



Cashmere Valley Record

A Ward Media Publication

Serving the Cashmere Valley since 1907

Volume 117 · No.4

January 24, 2024

cashmerevalleyrecord.com

Single Copy \$1.00

Cashmere Chamber seeks new board members and chamber manager

By Quinn Propst

Ward Media Staff Reporter

CASHMERE –The Cashmere Chamber board is looking for new board members and hopes to hire a new chamber manager/director in the near future.

"We're actively looking for more people to join the board," board president Kevin Carney said. "We have talked with a few people, they're trying to make the decision whether they can make the commitment or not."

"And yes, we are actively looking for a manager/director for the (Chamber)," he said.

Carney hopes to have the job description for the chamber manager/director posted this week.

The chamber board is still working out the title for the new manager or director. Whatever the title is, the new chamber employee will have to wear many hats. The manager or director will be an event coordinator, a promotional person, and the face of the chamber to all of the Cashmere businesses and the community as a whole, Carney said.

The job will be a 30-hour-a-week position. The chamber is looking for a person who is proficient in office work, marketing and social media, grant writing and event coordinating.

The chamber has been operating without a paid employee since the previous manager left the position in October. Board members and volunteers have been able to keep the chamber going, but Carney hopes to have a new manager in place as soon as possible.

The board usually operates with about a dozen members but has lost members to promotions, time constraints, and moves.

"In January '23, we had 11 board members," he said. "And January, February of '23, it was pretty active, and everything was going well. And end of February we had some board members move out of the area. Some board members got promotions and couldn't be on the board anymore. And we had a couple of board members that couldn't give the commitment and so they stepped down."

Cashmere resident and CEO of Building NCW, Danielle Martin, was one such board member. She started on the board in 2023 but had to step down when she was promoted to CEO when her boss left the organization.

"I just felt like I couldn't give what the chamber needed at that time, time-wise, energy-wise," Martin said. "I was a staff of one for about four or five months at the organization. I put in 12-hour days. I didn't have time to donate anything to the chamber. And I felt bad, but I was like, I can't give you what you need at this point."

"So as we went through the year, we ended up settling in with five board members. We were able to do all of the events for the year with the five board members. Going into the '24 year, we've got two board members that have stepped away

from the board. So we're down to three board members right now."

A chamber board term is two years, and the monthly time commitment is about 10 hours. However a few board members have been putting in a lot of extra time to keep the chamber's commitments, Carney said.

Most board members are affiliated with a Cashmere area business. If anyone is interested in becoming a board member they can contact a board member, email the chamber or leave a voicemail.

Currently, the chamber office is closed, but a board member checks email and voicemail daily.

Quinn Propst: 509-731-3590 or quinn@ward.media.

Task force proposed to study impacts of artificial intelligence

By Aspen Anderson

Washington State Journal

OLYMPIA - Some fear Artificial Intelligence (AI) might open a dark chapter to a dystopian future. Others say the progress it promises is virtually unlimited.

To find a balance among those concerns, Washington state is considering launching a task force to determine how it can best promote the most beneficial uses while mitigating potential challenges.

Sen. Joe Nguyen, D-White Center, has introduced a bill, SB 5838, that would establish the task force. The bill has 17 Democratic and 2 Republican co-sponsors and the support of Attorney General Bob Ferguson.

"The Legislature is set up to solve yesterday's problems tomorrow... There's probably, I think, over 150 AI bills across the nation," Nguyen said.

The European Union's 2023 AI law set the stage for global discourse on regulation. The Act introduced a tiered approach to regulate artificial intelligence based on risk levels.

It identifies "unacceptable risk" in AI systems and bans them, with some exceptions for law enforcement. The act prohibits AI technology that engages in "social scoring," which involves categorizing people based on

behavior, socio-economic status, or personal characteristics.

"High-risk" AI systems undergo assessments before market entry and throughout their lifecycle, while general-purpose and generative AI, like ChatGPT, must comply with transparency requirements that require people to disclose whenever they use ChatGPT.

Drawbacks of the regulation include possible limits on innovation and the challenge of defining and categorizing AI systems accurately.

AI legislation has been introduced in 25 U.S. states. Task forces or commissions have been launched by officials in Colorado, Illinois, Vermont, and Virginia.

SB 5838, if passed, would establish a task force this year as long as state budget writers allocate funds — roughly \$1.5 million over the next four years, according to the bill's fiscal note. The task force's 42 members, spanning public and private sectors, will be charged with providing insights on racial equity, regulatory proposals and innovation support. The task force would include one member each from the Senate and the House.

"Oftentimes, it is difficult to fill workgroups, or task forces that the Legislature passes. This is not one of those cases. In fact, we have to trim it down a little bit," Nguyen said.

Joyce Bruce, the Attorney General's legislative director, testified in support of the bill.

"ChatGPT has become one of the fastest growing AI applications of all time. Washington has been on the cutting edge of innovation and technology," Bruce said.

Seattle ranks second nationally in AI talent concentration. Ferguson emphasized the need to embrace this technology thoughtfully.

Some, however, worry too much regulation might hurt the ability of firms to develop new products.

"We should not be in the practice of interrupting technology and innovation," said Kelly Fukai, vice president of Government Community Affairs at the Washington Technology Industry Association.

Concerned citizen Eric Pratt echoed those thoughts.

"We might impede on the public's ability to utilize (the technology's) full potential," he said. "When you use words like regulation and task force, it starts to get my concerns elevated... You're trying to take away powerful tools," Pratt said.

The task force is set to convene semi-annually. It would provide its first report by Dec. 1, 2025, and a final report by June 1, 2027

report by June 1, 2027.
Sen. Lisa Wellman, D-Mercer Island, said she hoped the task force would report more frequently.

"One of the things that we're missing is to have a trusted source providing us with information as a public about what is happening," she said." I would really like this group to be putting out more frequent reports."

If the bill passes, the task force will first meet Dec. 31, 2024.

The Washington State Journal is a non-profit news website funded by the Washington Newspaper Publishers Association Foundation. Learn more at wastatejournal.org.



ASPEN ANDERSON / WASHINGTON STATE JOURNAL used application that uses artificial intelligence.

ChatGPT is a widely used application that uses artificial intelligence.

The state Legislature is considering forming a task force to examine the promise and the peril of new technology.

Victims push for legislation against police deception in interrogations

By Aspen Anderson & Mary Murphy

Washington State Journal

OLYMPIA - Amanda Knox, the Seattle resident who spent nearly four years in an Italian prison for a murder she did not commit, offered heartfelt testimony Jan. 8 in favor of a bill that would prevent law enforcement officers from using deception during interrogations.

"I was interrogated overnight by police officers who claimed to have evidence against me, who claimed that there were witnesses who could place me at the crime scene," Knox said. "They lied to me. I did not know they could lie to me... These are people who I was raised to believe that I could trust."

Knox was testifying in favor of HB1062, a bill now being debated in the state Legislature. The measure

See **VICTIMS** Page **B3**



Testifying in favor of a bill to stop deception in interrogations are, from left: Lara Zarowsky, the Executive Director of the Washington Innocence Project; Ted Bradford, the first person in Washington to be exonerated by DNA evidence; and Amanda Knox, a victim of false conviction.

Cashmere Schools propose replacement levy for next four years

By Quinn Propst Ward Media Staff Reporter

CASHMERE – The Cashmere School District is proposing a February 2024 Levy to replace the expiring 2020 voter-approved levy, which ends in February.

The Educational Programs and Operations or EP&O Levy helps to pay for things that are not funded or are underfunded by the state.

A school levy is a community-based funding initiative designed to support student-centered programs, services, and staffing that may not be fully covered by state and federal funds.

"Levies support learning, essentially," school board member Aaron Bessonette said. "It's kind of the easy way to remember that levies support learning and bonds support buildings, right, you know, for construction and things."

for construction and things."

"So the levies are very important because of the dollars that we get go toward a lot of our different programs in the schools, textbooks, curriculum, even our safety and security programs, special education, arts, drama, music, you know, a lot of technology, a lot of different aspects the education that we provide is

funded by levy dollars and that's why this is so important," Bessonette said.

Cashmere School District
Superintendent Glenn Johnson
stressed how important the levy
and state matching funds are to the

"I think these dollars truly, truly go to impact kids and every kid in our district whether in your class sizes, to safety and security, to the fine arts and drama, to special education," Johnson said. "It touches every single aspect of our district."

Johnson said the most important thing for voters to know is that this levy is not a new tax.

"It's a replacement levy," Johnson said. "And to give you an example, much like if you subscribe to a magazine, you can either let that subscription sunset, or you can renew it, and that's what happens with school levies that when one levy is about to sunset, then you run what's called a replacement levy and that's what we're doing."

If the EP&O Levy is approved by voters, the district will receive an additional \$1.1 million in state funding, but only if the levy is approved.

See **SCHOOLS** Page **B3**

Inside The Record this Week

Things to do This Week	Community Calendar
usiness DirectoryA2	Classifieds
ashmere Middle School A3	Dr. Louise
nurch GuideB4	Legislative Coverage



Phone: 509-548-5286

www.cashmerevalleyrecord.com

© Ward Media, LLC 2024



On the Internet

Website: www.cashmerevalleyrecord.com E-mail: news@ward.media

Office hours

Hours: 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. except weekends, or call 509-548-5286

Contact information

CEO & Publisher

Terry Ward 509-731-3284

terry@ward.media

COO & Co-Owner Amy M. Yaley

> 509-731-3321 amy@ward.media

Multimedia Sales Manager **Sherrie Harlow**

253-255-5920

sherrie@ward.media

Reporter **Quinn Propst**

quinn@ward.media

Circulation 509-293-6780

Deadlines

Calendar Listings Noon, Friday News Submissions: Noon, Friday Letters to the Editor: Noon, Friday 5:00 p.m., Thur. Display Advertising: Legal Notices: Noon Friday Classified Ads: Noon Friday

Subscriptions

In Chelan County (yearly) \$40 For print and online In State-Out of County (yearly) \$50 Online E-edition Out of State

The Cashmere Valley Record does not refund subscription payments except to the extent that it might fail to meet its obligation to publish each week, in which case the cost of the issues missed would be refunded as an extension. Subscriptions may be transferred to another individual or organization.



© Ward Media, LLC prints on recycled newsprint with soy ink. Please recycle.

Letters policy

The Cashmere Valley Record welcomes letters to the editor. All letters must be accompanied by the author's name, a home address and a daytime phone number (for verification purposes only). Letters may be edited for length, clarity, accuracy and fairness. No letter will be published without the author's name. Thank you letters will only be printed from nonprofit organizations and events. We will not publish lists of businesses, or lists of individual names. Email your letters to letters@ward.media.

Corrections

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

News tips

Have an idea for a story? Call the Record at 509-548-5286 email news@ward.media

Classified Advertising

Classified ads can be placed during normal office hours by calling **509-293-6780** or by emailing classifieds@leavenworthecho.com.

Legal Advertising

Legal ads can be placed during normal business hours by calling **509-293-6780** or by emailing

legals@ward.media

Obituaries Obituaries can be placed during normal business hours by calling 509-548-5286 or by emailing

obits@ward.media **Services**

Back Issues are available up to one year after publication for a small fee. Archive Research \$25 per hour

Cashmere Valley Record (USPS 092-600) is published every Wednesday by Ward Media LLC, 29 S. Wenatchee Ave., Suite A, Wenatchee WA 98801

Telephone: 509-548-5286 Periodical postage paid at Leavenworth, Postmaster: Send address corrections to: Cashmere Valley Record 131 S. Apple Blossom Drive #109, Chelan, WA 98816

Classified Weekly Rates

\$15.00 for first 30 words .10 for each additional word over 30 words Borders, bold words, headlines, logos and photos subject to additional charges.

Get your event in the spotlight with Ward Media!

If you have an exciting event to share, email Reporter Quinn Propst at quinn@ward.media. We'll showcase the five most captivating events of the week, giving your event the recognition it deserves. Even if your event isn't among the top five, it will still be added to our events calendar and featured online. Don't miss this chance to make your event shine!

Salsa lessons at Pybus

Pybus Market will host Salsa lessons beginning Wednesday, Jan. 31 from 7 - 9

"Ever wanted to learn how to salsa," the event page states. "Well, now is your big chance. We are kicking off 2024 with four weeks of beginnerfriendly salsa classes. Bring a friend or tell a friend and come solo; we will be dancing in front of the kitchen in the Pybus main concourse."

For more information visit pybuspublicmarket.org.

Trivia night

Ground Control Wenatchee will host trivia night on Wednesday, Jan. 31 from 2 - 3 p.m.

'Join us every Wednesday for Geeks Who Drink trivia," the event page states. "During the month of January there will be a \$2 per person buy-in, with all proceeds benefiting The Brave Warrior Project."

The Brave Warrior Project helps support children with chronic illness, cancer and disabilities.

For more information visit ground control we natchee.com.

Bookmobile at Dispatch Mailroom

Pearl Street Books' bookmobile Wheely will visit Cashmere at the Dispatch Mailroom and The Side Street on Friday, Jan. 26 from noon to 4 p.m.

"Join Wheely at the great new evolving neighborhood hub in Cashmere, The Side Street, featuring the Dispatch Mailroom," the event page

"We'll be sharing more

about the exciting things coming with Wheely and The Side Street hub and we'll have Wheely's great curated collection of books, local chocolates,

For more information visit dispatch mail room.com.

gifts and artisan items,"

the event page states.

Happy Smiles Storytime

The Cashmere Library will host Happy Smiles Storytime on Thursday, Jan. 25 from 10:30 - 11 a.m.

"A fun, interactive time at the Cashmere Library with action songs, fingerplays, rhyming and awesome stories by your favorite librarians,' the event page states. "Following Storytime we

often have a craft or bring out special toys for playtime and for families to socialize."

For more information visit ncwlibraries.org.

Stay and Play Saturday

The Cashmere Library will host Stay and Play Saturday on Saturday, Jan. 27 from 10

upholds the values

we hold dear. Imagine

the difference when

replaced with useful

tips, or criticism with

a welcoming message.

These simple acts of

stranger's uncertainty

into excitement about

becoming part of our

a.m. to 2 p.m.

"Drop into the Cashmere Library for Stay and Play Saturdays," the event page states. "Every Saturday you can choose between creating your own unique LEGO builds, trying out a LEGO Build Challenge, or playing a variety of board games at the library during our open hours from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m."

For WARD Thinking

The strength of kindness to strangers

In the beautiful regions of North Central Washington, our communities are known for their friendly nature and strong neighborly bonds. However, a worrying trend is emerging on social media, where anonymity seems to encourage hostility, especially towards those new to our area or considering moving here.

The character of North

Central Washington is built on inclusivity and friendliness. From the peaceful shores of Lake Chelan to the lively streets of Wenatchee, our region is renowned for welcoming everyone with open arms. As we increasingly interact online, it's crucial that we extend this same friendliness to our virtual conversations.

It's easy to overlook that

there is a real person behind each social media account, often looking for guidance or connection. When someone shows interest in joining our communities, it speaks to the appeal and reputation of our region-a point of pride, not conflict. Each question about moving here should be seen as

a chance to show what North Central Washington is all about - a community spirit, caring neighbors, and an unmatched quality of life.

Responding with kindness and helpful information not only casts our communities in a positive light but also



Ward Ward Media

Publisher

For those who are new or thinking of moving to our beautiful part of Washington, you are considering a region rich in history, community spirit, and natural beauty. And to our long-time residents, let's remember the impact of our words and their power. In a time where online conversations

community.

often lack the personal touch of face-to-face interactions, let's set a positive example.

Our communities are more than just a group of houses and businesses; they are a place where different experiences, backgrounds, and aspirations come together. Welcoming newcomers warmly not only adds to this community but also reinforces what makes North Central Washington a place we all love to call home.

Let's focus on being ambassadors of kindness and understanding in all our interactions, including online. By doing this, we ensure that the spirit of our communities is not only maintained but also strengthened, in both the virtual and real world.

Chelan County to conduct annual homeless survey on Jan. 25

Ward Media / Cashmere Valley Record

WENATCHEE - Chelan and community partners will conduct the annual Homeless Point in Time Count from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 25, at Lighthouse Christian Ministries in Wenatchee, 410

Columbia St. The Department of Housing and Urban Development and Washington State Commerce task communities annually with administering a survey to the unhoused population. The information gathered from people who are experiencing homelessness on the day of the event is used to demonstrate the need for homeless housing services in the community and

across the nation, explained Amber Hallberg, Chelan housing program coordinator and a coordinator of the outreach event.

"Not only is it important at a national level to know what the need is, but it also helps local policymakers make better informed decisions on what direction the community needs to move in with affordable housing," Hallberg said. "Doing this event each year can likely give us an indication of where we are headed as a community."

Surveys conducted by outreach teams aim to collect information on individual's living situations, including how long someone has been without a permanent home, where they sleep, where

they are from and whether or not they had been denied access to a shelter or would go to a shelter if available. Demographic questions are also asked, including age, race, gender, veteran status, the number of children under 18 in the household and if they were fleeing domestic violence.

In addition to the centralized event at Lighthouse Christian Ministries in Wenatchee, staff from various nonprofits who work with the unhoused out throughout Chelan and Douglas counties to speak to people on the street and provide them resources. Chelan Valley HOPE in Chelan will cover the Chelan Valley and Northern Douglas County and Upper Valley MEND in

Cascade School District service area and Cashmere. Upper Valley MEND and Chelan Valley HOPE will also have a centralized site for people in their respective locations to be interviewed and get connected to services. At this event in 2023, 121

Leavenworth will cover the

people were interviewed. Of those interviewed, 105 people were unsheltered, meaning they were living outdoors, in a vehicle or RV, in an abandoned building or in a tent or other outdoor area not meant for habitation. In addition, 368 people were recorded staying in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs or in a hotel through an emergency hotel/motel voucher program.

The local event also allows housing services providers and other service-based nonprofits an opportunity to communicate directly with people in need of their services while providing resources, including backpacks, gloves, socks, hand warmers, food and more, to people in need who participate in the survey. The backpacks full of supplies are being provided by Community Action Council, in partnership with Chelan County.

Community Health Mobile Clinic will be on site at Lighthouse Ministries to provide access to medical professionals for those needing medical, mental health and substance use disorder services

For the latest local news and advertising see the Ward Media websites

leavenworthecho.com

qcherald.com

cashmerevalleyrecord.com

lakechelanmirror.com

Business & Service Directory Add your business or service to this directory: 509-548-5286



CLOG-FREE GUTTERS FOREVER

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE 1-888-360-1582

Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pr Sun: 2pm-8pm FST

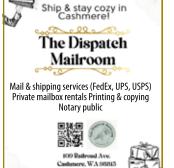














SULFUR, WHOLE HOUSE FILTERS, PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE, SERVICE, SALT SALES

Tumwater Drilling and Pump Inc.

Community Calendar

Wednesday

Cashmere Rotary Club, meets at Cashmere Presbyterian Church hall, noon. President Mark Shorb. 509-885-0676.

Mission Creek Community Club, meets every month, 7 p.m. (1st

Cashmere Food Bank, open 2nd and 4th Wednesday from 3-4 p.m. Cashmere Food Distribution Center, 316 River St., for more information, call Pam, 509-245-6464

for more information, call Pam, 509-245-6464

Ukulele Circle, Join the Ukulele Circle, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. every
Wednesday, at the Peshastin Library. Please come 15
minutes early to tune and get the sheet music.

Thursday

Caregiver Support Group, 2-3:30 p.m. For Caregivers of those with Memory Loss. The Henry Building, 120 Cottage Ave. Contact Carmen Gamble, 509-393-0789. (1st & 3rd Thurs.)

Cashmere Sportsman Assoc., (Cashmere Gun Club), open to the public for trapshooting 7-10 p.m. Private rentals by appointment. Call Brian James, 509-782-3099.

Cashmere American Legion Post #64, 7 p.m., American Legion Hall, 401 Sunset Highway. Commander Ken Komro, 509-782-4973. (Ist Thurs. of every month, August - June). Cashmere American Legion Auxiliary #64, 7 p.m., American Legion Hall, 401 Sunset Highway. President Linda Ingraham, 509-679-0243. (Ist Thurs. of every month, August - June).

Sunday

CHURCH: See the church page for local service times and events.

Monday

Cashmere Wacoka Kiwanis Club, 6:30 p.m., American Legion Hall, lower level. 6:30 p.m. Call Pam Leighton, 509-669-3159. (4th Mon.)

Tillicum Riders, 7 p.m. Chelan County Fairgrounds.
Call Cindy, 509-662-5984. (Ist Mon.)

Cashmere City Council, 6 p.m., City Hall (2nd & 4th Mon. of each month (unless a holiday, then Tues.).

Planning Committee Meeting, 5 p.m. at City Hall (Ist Mon. of each month unless a holiday, then Tues.).

Cashmere Fire Department, Business management, 7 p.m., above City Hall. Call Chief Cy, 509-782-3513. (3rd Mon.)
Cashmere Fire Department, meeting, 8 p.m., above City

Hall. Call Chief Cy, 509-782-3513. (3rd Mon.)

Cashmere School Board Work Session, Board work sessions are typically held towards the beginning of the month at 6:30 a.m. with no action taken. For updated info. Visit www.cashmere.wednet.edu

Cashmere School Regular Board Meetings, are typically held towards the end of the month at 7 p.m. with action taken. The schedule for meetings is subject to change to accommodate conflicts in schedule or special circumstances. Visit www.cashmere.wednet.edu for the most up to date info.

Chelan Douglas Republican Women, Monthly meeting and luncheon 1st Monday of the month (unless it's a holiday). \$21. for lunch, \$8. for sitting only. 11 a.m. check in starts, noon for meeting and speaker. Wenatchee Convention Center 121 N. Wenatchee Ave. For information and reservations, please call, Angela Dye, President, 509-668-1105 (Ist Mon.)

Tuesday

Icicle & Peshastin Irrigation Districts, Current meeting time 8 a.m. at 5594 Wescott Drive. Call Levi Jantzer, cell 509-607-0278, 509-782-2561, or levi.ipid@nwi.net (2nd Tues.)

Peshastin Water District, meets at 4:30 p.m. Contact: Steve Keene for meeting location. 509-548-5266. (2nd Tues.)

Cashmere Chamber of Commerce, Noon, everyone is invited to attend as a guest. Call Executive Director, for meeting location. 509-782-7404. (3nd Tues.)

The Chelan County Cemetery District #2, (Peshastin) meets at 6 p.m., at the Memorial Hall, located at 10204 Main Street. (2nd Tues.)

NCW Libraries

Cashmere Public Library: 509-782-3314
You can order your books online at ncwlibraries.org or call
1-800-426-READ (7323).

Mon., Tues., Thurs., and Fri., 9-6, Wed. I-6 and Sat., IO-2. Closed Sun. 300 Woodring Street. Call 782-3314, or online at cashmere@ncwlibraries.org

Cashmere Museum and Pioneer Village Call for more information 509-782-3230

Chelan County Historical Society Board meets, 7 p.m., Cashmere Museum, 600 Cotlets Way. Call Nicky 509-782-3230. (3rd Thurs.)

Note: Some meetings or events may be rescheduled due to holidays or other closures. Please call and check with that organization listed.

Cashmere student achieves honor roll at Spokane Community College

SPOKANE – Whitney Throgmorton, a resident of Cashmere, has been named to the Spokane Community College Honor Roll for the Fall quarter of 2023, showcasing academic excellence. Throgmorton and other honored students achieved a commendable grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or above, a benchmark of consistent academic performance.

The Community Colleges of Spokane, encompassing a vast 12,300-square-mile area, operates Spokane Community College, Spokane Falls Community College, and six rural education centers.

Whitney Throgmorton's achievement stands as a testament to the dedication and hard work required to excel academically.

Cashmere American Legion Auxiliary supports Veterans during holidays

Ward Media / Cashmere Valley Record

CASHMERE-The Cashmere American Legion Auxiliary Unit #64 has successfully completed its annual holiday support drive for veterans, according to President Linda Ingraham. In a substantial community effort, items were collected for veterans at the Spokane VA Nursing Home, fulfilling a wish list provided by the facility's activities director.

Auxiliary members, alongside contributions from the local health team, amassed a variety of items, including lap robes, afghans, and neck pillows, all crafted by the auxiliary members themselves. These items were part of a larger shipment of holiday cheer that included Christmas cards, Happy Letters, calendars, and local confections, personally delivered to the Spokane facility.

In another initiative, the Auxiliary rallied to gather snacks and other comforts



for holiday boxes destined for local troops. With the community's generosity pouring in both in-kind and monetary donations, 26 boxes, ensuring two per soldier, were assembled by students of Cashmere High School under the guidance of Steve Simonson. The Auxiliary covered the postage costs for these parcels, marking the 19th consecutive year of this tradition.

Extending their outreach, the Auxiliary also assembled and distributed 42 Christmas mugs filled with goodies, cards, and letters to local veterans and Auxiliary members in assisted living or homebound situations. Overall, the Auxiliary's efforts culminated in the distribution of over 600 Christmas cards and Happy Letters, reflecting a deeply rewarding holiday season dedicated to

COURTESY OF LINDA INGRAHAM, supporting veterans and their families.

The American Legion, set to celebrate its 105th anniversary in March, continues its long-standing commitment to veteran support, with the Auxiliary playing a pivotal role in these endeavors. Ingraham encourages community members to consider joining the American Legion and the Auxiliary to ensure the longevity and impact of their work.

AG Ferguson files lawsuit to stop Kroger-Albertson merger worth \$24.6 billion

By Aspen Anderson & Mary Murphy

 $Washington\ State\ Journal$

OLYMPIA - Kroger and Albertsons claim a proposed merger worth \$24.6 billion will result in better prices for grocery shoppers, but many fear food prices will go up and jobs could be lost as the stores eliminate competition.

Attorney General Bob Ferguson filed a lawsuit to stop the merger, which was announced in a Seattle press conference Jan. 15.

"Our job is to make sure there is a level playing field for Washington consumers and that means pushing back against the consolidation of power that destroys free enterprise and harms Washingtonians," Ferguson said.

Once they merge, Kroger and Albertsons propose to sell 413 stores nationwide, including 104 in Washington.
That part of the proposal is meant to counter claims they will control the market if the merger goes through. Kroger

and Albertsons propose to can increase c

and Albertsons alone have more than 700,000 employees and nearly 5,000 stores across 49 states. Experts say Washington could be one of the most affected states.

"More than half of all supermarkets in Washington are currently owned by either Kroger or Albertsons," Ferguson said.

After reviewing hundreds of thousands of records, Ferguson's legal team uncovered internal chats among corporate executives and other employees.

Ferguson said a vice president of marketing with Albertsons wrote: "You are basically creating a monopoly in grocery with the merger."

"This makes no sense, prices will not go down," Ferguson said. "Grocery prices are already too high. These companies are merging so they can increase profits, not help Washingtonians with their grocery bills."

The official merger website claims the companies are keeping everyday prices affordable on products customers love, want and need while making grocery shopping easy.

And they say the merger is necessary if the grocery companies want to compete against even larger competitors, like Amazon and Walmart.

If approved, the companies say they will develop a "zero hunger, zero waste," impact plan for hunger relief, donated meals and innovation fund grants.

Kroger owns QFC and

Fred Meyer and is based in Cincinnati. It wants to acquire Albertsons, based in Boise, Idaho, which owns Safeway and Haggen grocery stores.

The merger is under consideration by the Federal Trade Commission. A decision is anticipated in August 2024.

The Washington State Journal is a non-profit news website funded by the Washington Newspaper Publishers Association Foundation. Learn more at wastatejournal.org.

CONGRATULATIONS







6th grade



Ava Burns,
8th grade







Music

Lisseth
Santana-Torres,
Estrella Espanola

It's all about the effort. Congratulations!



PO Box 378, Peshastin WA 98847

Phone:(509) 548-1700 Fax: (509) 548-0288



ASPEN ANDERSON / WASHINGTON STATE JOURNAL Safeway is among the major grocery chains in Washington affected by the merger.

Chelan County Sheriff's Report

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

January 12

07:47 Malicious Mischief, 215 Paton St

10:07 Traffic Offense, W Manson Rd & N Cedar St 14:44 Hazard, Us Hwy 2 & River Bend Dr

18:37 Trespass, 5025 Harnden Rd

22:51 Disturbance, 6125 Hay Canyon Rd# 2 22:53 Disturbance, 5140 Binder

January 14

00:20 Suspicious, 3717 Bridge St. Monitor 05:23 Diversion, 3717 Bridge St, Monitor

15:04 Assist Agency, Us Hwy 2 Mp 103; Mp 103 15:12 Property, 109 Cascade Pl

Mp 103; Mp 103 15:12 Property, 109 Cascade Pl 19:25 Alarm, 2712 Sleepy Hollow Rd. Monitor

January 15

06:50 Parking/Abandon, 200 Titchenal Way 07:05 Hazard, 4300blk Old Monitor Rd, Monitor 11:19 Accident No Injury, Us Hwy 2 & Aplets Way

18:14 Suspicious, 312 Cottage

18:55 Traffic Offense, Sunset Hwy & River St

January 16

08:13 Welfare Check, 206 Perry

13:27 Scam, 917 Pioneer Ave# A204 17:35 Trespass, 4752 Kelly Rd,

Monitor 21:34 Domestic Disturbance, 5300 Wohlers Rd

January 17

11:44 Theft, 307 Elberta Ave 12:19 Drugs, 209 Aplets Way 14:43 Civil, 208 Cottage Ave# 1 15:35 Trespass, 302 S Division St

January 18

06:57 Suicide Threat, 301 Chapel St 08:51 Assist Agency, 4900

Nahahum Canyon Rd 11:08 Trespass, 302 S Division St 11:20 Assist Agency, 5710 Goodwin Rd

12:58 Parking/Abandon, 4580 E Nahahum Canyon Rd 13:10 Parking/Abandon, 5240 N Cashmere Rd

14:34 Traffice Offense, Cottage

Ave & Maple St

Washington Outdoors Report

Outdoors Roundup By John Kruse Special to Ward Media

Bob Bugert Appointed To The Washington Recreation **And Conservation Funding Board**

Leavenworth resident Bob Bugert has been appointed by Governor Jay Inslee to the Washington Recreation and Conservation Funding According Joshua McKinney with the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), "The board awards about \$200 million in grants every other year to tribes, nonprofits and government agencies to create parks, trails and other outdoor recreation opportunities. The board also awards grants to conserve the state's natural resource heritage by protecting working farms and forests and wildlife habitat, including places inhabited by plants and animals found nowhere else in the world."

Bugert has quite a bit of experience in the field of conservation, previously serving as the Executive Director of the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust which greatly expanded the trail system in the Western foothills of Wenatchee as well as enacting policies to protect mule deer in this area during the winter. Bugert also spent eight years serving on the Washington State Salmon Recovery Board and recently served as a Chelan County Commissioner. In his spare time, Bugert enjoys time in the outdoors hiking, biking and kayaking.

A Turkey Hunting Opportunity For First Responders:

Craig Dowdy, the owner of YJ Guide Service near Davenport, is giving away six guided turkey hunts this April on the 20th and 21st to first responders as a way of showing appreciation for the work they do. These will be guided hunts, lasting two days, and all meals and accommodations are included.

The only cost for participating hunters will be travel to and from Davenport along with the cost of a hunting license and turkey tag.

This is open to both current and retired first responders. To apply, contact Craig and his wife Melodie by email at melodie@yjguideservice. com. Simply give your contact information (name, address and cell phone number) along with a very brief description of your service as a first responder to include whether you serve in law enforcement, the fire service or in EMS.

Spokane River/Lake **Roosevelt Fishing Report**

In other news, Craig Dowdy reports he was fishing the Spokane River until the cold snap froze things up to Porcupine Bay. Once the ice melts he'll get back to fishing for burbot and walleye. The fishing was very good right before the cold snap, especially for burbot. Book your trip at www.yjguideservice.com

Columbia River Gorge Fishing

Catch and keep sturgeon fishing may be closed in the Bonneville and The Dalles pools of the Columbia River but as of Jan. 17 it remains open in the John Day pool east of Rufus. According to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, "Angler effort was light because of inclement weather conditions in the John Day Pool most of last week. Anglers have landed approximately 45 percent of the annual catch guideline through Jan. 16. Sturgeon fishing is open seven days per week until the quota is achieved, but anglers should check weather and road conditions before planning a trip through the Gorge."

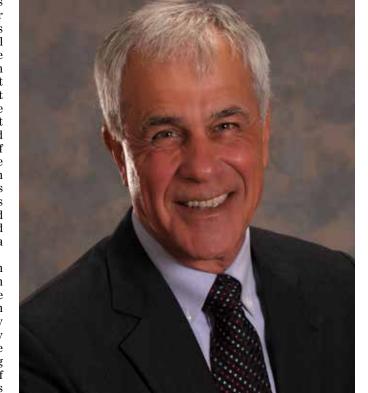
Catch and release sturgeon fishing continues to be open for anglers on the rest of the Columbia River. Checking in with Gorge Outfitters Supply in Rufus on the 18th, they reported nobody has come into the store with any fishing reports since the cold snap of Jan. 11. When temperatures moderate though, the walleye fishing below John Day Dam should be good.

Washington State Parks Is Hiring

It's the time of year that Washington State Parks recruits for seasonal park aides. This year, they are looking to hire 300 park aides and senior park aides who will work in state parks from April through September.

Park aides perform a variety of duties ranging from registering campers, maintaining trails, cleaning campgrounds and maintaining facilities. They also staff park offices, assist visitors and help with interpretive and educational programs. Park aides work in one large park or cover an area with several small parks.

According to Washington State Parks, "This opportunity is ideal for recent high school and college graduates, retired



COURTESY OF WASHINGTON RCO

Robert "Bob" Bugert

workers looking for an encore. military veterans transitioning to civilian employment and mid-careerists taking time to reinvent themselves. Most park aides appreciate the flexibility of seasonal outdoor work and the mix of public interaction and physical labor."

Park aides earn between \$16.90 to \$20.33 an hour, depending on their experience. Senior park aides earn up to \$23.40 an hour. You can find out more and apply at www. governmentjobs.com/careers/ washington. Type in the key word Park Aide into the search bar to find the available opportunities.

Visit Me At The Washington **Sportsmen's Show** – I'll be

exhibiting at the Washington Sportsmen's Show at the State Fair Center in Puyallup from Jan. 31 through Feb. 4. We'll be giving away some knife sharpeners from Work Sharp to some lucky attendees and I'll also be giving a seminar about places in the Pacific Northwest you should be fishing at in 2024. That seminar takes place Saturday the 3rd in the Blue Fishing Theater from 11 a.m. to noon. You can find out more about Washington State's biggest sportsmen's show at www.thesportshows. com/shows/washington/

John Kruse – www. northwestern outdoors.comand www.

america outdoors radio.com

I Kubota

What to rub on sore muscles

My 64-year-old friend Mark loves riding his mountain bike every weekend. In the winter he heads to our local ski area. White Pass, where he "shreds" with his son, Chris. Last week, he asked me, "What can I use for sore knees that isn't a pill?"

There are lots of products available without prescription that Mark could apply directly to his skin to soothe sore muscles or aching knees. Natural compounds like wintergreen oil, camphor, menthol and capsaicin have been used for decades for muscle pain.

These plant-based compounds are counterirritants. Thev stimulate the nerves in your skin, which blunts your pain sensation. When rubbed on sore muscles, they can create intense warmth, soothing coolness, or burning/ tingling. Because they are not easily absorbed into your bloodstream, these topical agents can relieve discomfort with a much lower risk of side effects than pain pills.

Other options for Mark lidocaine diclofenac. These alternatives very differently. Lidocaine is a local anesthetic, and diclofenac (Voltaren®) is an anti-inflammatory agent similar to naproxen (Aleve®) and ibuprofen (Motrin-IB®).

I recommend using a 4% lidocaine roll-on for nerve pain and diclofenac gel for arthritis pain. I avoid suggesting capsaicin because it causes burning and has to be reapplied 2-3 times daily to maintain relief.

Capsaicin is derived from chili peppers. It works by triggering a nerve messenger called Substance P to be released from the area you apply it to.

Substance P acts like a telephone line, carrying messages to your brain that you've got pain in your knee. Capsaicin releases even more Substance P, until it can't send any more messages until it builds back up. For example, when you flush a toilet, the water must be replaced before you can use it again.

When applied for the first time, capsaicin causes a moderately intense burning and tingling sensation, the result of Substance P being released. This is followed by a diminished sensation of pain that persists for up to 8-10

Eventually, as your body replaces Substance P, you'll feel tingling and burning start to come back. To maintain pain relief, you'll need to reapply capsaicin.

Because capsaicin is made from hot chili peppers, wash your hands immediately after applying it. Touching your eye with capsaicin on your fingers feels just like throwing pepper in it. I recommend using a roll-on applicator for capsaicin to avoid touching the stuff.

non-prescription Many topical analgesics contain at least one plant-based product, such as methyl salicylate (also called wintergreen oil), menthol, which is derived from peppermint oil, camphor, eucalyptus oil, turpentine, and an odorless cousin of methyl salicylate called trolamine salicylate.

Some of the more potent formulations Mark could select from include Aspercreme® Heat Pain Relieving Gel, with 10% Menthol; Tiger Balm® Arthritis Rub, which has 11% each of menthol and camphor; and Ben-Gay® Ultra Strength Pain Relieving Cream, containing 30% methyl salicylate, 10% menthol, and 4%

What if Mark prefers methyl salicylate products but wants to avoid smelling like wintergreen? He could switch to the odorless Aspercreme® formula containing trolamine salicylate instead of methyl salicylate.

Bayer, the manufacturer of Aleve®, has recently introduced two topical pain relief products: AleveX® as a lotion, spray and roll-on, and Aleve Arthritis Pain® gel. What's confusing is that neither one contains naproxen, the active ingredient in the brand name Aleve®.

This is an example of "brand extension," which



ingredient. My husband finds this misleading and frustrating.

Instead of naproxen, AleveX® contains 16% menthol and 5.5% camphor, similar to Tiger Balm®. Aleve Arthritis Pain® gel contains diclofenac, the same ingredient found in Voltaren® gel.

Tylenol Precise Cooling® cream is another example of brand extension. Instead of acetaminophen, this cream contains both 4% lidocaine and 1% menthol.

Here are 4 Tips for Using **Topical Non-Prescription Pain Relievers Safely:**

1. Apply only to intact skin. Broken skin increases the amount of drug absorbed into vour bloodstream, increasing the risk of side effects.

2. Alternate with different

Using more than one topical analgesic roll-on may increase your relief, but applying them simultaneously can increase the risk of skin irritation. Try alternating them instead.

Reapply without delay.

Replenish capsaicin when the tingling/burning sensation begins to return. Waiting longer makes the tingling and burning more intense when you use it again.

4. Use roll-on applicators whenever possible.

Roll-ons are more precise and less messy. They avoid getting capsaicin's pepperbased extract on your fingers and accidentally in your eyes.

Dr. Louise Achey, Doctor of Pharmacy, is a 44-year veteran of pharmacology and author of Why Dogs Can't Eat Chocolate: How Medicines Work and How YOU Can Take Them Safely. Get clear answers to your medication questions at her website and blog, The Medication Insider.com.©2024 Louise Acheu

Washington's Wildlife Wonders: A boon for recreation and economy

Ward Media / Cashmere Valley

OLYMPIA-The 2022 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, Wildlife-Associated Recreation, recently released, reveals that wildlife-related activities are not just a pastime but a significant economic driver in Washington State. The comprehensive survey, executed with the partnership of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, highlights a robust engagement in wildlife recreation among Washingtonians and visitors from other states, contributing significantly to the state's economy.

In 2022, 72% of Washington residents aged 16 and older, totaling 4.4 million people, participated in at least one of wildlife-related

recreation. The state saw 1.2 million individuals engaging in fishing, 292,000 in hunting, and a remarkable 6.2 million in wildlife watching, including 4 million who traveled beyond their immediate locales for these activities. This widespread participation underscores the state's rich biodiversity and its appeal to outdoor enthusiasts.

"Activities made possible through WDFW's stewardship of fish, wildlife, and ecosystems have a significant impact on Washington's economy," said Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Director Kelly Susewind. "Conserving fish, wildlife, and habitat and providing sustainable opportunities contribute to our way of life and identity while providing jobs and economic opportunities to our residents and generating tax revenue for

the state."

These activities have a profound economic impact. Participants spent over \$9 billion on equipment and triprelated expenses, injecting an estimated \$630 million in taxes into the State General Fund. This expenditure surpassed spending on major product categories such as telecommunication services, new motor vehicles, and hotel accommodations in Washington in 2022, reflecting the significant role of wildlife recreation in the state's economy.

The survey details the diversity of participants, mirroring the state's demographic spread. Fishers and hunters were more likely to engage in wildlife watching than non-participants in these

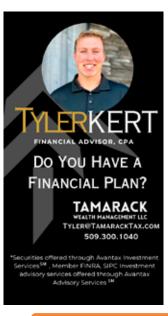
See WILDLIFE Page B3











ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Brianna Tallev

Senior

Cashmere Girls Basketball



Brianna Talley, our Athlete of the Week, is a standout senior guard for the Cashmere Bulldogs girls basketball team. Known for her exceptional defensive skills. Bri consistently sets the tone for the team by taking on the challenging task of guarding the opposing

Way to Go Bulldogs!



Beth Nierman P.T. Steve Mongeon P.T., A.T.C. Carmen Dooley P.T.A.

782-8818 203 Mission Street • Suite 112 • Cashmere

team's best player in every game. Beyond her defensive prowess, she contributes significantly to the team's offense, showcasing her shooting abilities. In a recent game against Cle Elum, Bri demonstrated her scoring finesse by putting up an impressive 18 points, including three successful 3-pointers. Her all-around skills and leadership make her a valuable asset to the Cashmere Bulldogs, and she is truly deserving of the Athlete of the Week recognition.

Bulldogs Sports Sponsor of the Year

Girls Basketball

Ward Media / Cashmere Valley

CASHMERE - The Cash-

mere High School girls'

basketball team claimed a

non-league victory over the Cle Elum-Roslyn High School

Warriors last Tuesday,

Bulldog Scoreboard

Jan. 16

Jan. 18:

Jan. 16

Jan. 18:

Jan. 20:

Jan. 25:

Jan. 26:

Jan. 30:

Jan. 25:

Jan. 26:

Jan. 30:

Jan. 20:

Jan. 23:

Jan. 19:

Jan. 20:

Jan. 23:

GIRLS BASKETBALL

BOYS BASKETBALL

Sports Schedule

GIRLS BASKETBALI

BOYS BASKETBALL

GIRLS WRESTLING

BOYS WRESTLING

Cashmere 60, Cle Elum-Roslyn 54; Win Cashmere 52, Omak 10; Win

Cashmere 72, Cle Elum-Roslyn 44; Win

Cashmere 63, Omak 70; Loss

Cashmere XX, Sultan XX; Canceled

Cashmere vs. Quincy, Away 5:45 p.m.

Cashmere vs. Okanogan, Away 6 p.m.

Cashmere vs. Cascade, Home 5:45 p.m.

Cashmere vs. Quincy, Away 7:15 p.m.

Cashmere vs. Okanogan, Away 7:30 p.m.

Cashmere vs. Cascade, Home 7:15 p.m.

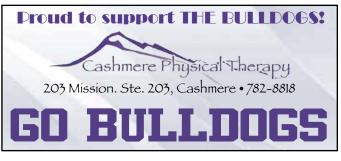
Cashmere Away at Auburn 9 a.m.

Cashmere Away Quincy 5 p.m.

Cashmere Away Quincy 7 p.m.

Cashmere Away at Auburn 9 a.m.

Cashmere Away Okanogan 7 p.m.





Practice Makes Permanent! Go Bulldogs! State Farm



Bruce Cheadle, (509) 782-1659



Boys Basketball

Bulldogs triumph over Warriors; Baker scores 25 in dominant victory

Ward Media / Cashmere Valley Record

CASHMERE - At Cashmere High School's Ron Doane Gymnasium last Tuesday night, the Cashmere Bulldogs boys basketball team showcased dominant performance

against the Cle Elum Warriors, securing a 72-44 victory. Senior Landon Baker was a standout for the Bulldogs, sinking seven three-pointers to amass a total of 25 points. Cashmere established an early lead, finishing the first quarter with a 19-5 advantage, and maintained

their momentum throughout the game.

Contributions came from across the Bulldogs' roster, with eleven players scoring. Junior Rylan Nelson added 10 points, while seniors Trae Smith and Caed Wilkinson each contributed 7 points.

Bulldogs' rally falls short in 70-63 loss to Pioneers

Ward Media / Cashmere Valley Record

CASHMERE - In Thursday's conference basketball match, the Cashmere Bulldogs faced a defeat at home against the Omak Pioneers with a final score of 70-63. The Pioneers established an early lead in the game, ending the first quarter ahead 22-14. This momentum continued, bringing their advantage to 37-24 by halftime.

However, the Bulldogs demonstrated resilience, rallying with an impressive 18-0 run at the start of the third quarter, which briefly put them ahead at 42-37. The Pioneers quickly responded, regaining the lead 49-46, until

a key 3-pointer by junior Rylan Nelson at the third quarter's end leveled the score at 49-49.

The final period saw a close contest until the Pioneers secured their lead, resulting in their Caribou Trail League with 21 points, while senior Dalan Smart contributed 13

_ady Bulldogs secure decisive win over Omak

Ward Media / Cashmere Valley

CASHMERE - In Thursday's home conference game, the Cashmere girls varsity basketball team secured a commanding victory against the Omak Pioneers, concluding with a 52-10 score. This win marks a significant milestone for the Lady Bulldogs, elevating their season record to 11-4.

The game began with Cashmere establishing a substantial lead in the first quarter, ending it at 25-0. Contributing notably to this early advantage was junior Allie McKenna, who scored 13 of her total 16 points in the opening period.

As the game progressed, Cashmere continued to expand its lead, registering a 38-2 score at halftime. This match extends their winning streak to six consecutive league games and seven out of their last eight games overall.

Other notable performances included junior Ellie Bessonette, who contributed 11 points, and senior Katie Piepel, who added 9 points to the team's tally.

CHS girls beat Cle Elum-Roslyn in tight non-league battle finishing with a score of of her free-throw attempts

STUDENT **SPOTLIGHT**

Leading the scoring for Cashmere was senior Brianna Talley with 18 points, including four successful three-point shots. Junior Allie McKenna contributed significantly, securing all six

Saige O'Keefe,

O'Keefe had a great week for the CHS girl's wrestling squad.

Recently, at the Quincy Mixer, she won

2 of her 3 matches and followed that with a 4th place medal at the Connell

Invitational. She won four matches at

season, Saige has 13 wins, and just 10

Ackerman: "Saige is a true

at practice and on the mat. She

is constantly encouraging and

team captain. She puts in the work

building up her teammates day -in

Connell and finished the week with six wins, and just three losses. For the

12th grade

losses.

Coach Avery

10th grade

and ending the game with 14 points. Despite an injury in the first half, Ellie Bessonette rallied to score 9 of her total 11 points in the fourth quarter. Senior Katie Piepel also played a key role,

Winter sports postseason update

Ward Media / Cashmere Valley Record

CASHMERE - The winter sports season is reaching its climax with postseason competitions set to showcase the best in regional talent. From the intensity of wrestling matches to the dynamic plays on the basketball courts, athletes across various disciplines are gearing up for a series of pivotal tournaments.

Below is the comprehensive schedule for the upcoming district, regional, and state events, outlining key dates and venues for boys and girls wrestling, basketball, and boys swimming. These tournaments not only serve as a platform for individual and team excellence but also as a stepping stone to state-level glory.

Boys Wrestling:

- District Tournament: Omak High School hosts the event on Feb. 3. The top four wrestlers in each category advance to the Regional Tournament.
- Regional Tournament: Set for Feb. 10 at Quincy High School, with the top three from each bracket moving on to the State Tournament.
- State Tournament (Mat Classic): Scheduled for Feb. 16-17 at the Tacoma Dome.

Girls Wrestling:

District Tournament: Held on Feb. 3 at Ephrata High School. The top four from

each bracket qualify for the Regional Tournament. Regional

Tournament: Takes place on Feb. 10 at Quincy High School. Top three wrestlers in each bracket advance to the State Tournament.

State Tournament (Mat Classic): Set for Feb. 16-17 at the Tacoma Dome.

Boys Basketball:

- District Tournament details:
- Game #1: Feb. 6, 2024 CTL #4 vs CTL #1 at the higher seed's location, 7:00 p.m.
- Game #2: Feb. 6, 2024 CTL #3 vs CTL #2 at the higher seed's location, 7:00 p.m. Both games are elimination rounds.
- Game #3: Feb. 10, 2024 -District Championship between Game #1 and Game #2 winners at Wenatchee High School, 8:00 p.m. Both teams in Game #3 advance to CTL/NEA Cross-Over Games on Feb. 17.

Girls Basketball:

- District Tournament details:
- Game #1: Feb. 7, 2024 CTL #4 vs CTL #1 at the higher seed's location, 7:00 p.m.
- Game #2: Feb. 7, 2024 CTL #3 vs CTL #2 at the higher seed's location, 7:00 p.m. Both games are elimination rounds.
- Game #3: Feb. 10, 2024 -District Championship between Game #1 and

Game #2 winners at Wenatchee High School, 6:00 p.m. Both teams in Game #3 advance to CTL/ NEA Cross-Over Games on Feb. 17.

District 6/7 Cross-Over -**Boys & Girls Basketball** Games:

Scheduled for Feb. 17, time to be determined. This is a single game with the winner advancing to the State Regionals and the loser being eliminated. The matchups are NEA 3 vs CTL 1 and CTL 2 vs NEA 2.

WIAA State Basketball:

- Regional Competitions (1st Round): Scheduled for Feb. 23-24, location to be announced.
- State Tournament: Set for Feb. 28-March 1, 2024, at the Yakima Sun Dome.

Boys Swimming:

• District Swim Meet: Scheduled for Feb. 2-3 at Gibb Pool (WSU), with the time to be determined.

and day-out. She is definitely the Student: Misty Carney,

n the English classroom, Misty Carney deserves recognition for her commendable efforts. Quietly dedicated, Misty consistently completes her assignments with diligence, ensuring the submission of high-quality work. As one of the top students in her class, Misty consistently performs to the best of her abilities, demonstrating a commitment to academic excellence that sets her apart. The newspaper acknowledges Misty Carney for her outstanding



number one supporter for the team. This season she's grown not only as

a wrestler, but also as an individual.

Parents: Wendi & Terry O'Keefe

becoming Cashmere's Girls Assistant

Wrestling Coach and earning her

I see great success for her future."

Activities: FFA

Wrestling

Sports: X-Country and

Future Plans: Plans on

excellence in her studies. **Teacher:** Ted Smith Parents: Val & Kevin Carney **Activities:** FCCLA and Mama Mia school play. Future Plans: Going to college and plan to major in Social Work or Special Ed and Minor in the other.



and Old Fashioned Soda Fountain #morethanjustapharmacy 509-782-2717 | 119 Cottage Ave, Cashmere doanesvalleypharmacy.com





Leavenworth Echo Cashmere Valley Record Lake Chelan Mirror Quad City Herald

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act, which SPVS TOSITY makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or na-tional origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertis-ing 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: Ward Media LLC shall be responsible for corrections to advertisements on the first publication only. The advertiser will be responsible for the corrections made thereafter. Ward Media LLC shall not be responsible for slight changes or typographical errors that do no lessen the value of the advertisement. Ward Media LLC's liability for other errors or omissions in connection with an advertisement is strictly limited to the publication of the advertisements in any subsequent issue. No monetary refunds will be given. For more information call 509-548-5286



Announcements

General Interest

PREPARE FOR POWER OUTAGES today with a **GENERAC** home standby generator. \$0 money down + low monthly payment options. Request a FREE Quote. Call now before the next power outage: 1-888-674-7053.

DONATE YOUR CAR TO CHARITY.

Receive maximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or not! All conditions accepted. Free pickup. Call for details, 855-635-4229.

STOP OVERPAYING FOR HEALTH **INSURANCE!** A recent study shows that a majority of people struggle to pay for health coverage. Let us show you how much you can save. Call

quote: 1-877-765-1117. You will need to have your zip code to connect to the right provider.

Now for a no-obligation

ELIMINATE GUTTER CLEANING FOREVER! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate todav. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & amp; Military Discounts. Call 1-888-360-1582.

ADVERTISE STATEWIDE with a \$325 classified listing or \$1600 for a display ad. Call this newspaper or 360-344-2938 for details.



Upgrading 'ride'? we can help you sell your old one

• Email: classifieds @ward.media

Employment

Help Wanted

Looking for a little spending money and love to cook? The **Leavenworth Senior** Center wants to hear from you.

We are looking for that special someone who would love to share their culinary skills with us every Wednesday at noon. We serve 30-40 lunches each week, provide a full-service commercial kitchen, one Kitchen Assistant staff member, and weekly volunteers to help wherever they are needed. This job includes creating a weekly menu, food shopping, and takes approximately 6 to 7 hours per week. Compensation is \$22/hr. Please submit a letter of interest with a brief description of your experience to leavenworthseniors@ gmail.com

Bus Driver/Operator -**Full Time** Organization: **Okanogan County Transit Authority** (TranGO) TranGO IS HIRING A DRIVER;

Full-time (36+ hours per week) positions available now; hourly non-exempt. Compensation is \$21.64-\$23.41 per hour, DOE. Benefits include health, dental, vision, life insurance, retirement (see website for benefit details), sick leave, and vacation.

Must have a Commercial Driver's License with Passenger Endorsement. Please visit www.okanogantransit.co

m for required qualifications, application, and job description. A complete application including a resume and cover letter must be submitted in order to be considered for a position. E-mail your completed

financehr@ okanogantransit.com, mail it to TranGO. PO Box 507, Okanogan WA 98840, or drop it off

application to

303 S 2nd Avenue, S, Suite A, Okanogan. Application Deadline: Application review will continue until the position

is filled. Okanogan County Transit Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

WASHINGTON STATE

WSU is hiring a full-time SNAP-Ed

Program Assistant. This position is with the WSU Extension Food \$ense Nutrition Education program in Okanogan County. Bachelor's degree in nutrition or related field or equivalent education and work experience is required.

To apply, visit https://wsu.edu/jobs/ and search position number R-10091.

For questions, call Margaret Viebrock, WSU Chelan-Douglas County Director at 509-745-8531. Applications are due February 6. WSU is an EO/AA Educator and Employer.



Real Estate

Rentals

Leavenworth Cute studio in town. Furnished. All utilities included. No pets. No smoking. \$1,125. per References required. \$1,000. Security Deposit 509-860-4564

Remodeled one bedroom apartment. Washer/ dryer W/S/G paid. hookup. Excellent location Chelan. Walk to City Park. \$1,090/ month, plus deposits. No 509-682-5108.

Legals

Public Notices

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR CHELAN COUNTY In re the Estate of **FEDERICO CARRENO** Deceased. NO. 23-4-00444-04

NOTICE TO CREDITORS representative personal named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be

otherwise barred by any applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor **RCW** provided under 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the probate decedent's and nonprobate assets. Date of First Publication: January 10 th , 2024 Personal Representative: Monica Carreno Attornev for the Representative: Kyle D. Flick

Personal Address for Mailing or Service: South Mission Street, Wenatchee, WA 98801 Court of probate proceedings and cause number: Chelan County Superior Court, Cause No. 23-4-00444-04

DATED this 2nd day of January 2024 LAW OFFICE OF KYLE D. FLICK, P.S.

KYLE D. FLICK, WSBA #14963 Attorney for Estate Published in the Cashmere Valley Record/Leavenworth Echo on January 10, 17, 24, 2024. #6993

Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE Notice is hereby given that the Vallev Park Upper and Recreation Service Area (PRSA) is announcing its annual meeting dates for 2024. The Board meets six times annually, with the meetings scheduled for March 14, May 9, July 11, September 12, and November 14. Beginning at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Leavenworth City Hall, 700 US Highway 2. Also available via Zoom https://zoom.us/j/98698954583? pwd=eUVNU0QyZ0wzVE9qY0d January 17, 2024. mWlJnU1NWQT09 See the City of Leavenworth website for agenda details when posted at www.cityofleavenworth.com.

The public is invited to attend said meetings and make comments. Published in the Leavenworth Echo/Cashmere Valley Record on January 24, 2024. #7160

Windermere

Email your Classifieds & Legal Notices to: classifieds@ward.media or call 509-293-6780

Windermere Real Estate/NCW Leavenworth/Lake Wenatchee Specialists

Looking for real estate in the Upper Valley?

Give us a call today!

Robyn Bodaila - 617-462-3402 Momi Palmieri - 509-433-2211 Geordie Romer - 509-679-8958 Allyson Romer - 509-630-9898

See all available properties at windermereleavenworth.com

Public Notices

Superior Court of Washington County of Walla Walla **Juvenile Court** Dependency of: ISRAEL DREW HAMILTON, DOB: 07/20/2017 No: 23-7-00139-03 Notice and Summons by **Publication** (Dependency) (SMPB)

To: Jacob Besel, Alleged Father To: To Whom It May Concern A Dependency Petition was filed on October 24, 2023. Uncontested Fact Finding hearing will be held on this matter on: February 16, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at: Walla Walla County Courthouse,

315 W. Main St., Walla Walla, WA 99362.

You should be present at this hearing.

The hearing will determine if your child is dependent as defined in RCW 13.34.030(6). This begins a judicial process, which could result permanent loss of your parental rights. If you do not appear at the hearing, the court may enter dependency order in your absence.

To request a copy of the Notice, Summons, Dependency and Petition, call DCYF at To (509)524-4900. view information about your rights, including right to a lawyer, go to www.atg.wa.gov/DPY.aspx.

DATED this 26 day of December, 2023. Crystal Jennings **DEPUTY CLERK**

Published in the Cashmere Valley Record/Leavenworth Echo on January 24, 31, February 7, 2024. #7135

Public Notices

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR KING COUNTY In re the Estate of: DAVID E. SEVERANCE JR, Deceased. NO. 24-4-00127-9 SEA

PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS **RCW 11.40** The Administrator named below

been appointed has Administrator of this Estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Administrator or their attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty (30) days after the Administrator served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under **RCW** 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four (4)months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate nonprobate assets. Dated this 5th day of January, 2024. s/Tracv Schaaf

Tracy Schaaf, Administrator Court of Probate Proceedings and Cause No: See Caption Above Date of First Publication:

Attorney for Administrator: Joshua G. R. Curtis, WSBA No. 42034 Address for Service and Mailing: Beresford Booth PLLC 145 Third Avenue South

Edmonds, WA 98020 Published in The Leavenworth Fcho/Cashmere Vallev Record on January 17, 24, 31, 2024. #7096

Public Notices

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR PIERCE COUNTY In the matter of the Estate of: KATHLEEN RENEE WILSON.

> Deceased. No. 24-4-00069-3 PROBATE NOTICE TO **CREDITORS** RCW 11.40.030

The Administrator named below has been appointed and has qualified as Administrator of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must. prior to the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Administrator the Administrator's attorney at the address stated below, a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after Administrator served or mailed the notice to the creditor provided under RCW 11.40.020(3); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in section of this act and RCW 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claim against both the decedent's probate nonprobate assets. DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: January 24, 2024 JASON K. WILSON

ADMINISTRATOR: Attorney for the Administrator: Brianne M. Kampbell, WSBA# 34483

KAMPBELL LEGAL PLANNING, Address for Mailing or Service: 2501 North Alder Street

Tacoma, WA 98406 Court of Probate Proceeding and Cause Number: See caption above. Published in the Leavenworth Echo/Cashmere Valley Record on January 24, 31, February 7, 2024. #7151

Public Notices

CITY OF LEAVENWORTH

On the 9th day of January, 2024, the City Council of the City of Leavenworth, Washington passed following ordinance. A the summary of the contents provides as follows:

Ordinance 1687: An ordinance of the City of Leavenworth, WA, adopting the City of Leavenworth Comprehensive Plan amendment to the Capital Improvement Plan. A full copy of the ordinance is available at Leavenworth City Hall or will be mailed to you upon your request to Andrea Fischer, City Clerk, City of Leavenworth, PO Box 287.

Leavenworth, WA 98826. Leavenworth Published in the Echo/Cashmere Vallev Record on January 24, 2024. #7150

Public Notices

Superior Court of Washington for Chelan County In the matter of the estate of Lonnie C. Davis. Deceased. No. 24-4-00008-04 **Notice To Creditors** (RCW 11.40.030)

The person named below has been appointed as administrator of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the administrator or her attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) thirty days after the administrator served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c);

or (2) four months after the date of first publication of this Notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as provided in RCW otherwise 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets. Date of First Publication: January 24, 2024.

Joy L. Hall, Administrator Attorney for the Administrator: Joseph C. Brown, Jr., WSBA# 17991

Address for Mailing or Service: J.C. Brown Law Office, PLLC 200 Aplets Way, P.O. Box 384 Cashmere, WA 98815 (509) 782-1111 Court of probate proceeding and

cause number: Chelan County Superior Court, Cause Number: 24-4-00008-04 Published in the Cashmere Valley

Record and Leavenworth Echo on January 24 January 31, and February 7, 2024. #7146

Follow

us on **Facebook**

Facebook.com **NorthCentral Washington**

at:

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to slow cooking. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 16 = E)

12 9 10 12 23 Clue: Vessel

18 19 10 8

Clue: Opposite of fast

18 3 20 20 16 9

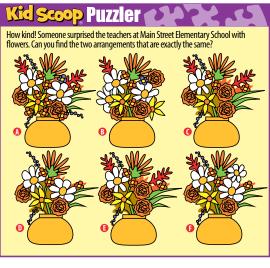
Clue: Liquid kept below boil

1 16 15 17 16 9 3 21 16

Clue: Soften fibers







Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

SEIKOOCFST I F E D I T O R P G GJKHAPPIER NTBIZCKERO S E T O N I A N S C OMGTQDVDOE LYIDBONYNR SSELOOVEOI OIHOEGBHSE VOLUNTEERS

Lesson Library

about someone in your community who is struggling. How could you do something kind



Kid Scoop Together Kindness Ouiz Answer these questions after you've read this Kid Scoop page. Have a family member check to see if you answered them all correctly.

- 1. A study at Ohio State University found out that doing acts of kindness made people feel
 - a. lonely
 - c. silly d. better
- 2. When you do a kind act, it often causes other people to do acts of kindness, too.
 - b. FALSE
- 3. A student at Ohio State University put these all around the campus:
 - a. flowers b. apples
 - c. sticky notes with kind words d. jokes
- 4. Opening a door for someone is an act of kindness.
 - a. TRUE b. FALSE

5. To feel happier and less worried, it helps to help others. You can:

- b. carry someone's groceries
- c. give someone a cookie

a. smile at someone new

- d. walk a neighbor's dog e. shovel a snowy sidewalk
- for a neighbor f. give compliments
- g. volunteer to help someone h. open doors for others
- i. let someone cut in front
- j. all of the above!
- 6. Kindness is catching. a. TRUE b. FALSE

Standards Link: Write descriptively.



With hundreds of topics, every **Kid Scoop**° printable activity pack features six-to-seven pages of high-interest extra learning activities for home and school! Get your free sample today at:

kidscoop.com/activity-pages

Schools

Continued from page A1

"I think it's important for people to know that because we're considered a property poor district, meaning that our assessed valuation of our district property and facilities and buildings were a fraction of like Leavenworth's Cascade

or Chelan," Johnson said. "Because we don't have hotels or lakefront property or those kinds of things.' "And so, the bottom line is,

in the property poor district, we get what's called levy equalization," Johnson said. "So while we may collect fewer dollars, compared to other districts, the state recognizes that being property poor that School District property value they provide what's called levy equalization and it kind of equalizes the playing field for us."

The projected tax rate for the upcoming EP&O levy replacement is \$2.10 per thousand assessed value. This represents a 7¢ increase from the 2024 rate, resulting in a yearly rise of \$38 for a \$400K homeowner. Concurrently, existing bond tax rates are decreasing, leading to a

reduction in total school taxes compared to previous years.

The district chose to flatline the cost of the levy for the four years with a consistent rate of \$2.10 per thousand assessed value. The state maximum is

"For the four years, we at the board felt it was very important to have consistency," Johnson said.

Johnson "So we did not

run this thing up to the max," Johnson said. "We felt like it was best to be conservative."

The 7¢ increase is to cover the cost of inflation, Johnson

"We want to be mindful of our community members and basically just asked for the amount that we feel is going to be able to keep us where we're at, and that's just, you know, the reality of it," Bessonette

said. "We're trying to be mindful and good stewards of our community's taxpayer's money."

Ballots for the special election were mailed to voters on Tuesday, Jan. 23. If approved on the Tuesday, Feb. 13 special election ballot, the levy would run through 2028.

 $Quinn\ Propst: 509\text{-}731\text{-}3590\ or$

Wildlife

Continued from page A4

activities. Fishing attracted 17% of state residents, while hunting, away-from-home wildlife watching, and aroundthe-home wildlife watching drew 4%, 35%, and 71% of residents, respectively. The hunting participation rate among women in Washington was double the national average.

In fishing, 812,000 individuals engaged in freshwater fishing, 388,000 in saltwater, and 222,000 in both. Anglers, predominantly male, spent 12.6 million days fishing, underscoring a youthful skew in participation. Hunting was also significant, with 291,000

individuals partaking, 75% of whom were state residents. A majority targeted big game, reflecting the rich wildlife habitat of the region.

Wildlife watching, defined broadly from observing to photographing wildlife, drew immense interest, with 4.3 million participants indulging in this activity around their homes and 4

million traveling for it. This activity not only fostered a connection with nature but also drew substantial tourism, with over 30% of watchers coming from out of state. Washingtonians, on average, engaged in wildlife watching around 1.4 times per week, highlighting its role as a cherished pastime.

These findings will inform

the implementation of various strategic plans, including Washington Hunting and Angling Recruitment, Retention, and Reactivation (R3) Plan and the 10-Year Recreation Strategy for WDFW-Managed Lands. It underscores the multifaceted ways Washington residents enjoy the outdoors and the critical role of wildliferelated recreation in state conservation and economic strategies.

Washington's rich natural resources and diverse wildlife continue to be a significant draw, offering myriad recreational activities that contribute substantially to both the state's economy and the well-being of its residents and visitors.

Victims

Continued from page A1

would make any statement determined by the court to be obtained by deception during interrogation to be inadmissible as evidence. Advocates say they think the bill will help prevent false convictions.

The measure was supported by people unjustly convicted of crimes and social activists pressing for reform. It was opposed by the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs.

it's "Sometimes. an unfortunate reality, we have to lie to people to get them to tell the truth," said James McMahan, Policy Director for the sheriffs and police chiefs association. "This is not good public policy in our view. This does not address our ongoing growing crime problem in Washington."

When Knox was just 20, she was subjected to 53 hours of questioning over five days in a foreign language without legal counsel. She was sentenced to 26 years in prison, served four years and then was exonerated after DNA evidence of multiple men was found on the victim's clothing.

"I believe that if I had not been lied to by the police, none of this would have ever happened," Knox said.

Rep. Tarra Simmons, D-Bremerton, is a notable sponsor of the bill. In 2011, Simmons was sentenced to 30 months in prison for theft, drug and firearm crimes and was elected as Washington State's first formerly incarcerated lawmaker.

Also testifying in favor, was Ted Bradford, Washington State's first person to be exonerated by DNA results. He was interrogated for 9.5 hours when he was 22 years old and served 10 years.

"I was told many times that 'you are the person that did this." Bradford said. "I knew I was innocent...I thought, just give them a statement, give them what they want now... They'll test that evidence, and this will all be over."

Adding support for the bill was the Washington Innocence Project.

"Criminal investigations are no longer a search for

truth, but they are a search for generating material that will lead to a conviction," said Lara Zarowsky, the Executive Director of the Washington Innocence Project, a non-profit organization that supplies free legal and investigative services to those who have been wrongfully convicted.

Certified forensic reviewer David Thompson also testified in favor of this bill. For over four decades, he provided training on interview and interrogation techniques to federal state local law enforcement.

"If we lie about evidence, cameras, fingerprints, DNA, it causes memory distrust. It causes confusion...Why do investigators lie in the first place?" Thompson asked. "It's because the evidence doesn't exist. Otherwise, it wouldn't be deceptive."

Thompson also said he thinks the bill will have broad, positive effects.

"I firmly believe this legislation not only will improve the quality and effectiveness of investigative interviews, but also rebuilds trust and will help resolve cases," Thompson stated. Julie Barrett, founder of

the Conservative Ladies of Washington, argued this legislation is not needed because if a law enforcement officer intentionally uses deception in a custodial interrogation, it is already inadmissible in court.

James Trainum, a retired detective from Washington D.C. Police Department pushed back against that idea. "Every single case involving

a wrongful conviction that had a false confession, that judge ruled that conviction to be admissible," Trainum said.

If the bill is approved,

Washington State will be the 10th state to ban deceptive tactics, according to the testimony by Russell Brown, of the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys. Brown added Washington would be the only state to protect more than just minors from these tactics.

The Washington State Journal is a non-profit news website funded by the Washington Newspaper Publishers Association Foundation. Learn more at wastatejournal.org.



DIGITAL MARKETING AGENCY

We help you market your business with a trusted strategy to achieve your business goals.





29 S. Wenatchee Ave., Suite A Wenatchee, WA 98801





LEGISLATIVE

Newhouse building rises on Olympia's capitol campus

By Aspen Anderson Washington State Journal

OLYMPIA - Facing health and safety hazards and experiencing overcrowding, in May 2023 the original Irving R. Newhouse Building on the capitol campus in Olympia was entirely demolished and construction of a new building began.

Amidst rumors of a potential renaming, Rep. Bryan Sandlin, R-Zillah, representing the 15th District just like the building's namesake, introduced HCR 4405 to preserve the original

"We can take a page out of his career, each and every one of us to be a bipartisan member of this Legislature. He worked across the aisle very well. He represented his district very well," Sandlin said.

Irving R. Newhouse served for 34 years, holding office in the House of Representatives from 1965 to 1980 and in the Senate from 1980 to 1998. During his tenure, he took on various roles including Senate Republican Floor Leader and Senate President Pro Tempore.

Sandlin presented the late senator's family with a biography, which was prepared by the staff.

"They appreciate the recognition and are honored to keep that name, as well as I am. And I hope everyone will support this.'

The Newhouse tradition in politics continues. U.S. Congressman Dan Newhouse, the son of Irving, presently serves as a representative for Washington's 4th congressional district.

building when



ASPEN ANDERSON / WASHINGTON STATE JOURNAL

The Newhouse building is currently under construction as part of the Legislative Campus Modernization for its replacement.

completed will house Senate members and their staff. Currently, the bill has 15 bipartisan sponsors. If

approved, the new structure will bear the name Irving R. Newhouse.

Completion of the building is



A sign on the edge of the construction site shows what the new Newhouse office building will look like.

anticipated in late 2024.

The Washington State Journal is a non-profit news website funded by the

Washington Newspaper *Publishers* AssociationFoundation. Learn more at wastatejournal.org.

Shift to even-year local elections proposed to boost voter turnout

By Aspen Anderson Washington State Journal

OLYMPIA - Low turnouts for local elections are leading some to advocate for moving those contests to even numbered years alongside national races.

"Young people are part of the communities that are being left behind," said Rep. Darya Farivar, D-Seattle. She is a cosponsor of a bill in this year's legislative session to move elections to even-numbered years. She is also the youngest legislator in Washington and said this issue is very personal to her.

"This issue is about making sure that we have the best democracy we can possibly have and hearing the voices of absolutely everyone," Farivar said.

Currently, in numbered years, federal, state, and county offices and state or local ballot measures are on the November ballot. In odd numbered years, state ballot measures, and most local government elections for cities, towns, and special purpose districts are decided.

UCSD Zoltan Hajnal, Professor of Political Science, self-proclaimed as the "world's foremost expert on election times," studied this topic for decades.

"Every study that has looked at this... has found that moving to even-year elections doubles

or more than doubles voter

ASPEN ANDERSON / WASHINGTON STATE JOURNAL Election turnout for local races would increase if they ran in

even numbered years with state and national elections.

turnout," Hajnal said. Hajinal asserts this increase

in voter turnout increases youth share of the vote by over 20 percentage points and this creates a more racially diverse voting population.

Chris Roberts, Mayor of the City of Shoreline, supports the bill. He points to a significant drop in voter turnout from 67% to 34% from 2022 to 2023.

Oregon is among the 26 U.S. states that either permit or mandate city elections to coincide with statewide elections, resulting in double the voter turnout compared to Washington cities, according to Alan Durning from Sightline Institute, an organization devoted to policies that encourage diversity, equity and inclusion.

Critics, however, argue that moving elections to federal election years would cause local elections to get lost in the noise of bigger campaigns.

"I was at the very bottom of the ballot," Rep. Sam Low R-Lake Stevens said, reflecting on his 2016 county council race and the difficulty he faced in advertising amidst concurrent presidential and state office elections.

Rep. Leonard Christian, R-Spokane Valley, and Rep. Greg Cheney, R-Battle Ground, argue an off-year election can identify structural weaknesses in your election process and the state is able to justify fulltime employees.

Rep. Mia Gregerson, D-Sea-Tac, acknowledges there are drawbacks, but asserts they cannot be the reason why this bill does not pass. "The people of Washington state have been very clear that even-numbered election cycles are something that they want," she says. Andrew Villeneuve, from

Northwest Progressive Institute, testified in favor of the bill, noting: "This is the only electoral reform available that can as much as double turnout as well as greatly diversifying it." In polling Villenueve has

found a ratio of 2-1 support in favor of even-year elections for localities.

Why has the seemingly impactful shift to evennumbered years for elections, a potential key to boosting voter turnout, been a long time

"The Secretary of State staffer said this is a 50-year tradition. Why would you change it?" Gregerson asked. "I've been thinking about that a lot and trying to figure out, what does that mean? And it just really is pushing against change, right?"

Sponsors of the bill are primarily Democrats, but Gregerson said this is not a partisan issue. Conservative states like Montana, Arizona and Idaho have successfully shifted to even-numbered years.

HB 1932, if passed, mandates specific areas to transition to even-year elections if voter turnout remains below 40% for four consecutive odd-year general elections, starting from the 2025 general election.

The Washington State Journal is a non-profit news website funded by the Washington Newspaper Publishers Association Foundation. Learn more at wastatejournal.org.

Legislation to bolster landslide preparedness and safety introduced in Congress

Ward Media / Cashmere Valley

WASHINGTON, DC - In a move to enhance national preparedness and response to landslide hazards, U.S. Representatives Schrier (WA-08), Suzan DelBene (WA-01), and Marie Glusenkamp Perez (WA-03) have introduced the National Landslide Preparedness Act Reauthorization Act (H.R. 7003).

This bipartisan bill, if passed, mitigate losses, protect at-risk through fiscal year 2028, building upon the foundation set by the original act enacted in 2021.

2021legislation empowered the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to establish a National Landslide Hazards Reduction Program. Its core mission is to identify and understand landslide risks,

will reauthorize the National communities, and enhance Landslide Preparedness Act communication and emergency preparedness strategies.

> Washington state, a region with a history of devastating landslides, including the 2014 State Route 530 landslide the deadliest in U.S. history is particularly vulnerable. The increasing severity and frequency of wildfires across Washington and other western

states exacerbate this threat, leaving burn areas highly susceptible to landslides.

Congresswoman remarked on the urgency of the bill, recalling the 2014 landslide that claimed 43 lives. "Nearly ten years ago, our community felt the devastating impact of landslides firsthand as the SR 530 Landslide claimed 43 lives, making it the deadliest in U.S. history," said Rep. Schrier. "This bill will make

crucial investments to further our understanding of landslides, improve our preparation for these natural disasters, and ultimately safeguard our communities."

The proposed legislation would enable the USGS to develop a national landslide strategy, comprehensive hazard and risk inventory database, expand early warning systems for debris flow, and establish

rapid response protocols for significant landslide events. It also aims to improve subsidence groundwater resource accounting and establish a 3D elevation program.

The bill also provides for grants to support research, mapping, data collection on landslide hazards, and the National Science Foundation may offer grants for landslide research.

PPER VALLEY CHURC To Place Information In The Church Guide Call 509-548-5286

These churches welcome you!



CASHMERE



CASHMERE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 303 Maple Street • 509-782-2431 Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m. Call for activities: Pastor Charles Clarke www.cashmerepres.org



CASHMERE COMMUNITY CHURCH 213 S. Division • 509-782-3811 In-person Service, Sunday, 11 a.m. until further notice. Pastor Lilia Felicitas-Malana cashmerecommunitychurch@gmail.com



Sunday Worship Service at 10 am Lead Pastor Steve Haney 5800 Kimber Rd., Cashmere 509-295-8006 christcentercashmere.com





GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH • 509-860-0736 • 401 Elberta Ave.,

Morning Prayer or Holy Eucharist. Services, 10 a.m. Pastor Rob Gohl

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH • 509-860-0736 • 222 Cottage Ave., Morning Prayer or Holy Eucharist. Services, 9:00 a.m.

Pastor Rob Gohl

DRYDEN

DRYDEN COMMUNITY CHURCH Hwy 2 at Dryden Ave. • 509-782-2935

Sunday Worship at 11 am. • Prayer Meeting Wed. at 6 pm. Pastor Bill Clem

MID-VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

8345 Stine Hill Rd. • 509-782-2616 Worship Service, 10 a.m., Sunday School, 9 a.m. Pastor Mike Moore www.midvalley baptist.org

LEAVENWORTH

CASCADE MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

Office: 509-548-4331 11025 Chumstick Hwy. Please join us Sunday mornings 9 a.m., Sunday School 10:30 a.m., Worship Service

CORNERSTONE CHURCH Leavenworth Grange Hall 621 Front St. info@cornerstoneleavenworth.com

Sunday Worship - 10 a.m.



LEAVENWORTH COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 418 Evans Street • 509-548-5619

10 a.m.Sunday Service, Pastor Jo Dene Romeijn-Stout Leavenworthumc.org leavenworthumc@outlook.com

10170 Titus Rd. (across from middle school) Church: 509-548-7667

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Meetings: Sunday - 10 a.m. **FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA**

"Reconciling Works Congregation"

224 Benton Street • 509-548-7010 Worship 9:30 a.m. w/coffee following Eva Jenson, Pastor https://www.flcleavenworth.org

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LEAVENWORTH, SBC

429 Evans Street, 509- 470-7745 Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. Website: www.leavenworthbaptist.com Email: info@leavenworthbaptist.com

LEAVENWORTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

111 Ski Hill Drive • 509-548-5292 Sunday Worship 10 a.m. Lead Pastor: Greg Appleby Youth Pastor Paige Derossett Worship Pastor-Jacob Mitchell www.LCN.org

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

10600 Ski Hill Drive • 509-548-4345 Saturday Services • Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. • Fred Smith • 509-860-3997

> 210 Benton Street • 509-548-7138 Sunday Worship 10 a.m., Prayer 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Pastor Russell Esparza

SPIRIT LIFE CENTER

MONITOR



New to our area? On vacation?

3799 Fairview Canyon • 509-782-2601 In-person service, Sunday, 9 a.m. Pastor Lilia Felicitas-Malana

PESHASTIN

LIGHT IN THE VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH 8455 Main Street

Sunday Worship 10 a.m. • Pastor John Romine www.lightinthevalley.org



7591 Hwy. 97 • 509-548-4222 Sunday Worship, 10 a.m. Pastors, Darryl and Mindy Wall Email: newlifeleavenworth@gmail.com FB page: newlifeleavenworth www.newlifeleavenworth.com

NEW LIFE FOURSQUARE CHURCH



PLAIN

PLAIN COMMUNITY CHURCH Serving Our Valley Since 1941 12565 Chapel Dr. 509-763-3621 Looking for you at 10:30 this Sunday! plaincommunitychurch.org facebook.com/plaincommunitychurch office@plaincommunitychurch.org