included Sen. Lisa Wellman, D-Mercer Island, and Rep. Zack Hudgins, D-Tukwila, who will sponsor the bill along with Sen. Shelly Short, R-Addy. The conference also included Washington State Public Works Board Chair Scott Hutsell, Harrington Mayor Justin Slack, and Colville Tribal Council Member Susie Allen.

Slack is a telecommuter for the bank he works for on the west side of the state. He told how access to broadband

changed not only his life but the town of Harrington.

"It's been great. You know, our schools use the internet. Kids come to the library, they sit out front of our city hall, they come to the coffee shop so they can use the internet, after school- after hours," said Slack.

Increased economic opportunity, access to telemedicine, and educational resources are among other issues mentioned by Inslee as key reasons access to broadband improves rural communities.

Inslee believes a small but focused Statewide Broadband Office is necessary to get results on this issue. The office would be under the Department of Commerce and cost \$1.2 million. The governor also proposed a separate capital funding to create a grant and loan program, administered by the Public Works Board. The board would also award funding for research in to feasibility and strategic planning.

Bring Back Our \$30 Car Tabs' initiative could be on ballot

Specifies flat \$30 for Car Tabs

Would limit additional fees

BY EMMA EPPERLY WNPA OLYMPIA NEWS BUREAU

OLYMPIA - "Bring Back Our \$30 Car Tabs," an initiative that would limit annual motorvehicle registration fees to \$30 except for voter-approved charges, was sent to the Legislature for consideration by the Secretary of State.

Initiative 976 received enough signatures to potentially make it to the November 2019 ballot. The initiative can take three different pathways by either being approved as is by Legislators, by Legislators passing on the initiative and it being voted on by the public, or by Legislators passing an alternative, in which case voters would choose between the

I- 976 also would repeal, reduce, or remove the ability to impose a variety of vehicle taxes and fees except for those that are voter approved. It would also require the use of Kelley Blue Book values as a basis for vehicle taxes.

Tim Eyman is the lobbyist behind the initiative, who has been proposing and passing a variety of initiatives since 1999 with Initiative 695: Washington Voter

Approval for Tax Increases. I 695 limited license tab fees to \$30 and was overturned by the Washington Supreme Court in 2000 because it was not limited to one subject, a requirement of all initiatives.

Eyman wants I-976 to pass "so that every vehicle owner in the state of Washington would write a check for 30 dollars each year to register their vehicle and cap it so

that state government can't jack it up and local government can't jack it up," he said.

According to Eyman, 61 cities in Washington have imposed vehicle fees.

Eyman has proposed a host of bills that all get at one issue. "Big picture, it's less about the money and more about respecting the decisions voters make," said Eyman.

Taxation with representation: Senate holds hearing on capital gains tax

Traditional retirement

accounts would be exempt Small businesses sales would be taxed

BY SEAN HARDING WNPA OLYMPIA NEWS BUREAU

OLYMPIA - People representing small business owners and low income workers had plenty to say at a public hearing Wednesday on Gov. Jay Inslee's proposal to impose a state capital gains tax.

Thirty-three individuals testified before the Senate Ways & Means Committee. Those in favor of the tax noted that Washington's current state tax system unfairly and disproportionately strains the budgets of low-income wage earners. Others were concerned that taxing proceeds from selling off a small business to fund a retirement could hurt retirees.

Profits from the sales of residences, property used in a trade or business, cattle, livestock, timber and agricultural lands, and traditional retirement accounts would be exempt from the proposed tax. Small business sales are not exempt, which some said is their primary source of retirement, despite earning an

and small businesses. And it's going to devastate them if they have to write a check for 9 percent of what their business is worth to the governor."

Inslee's proposal would tax long-term capital gains over \$25,000, and \$50,000 for joint filers at 9 percent, starting in 2020 and would add about \$975 million to the state's coffers. The governor's proposed two-year budget has an operating fund of \$54.4 billion, with money set aside for goals that include mental health reform, measures to save Puget Sound orcas, as well as initiatives to combat climate change, according to the Office of Financial Management. In Washington state, capital gains accounted for about 9 percent of total income reported on federal income tax returns, according to briefing materials presented at the hearing.

"Imagine somebody that has a regular salary. Has \$1 million in their 401k plan," said Gary Franke, a member of the Washington Association Health Insurance Underwriters. "And being taxed \$85,000."

Last fall, a report from the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy showed that the lowest 20 percent of earners pay almost 18 percent of family income in taxes, while the top one percent pay just three percent in taxes. Multiple people testified that Washington's "upsidedown" tax system needs to

be changed.

"We see people at food banks who are working two or three jobs," said Claire Lane, director of the Anti-Hunger & Nutrition Coalition. "They are hard workers, and they are paying a far bigger share of their income in taxes than people who have a \$1 million profit."

The current tax code is "not only unfair, it's inadequate to meet the needs of our state," said Samantha Grad on behalf of a local chapter of the United Food and Commercial Workers Union. "We need to rebalance our tax code so that we can make investments that create thriving communities with access to opportunity that works for all of us."

two versions in November.

average salary. "That's my retirement," said Wayne Lunday, who spoke on behalf of the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors. "That's the retirement of all the NAIFA members that are out there

Lawmakers want to eliminate postage for voters

- · Vote by mail could become postage-free in Washington state
- Free postage for ballots could change the future of voting in Washington state · Could increase voter participation

By MADELINE COATS WNPA OLYMPIA NEWS BUREAU

OLYMPIA - A proposed law requested by Gov. Jay Inslee would provide prepaid postage for all election ballots in the state of Washington.



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Since 2011, all elections in the state have been conducted by mail, leaving voters responsible for paying return postage. Senate Bill 5063, co-sponsored by Sen. Joe Nguyen, D-White Center, and Sen. Bob Hasegawa, D-Beacon Hill, would eliminate that cost.

building those small agencies

Inslee and Secretary of State Kim Wyman combined forces to secure enough funding for statewide ballot return postage in the 2018 primary and general elections. SB 5063 would require

the state to reimburse counties for the cost of return postage on election ballots.

Jay Jennings, legislative director for the Secretary of State, said at a hearing on Wednesday that some county auditor's offices do not have funds to meet the demands placed on them.

"Many county governments across the state face severe budget challenges because of paying for state election cycles," said Jennings. "Every two years takes money away from local services, including fire and safety."

According to the bill, the Legislature finds that voting by mail has many advantages, however, requiring the cost of return postage passes burden on to Washington citizens. The bill is also intended to increase voter turnout by lowering all barriers for voters, including the purchase of stamps.

Mary Hall, auditor for Thurston county, explained the importance of convenience for younger voters.

In the most recent general election, Thurston county had 50 percent of voters send ballots by mail and 50 percent vote by drop box, she said.

"People in college these days don't even know what a stamp is, let alone know where to get one," said Hall. "I think that prepaid postage is going to be critical if we really want to encourage our younger voters to participate in our democratic process."



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