

SENIOR CENTER

Holiday Bazaar had something for everyone

BREWSTER - The Holiday Bazaar hosted by the Brewster-Bridgeport-Pateros Senior Center and Thrift Store last Friday, Dec. 9, drew an assortment of vendors that brought a variety of quality products from homemade syrup and hand-painted signs to colorful bags and monogrammed cups.

This is only the second year that the Senior Center has held the holiday event, but both the turnout of customers and the caliber of the craft work is promising for future events of its kind to raise needed funds for the organi-

zation. Some of the vendors included:

- Staci Pippit, whose Old Forest Hag products include Old Fashioned Elderberry Syrup and a selection of herbal solutions from Pacific Northwest sources.
• Heather and Joel McFee specialize in handmade Christmas décor including ornaments, wreaths, and painted signs.
• Margi Allen makes monogrammed cups and other

SEE BAZAAR ON PAGE A3



COURTESY OF BREWSTER-BRIDGEPORT-PATEROS SENIOR CENTER Plum & Khloe Designs specialize in colorful bags.



COURTESY OF BREWSTER-BRIDGEPORT-PATEROS SENIOR CENTER Old Forest Hag makes syrups and herbal solutions.

BRIDGEPORT



MIKE MALTAIS/WARD MEDIA

New Christmas light panels brighten the park.

Santa comes to town



MIKE MALTAIS/WARD MEDIA

Santa and Mrs. Claus settle in following their town tour in a fire engine.

The North Pole couple listened to Christmas lists and posed for photos

By MIKE MALTAIS Ward Media Staff Reporter

BRIDGEPORT - Santa and Mrs. Claus came to town early - but in style - at brightly lit Bouska Park on Dec. 8.

Following a tour of the downtown in a light-decorated fire engine, the North Pole couple settled in the park gazebo and spent the next two hours listening to Christmas lists and posing for photos from scores of families lined

up for their turn to sit with the merry pair.

Chamber of Commerce president Jose Sanchez said that despite the wet and cold weather the crowd turned out in good spirits to enjoy free hot drinks, tamales, and cookies, courtesy of the Bridgeport Plaza and San Marcos markets.

The attendance was reminiscent of the chamber's previous event, Oktoberfest in Fireman Park, where more than 100 folks gathered for Halloween-themed activities.

"We handed out about 150 goodie bags," said Sanchez who estimated the total turnout at more than 200 people,

SEE SANTA ON PAGE A2

COMMUNITY

Mansfield FFA secures Wilco grant



COURTESY OF JAMEY JO STEELE/MSD

Santa (center) entertains Mansfield FFA officers (from left) Lukas Fletcher, George Murison, Tiera Miller, Evalee Shafer, Santa, George Murison and advisor Jamey Jo Steele.

By MIKE MALTAIS Ward Media Staff Reporter

MANSFIELD - There is always something happening with the school's FFA chapter. FFA/Agriculture instructor Jamey Jo Steele said her chapter officers just completed volunteering at the North Central Washington fairgrounds in Waterville during the Cowboy Brunch fundraiser organized by the fair to help raise funds for the Big Bend Round Up.

"The kids helped prepare, cook, set up and serve breakfast to close to 300 people," said Steele.

The chapter applied for and received its second Wil-

co FFA Forever Grant. Wilco is a farm supply store that offers grants to FFA chapters for large projects.

"This is our second time receiving this grant," said Steele. "The first monies were used to build our first steer pen at the school farm in 2022."

With more than half (55%) of the K8-12 student body involved in FFA, the chapter makes good use of the money.

"With the growing number of chapter members raising steers we will use these new funds to purchase panels, gates, and posts to build an additional pen," Steele said.

SEE FFA ON PAGE A2

BREWSTER

Legion hosts Christmas dinner, gift exchange



MIKE MALTAIS/WARD MEDIA

Columbia Post 97 finance officer Stacey Elson (standing) issues tickets for the White Elephant gift exchange following Christmas dinner.

By MIKE MALTAIS Ward Media Staff Reporter

BREWSTER - Christmas dinner and a White Elephant gift exchange at American Legion Columbia Post 97 last Saturday, Dec. 9, is just one of the events that helps the organization raise funds.

This year some of those funds allowed for the purchase of gifts for 20 veterans living in assisted living facilities or those who cannot easily get around.

Thursday night bingo, the annual golf tournament at Alta Lake, and the Auxiliary Unit 97 annual craft bazaar are some of those events.

Many may not know that the Legion offers a daily \$12.95 lunch special of burger basket with fries, and non-alcoholic drink from noon to 2 p.m. from Tuesday through Friday for members and non-members alike. The Wednesday lunch special is even better with an additional \$2 off.

All day meals specials are also on the menu:

- Tue. - Chicken & Swiss w/chicken noodle soup (\$12.95).
• Wed. - Patty Melt w/pot roast soup (\$11.95).
• Thu. - Grilled Cheese w/ tomato basil soup (\$8.75) or taco salad/two tacos (\$8.50).
• Fri. - Beer battered cod w/clam chowder soup (\$11.95).

Friday night is steak night from 5-8 p.m. featuring an

8-ounce sirloin steak dinner (\$16.50).

Sunday mornings offer a hearty breakfast from 9-noon.

Columbia Post 97 welcomes new members and encourages local veterans to consider joining. To learn more call 509-689-3307 or stop by Legion headquarters at 102 Third Street in Brewster. Inquiries can also be directed by email to membership@legion.org or phone 317-630-1321.

Inside the Quad City Herald this week

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Sports..... B1 Puzzles B3



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MIKE MALTAIS/WARD MEDIA

The front of a long line of Santa-seekers await their turn.

SANTA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

some from out of town.

“We advertised on social media,” said Sanchez, “and we booked Santa six months in advance to make sure he was available.”

Residents who recall past Christmas in the park gatherings may have noticed some new lighting both in Bouska and Fireman parks. Last year the city, with help from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, purchased some new holiday light panels that helps add to the festive atmosphere in Bouska.

“The next thing is to get a Christmas tree for there,” said city clerk Judy Brown. “We’ve heard about an Arbor grant to check into to try to get a



MIKE MALTAIS/WARD MEDIA

All dressed up to like Santa Claws.

permanent Christmas tree to replace the one we had to take out.”

Sanchez is already laying plans for next year. “We plan to make it bigger

and better,” said Sanchez. “We’re planning to have a parade next year.”

Mike Maltais: 360-333-8483 or michael@ward.media

FFA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

The chapter just wrapped up its 11th annual Christmas wreath sale fundraiser.

“We have been using a Washington based company called Sherwood Forest Farms for the past 11 years and have grown from 45 customers in 2014 to 105 this year,” Steele said.

The Mansfield FFA’s second annual Dinner & Auction is set for Sunday, March 24. Tickets will go on sale February 1.

Mike Maltais: 360-333-8483 or michael@ward.media

15th annual writers competition opens doors for Eastern Washington writers

Ward MEDIA

WENATCHEE - Calling all aspiring wordsmiths! The 2024 Writers Competition, now in its 15th year, is gearing up to celebrate the art of storytelling. Organized jointly by the Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center in collaboration with Write On The River, this prestigious event promises Eastern

Washington writers an opportunity to showcase their literary skills.

A total of \$1,200 in cash prizes awaits the talented creators of fiction or nonfiction. Entries should not exceed 1,000 words and can be either a complete work or the beginning pages of a captivating tale.

Residents of Eastern Washington are invited to channel

their creativity and submit their manuscripts. Whether you’re polishing up a memoir or unleashing a brand-new narrative, this competition offers a platform to captivate discerning readers.

Detailed guidelines and submission criteria are accessible at writeontheriver.org. The Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center (wmvcc.org) will start accepting online submissions on Feb 1. Writers eager to participate must ensure their entries are submitted by midnight on March 1.

Embracing unity in 2024

A call for harmony amidst political divides

As we stand on the cusp of a new year, it’s evident that our societal landscape continues to be deeply entrenched in political polarization. The chasm between conservatives and liberals seems wider than ever, with the looming year of 2024 portending another wave of charged debates and partisan rhetoric.

In this upcoming year, we’ll undoubtedly find ourselves bombarded with fervent political talking points from every corner, each side fervently advocating its cause. However, amidst this cacophony of differing ideologies, there lies a quiet yet resounding plea for a return to fundamental values that transcend political affiliations.

The beauty of our diverse society lies not just in its differences but also in its ability to bridge those differences. It’s a call for us all to commit to a greater cause: the cause of understanding, empathy, and listening.

The rift between political ideologies should not become an insurmountable barrier to meaningful conversation. It’s within our grasp to disagree respectfully without resorting to animosity or disdain. It’s about acknowledging that while our opinions may differ, our shared humanity

unites us.

As we approach festivities in the coming week, let us not forget the timeless Christmas wish: “Peace on Earth and Good Will Toward Men.” It’s a wish that echoes through generations, transcending politics and encapsulating the essence of compassion and understanding.

In this coming year, let us resolve to not just engage in debates but to listen actively. To truly listen, not just to respond but to understand. To seek common ground, not division. To embrace the concept that diversity of thought can coexist with unity of purpose.

The true test of our progress as a society lies not solely in our ability to push our agendas but in our willingness to forge connections, build bridges, and find solutions together. It’s a commitment to foster a culture where respectful dialogue flourishes, where differing opinions are met with curiosity rather than confrontation.

As the clock ticks towards 2024, let’s pledge to prioritize harmony over discord, to prioritize understanding over judgment, and to commit ourselves to the cause of unity. For in the tapestry of our nation, each thread of differing opinion weaves together a stronger, more resilient fabric of democracy.

May this season remind us all that in pursuing our



Terry Ward

From the Publisher

respective beliefs, the most profound victory lies not in overpowering the opposition but in finding common ground and understanding. Here’s to a year where we embrace the spirit of goodwill towards all, fostering a community where getting along and listening are the cornerstones of progress.

Together, let’s make the aspiration for unity and understanding more than just a Christmas wish but a guiding principle that shapes our interactions throughout the year.

Terry Ward is the CEO of Ward Media and the publisher of the Cashmere Valley Record, Lake Chelan Mirror, The Leavenworth Echo, Quad City Herald, and the Wenatchee Business Journal. He can be reached at terry@ward.media.

Christmas safety gift ideas to ensure fire and life safety

Ward MEDIA

OLYMPIA – The Washington State Fire Marshal’s Office urges the public to prioritize fire and life safety while seeking the perfect holiday gift. Amid the festive rush, considering gifts that could potentially save lives during emergencies is paramount. Here are some thoughtful suggestions:

- **Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm:** Detects the presence of invisible, odorless carbon monoxide.
- **Portable Fire Extinguisher:** Handy for addressing small fires promptly.

- **LED Flashlight:** Essential for preparing against power outages, with brightness levels 60 times stronger than standard flashlights.
- **Whistle:** An effective notification tool for those requiring rescue during emergencies.
- **Emergency Weather Radio/Crank Radio:** Vital during power outages to stay informed about weather changes or national security updates.
- **First Aid Kit:** Opt for a preassembled kit or tailor the supplies to cater to specific needs.
- **Solar Electronics Charger:** Crucial for keeping cell phones charged during power outages, offering a vital communication lifeline in emergencies.

- **Emergency Food/Water Kit:** Designed with extended shelf lives, providing essential nutrition and calories to survive emergencies. Ensure provisions for pets are included.
- **Emergency Roadside Car Kit:** Prepare for unexpected situations during road trips, ensuring safety until help arrives.
- **Medications and Medical Supplies:** Maintain ample supplies for all household members, keeping medication information easily accessible.

For additional information, reach out to the State Fire Marshal’s Office at www.wsp.wa.gov/state-fire-marshals-office or call (360) 596-3929.

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 Call Quad City Herald at 509-689-2507

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COURTESY OF BREWSTER-BRIDGEPORT-PATEROS SENIOR CENTER
Get your monogrammed cups from Margi Allen, left.



COURTESY OF BREWSTER-BRIDGEPORT-PATEROS SENIOR CENTER
The McFee's make rustic Christmas ornaments and signs.

Washington State Department of Health offers tips for a healthy and happy holiday season

Ward MEDIA

OLYMPIA - As the festive season draws near, the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) provides essential guidance to ensure a joyful and health-conscious holiday experience. Embracing the spirit of the season, the DOH underscores the importance of following these seven steps to safeguard personal well-being and that of loved ones:

1. Self-Care: While the holidays often brim with joy, some may face increased stress or feelings of loneliness. Opt for activities that foster connections, take breaks when needed, and stay in touch with friends and family. For those navigating emotional distress or a mental health crisis, the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline offers free and confidential support, available round the clock.

2. Germ Prevention: Prioritize hand hygiene by frequently washing hands and refraining from touching eyes, mouth, and nose to ward off viruses. Use hand sanitizer when hand-washing isn't feasible. Stay updated on COVID-19, flu, and RSV vaccinations and stay home if feeling unwell.

3. Physical Activity: Engaging in physical activities not only enhances sleep and reduces anxiety but also mitigates the risk of chronic ailments. Encourage active gatherings with friends and family, such as group walks or playful sports.

4. Savor the Flavors: Indulge in the delectable spread of holiday cuisine. Relish each bite mindfully, paying attention to the body's cues for satiety.

5. Food Safety: With festive feasts aplenty, ensure food safety by washing hands and surfaces regularly. Prevent cross-contamination by keeping raw meats separate. Cook food to appropriate temperatures and promptly refrigerate leftovers to ward off harmful bacteria.

6. Weather Awareness: Prepare for winter weather in advance. Bundle up warmly, ensuring family members have adequate layers, gloves, hats, scarves, and waterproof boots.

7. Fire Safety: Safeguard against seasonal house fires by taking precautions during cooking, smoking, or using heating devices. Establish and practice an emergency plan regularly to ensure household safety.

BAZAAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

items.
• Plum & Khloe Designs produce colorful bags

with zipper closures or handles.
• Caytlin from Okanogan uses high quality resin art to make personal accessories to domino boards and mancala sets.

• Kim Youngers features a line of Christmas holiday painted signs.
The Brewster-Bridgeport-Pateros Senior Center Thrift Store is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday- Saturday

and offers a wide selection of clothing, children's items, books, CD/DVDs, and household items.

Mike Maltais: 360-333-8483 or michael@ward.media

Okanogan Republicans announce county caucuses

Ward MEDIA
Quad City Herald

OKANOGAN COUNTY - The Okanogan Republicans have announced their scheduled county caucuses set to take place on Saturday, Jan. 13, at 10 a.m.. The meetings

will convene at various locations across the county, catering to residents' convenience and accessibility.

The caucuses are slated to occur at the following venues:
• Tonasket Elementary

School
• Okanogan Commissioners' Hearing Room
• Brewster Legion Hall
• Winthrop Liberty Bell High School

All conservative-minded individuals are warmly encour-

aged to attend these gatherings. The purpose is to engage in constructive discussions regarding pertinent issues and actively participate in selecting delegates for the

upcoming county convention. Pre-registration is strongly advised to ensure smooth proceedings and optimal participation. Attendees are urged to register beforehand to se-

cure their place in the caucus designated for their precinct. Interested individuals can email at karbuckle@gmail.com or call 509-449-1693 for pre-registration and inquiries.

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COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 97

BREWSTER - The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 97, Brewster, will not be meeting in January and February, and will resume meeting the first Wednesday of March, 2024, commencing at 5 p.m.

Dec. 20, 26, 27

Senior meals served Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday at Senior Center and home delivery

BREWSTER - The Senior Center is now serving meals at noon at the center on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Home delivered meals are delivered those same days. Please call 509-689-2815 to reserve meals. Suggested donation for those over age 60 is \$4. For those 60 and under the cost is \$10. Dec. 20: Roast Beef, Baked Potato & Trimmings, Green Bean Casserole, 7 Layer Salad, Fruit Ambrosia, WW Roll, Special Dessert; Friday, Dec. 22 CLOSED; Dec. 26: Tuna Noodle Casserole, Peas & Carrots, Garden Salad, Tropical Fruit, Dessert; Dec. 27: Garden Chili, String Cheese, Cucumber Salad, Tortilla Chips, Cheesy Biscuit, Apple Crisp.

Dec. 20-22, 26-30

Senior Center Thrift Store

BREWSTER - The Brewster-Pateros-Bridgeport Senior Center Thrift Store is open Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Check out their great kids section. Donations accepted when they are open. They are also the Brewster Visitor Information Center and the Brewster Chamber of Commerce meeting room.

Dec. 20-21, 26-28

Chelan Valley Hope

Serving Bridgeport, Mansfield, Waterville, Orondo, Chelan, Manson, Chelan Falls, Entiat CHELAN - GiveNCW is happening now through the end of the year. The Community Foundation of NCW has chosen Chelan Valley Hope as one of the GiveNCW nonprofits for their 2023 fundraising campaign. They are raising funds for "Raising Hope, Helping Families Out of Crisis". Chelan Valley Hope's Raising Hope fund offers a safety net for the extraordinary needs of low-income families. This includes assistance with housing, homelessness prevention, medical, food, clothing, hygiene, coats, and more. The minimum donation is \$10 and Give NCW takes care of the credit card fees, so 100% of your donation goes directly towards Raising Hope. Watch out for giving incentives such as Funday Monday. Each time you donate on a "Funday Monday" your name will be entered to win \$1,000 to use on Give NCW any way you choose. To learn more visit cfncw.org/GiveNCW or contact Hope at info@chelanvalleyhope.org

Dec. 20

American Legion meeting

BREWSTER - American Legion Post #97 current members meetings are on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Post. For information call Greg Wagg at 206-550-6474.

Dec. 21

Bingo

BREWSTER - Brewster American Legion Bingo every Thursday night at 6 p.m. Open to the public. Be early to buy bingo packets and dinner.

DEATH NOTICES

James E Davis

James E Davis, 76, of Okanogan, and formerly of Bridgeport, Washington passed away on December 12, 2023.

Barnes Chapel is handling the arrangements for the family.

OKANOGAN & DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF, BREWSTER POLICE DEPT

Douglas County Sheriff's Office

December 8

07:59 Non-injury Accident, 14th St. and Foster Ave., Bridgeport
 11:55 Public Assist, 700 Fairview Ave., Bridgeport
 14:37 Harassment/ Threat, 102 S. Chelan Ave., Waterville
 15:27 Extra Patrols, 52 Cedar Ave., Bridgeport Bar
 15:39 Harassment/ Threat, 2110 Monroe Ave., Bridgeport
 16:27 Non-injury Accident, 2700 block Rd. J NE, Bridgeport

December 9

01:59 Agency Assist, 13901 SR 17 area, Brewster
 08:55 Vehicle Theft, 155 N. Shore Dr., Orondo
 15:27 Alarm, 232 Vineyard Dr., Orondo
 16:02 Welfare Check, 16 Central St., Bridgeport
 17:30 Court Order Violation, 1636 Fisk Ave., Bridgeport

December 10

19:12 Drugs, 98 Grange Rd., Bridgeport Bar

December 11

01:02 Traffic Offense, 2400 Tacoma Ave., Bridgeport
 05:57 Agency Assist, SR 173 MP 5, Bridgeport
 14:20 Public Assist, 222 17th St., Bridgeport
 21:12 Non-injury Accident, McNeil Canyon Rd. and Rd. 15 N, Mansfield

December 12

09:31 Scam, 425 Hummingbird Rd., Waterville
 16:15 CPS/ APS Referral, 800 Maple St., Bridgeport
 20:14 Traffic Offense, 21318 US Hwy. 97, Orondo

23:36 Harassment/ Threat, 228 Grange Rd., Bridgeport

December 13

11:13 Fraud/ Forgery, 24 Pioneer Rd., Orondo
 11:43 Injury Accident, Rd. Q NW and Rd. 4 NW, Waterville
 14:07 Public Assist, 432 Columbia Ave., Bridgeport
 14:22 Agency Assist, 9 Shady Ln., Orondo
 23:18 Traffic Offense, SR 173 and Morris Ln., Bridgeport

December 14

07:52 Agency Assist, Waterville
 10:14 Parking/ Abandoned Vehicle, 262 Brays Landing Rd., Orondo
 11:53 Animal Problem, 44 Moe Rd., Bridgeport Bar
 13:27 CPS/ APS Referral, 335 E. Railroad Ave., Mansfield
 17:05 Public Assist, 203 Sunset Hwy., Waterville
 19:09 Civil Dispute, 1341 Rd. B NW, Mansfield

Brewster Sheriff's Office

December 7

08:15 Harassment was reported on S. 7th St. in Brewster.

December 8

09:07 A burglary alarm was triggered on E. Main Ave.

December 9

06:52 A citizen assist was requested to report a rape on Hwy. 97.
 10:07 A female subject on Hwy. 97 was reported throwing things in a parking lot after being asked to leave several times.
 23:58 A driver hit a deer on N. Bridge St. and Hwy. 97 in Brewster.

December 10

No local reports.

December 11

08:21 An agency assist was requested on Hospital Way.
 10:32 A citizen was given a courtesy ride to the hospital.
 11:07 An agency assist was requested for a female subject that had left the hospital on foot on Hospital Way.
 22:16 A caller on W. Griggs Ave. reported she'd locked her keys in her running vehicle and requested lockout help.

December 12

11:52 A burglary alarm for an ATM was triggered on W. Main Ave.
 17:21 An order violation was reported on Selkirk Pl. in Brewster.

December 13

16:18 Fraud was reported on W. Main Ave. in Brewster when a female subject was attempting to use fake checks and was threatening an employee at the location.

December 14

00:00 A welfare check was requested on S. 1st St. in Brewster for a subject that took drugs and needed help.

Okanogan County Sheriff's Office

December 8

11:41 A welfare check was requested on W. Warren Ave. in Pateros.

December 9

17:28 A citizen assist was requested on Delfeld Rd. in Bridgeport.

December 9

22:39 A civil dispute was reported

ported on Hwy. 153 in Pateros when a caller sold a Subaru to a male subject with a plan to buy it back earlier this month, and the male was no longer responding to the caller's communication.

December 10

09:57 An order violation was reported on Schnibbe Rd. in Brewster between two male subjects.

December 11

15:05 An animal problem was reported on Sunny Ln. and West Raymond Rd. in Brewster when dogs were reported tied to a backhoe.

17:27 An abandoned vehicle was reported on Paradise Hill Rd. and no driver was around after it looked like it had spun out and was blocking the roadway.

20:42 Animal abuse was reported on Hwy. 153 in Pateros when a UPS delivery driver advised there was a deceased small to medium-sized dog in the yard at the location.

December 12

12:11 An agency referral was requested on Pioneer Rd. in Brewster for a 4-year-old male that had a large bruise and broken blood vessels on the side of his face.

17:40 A caller's Ford was reported on fire with flames visible and the vehicle was 10 feet from the building at Pateros Mall.

December 13

12:23 Fraud was reported on N. Independence St. in Pateros for a \$1086 charge on a bank account.

Camp Fire extends invitation to new members

Ward MEDIA

WENATCHEE - Camp Fire welcomes new clubs, family clubs, and independent members of all ages throughout the year. The organization, dedicated to fostering learning and enjoyment in relaxed and interactive settings, invites youths aged 3 to 18 to embark on an adventurous journey. With a focus on nurturing

personal growth, Camp Fire offers diverse programs led by adult volunteers, employing nationally recognized materials tailored for different age groups. These programs include Starflight (grades K-2), Adventure (grades 3-5), Discovery (grades 6-8), and Horizon & Youth United (grades 9-12).

The calendar is brimming with engaging events such as the You & Me Camp, Group Camping Weekends at Camp


Zanika, community gatherings featuring sledding adventures and wildlife nights, alongside exclusive celebrations designed for Camp Fire members.

For high school students (grades 9-12), the organization provides the opportunity to participate in the Teen Leadership Retreat and engage in various year-round service projects focused on community betterment.


To become a member and unlock these enriching experiences, interested individuals can reach out via email at campfirencw@gmail.com or by calling the council at 509-663-1609.

Camp Fire NCW proudly serves Chelan & Douglas, Grant, Okanogan, Adams, and Kittitas Counties, fostering a spirit of adventure and growth within the community.

Design a greeting



Mason G. / Mrs. Ahl / Brewster Elementary



Happy holidays and warmest wishes with gratitude from all of us at **VIP Insurance Agencies.**

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METHOW

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- Matthew 19:26



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PATEROS

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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Brewster Boys Basketball
Cort Gebbers #33
Senior

Cort is a four year varsity player for Brewster. He plays a vital role for the team, he dominates the rebounding effort every night and scores consistently around the rim. He may not prioritize basketball all year round, but when he puts his mind to it and gives

consistent focus to what the coaches emphasize, he does some really good things and the team feeds off that. A couple of years ago, Cort decided to pursue throwing events in Track and Field instead of baseball, and this last spring won the state championship on Shot Put. He will now pursue that further at Easter WA University next fall.



Pateros Boys Basketball
Jesus Zanabria
Senior

He came to Pateros about three years ago with no high school credits and didn't know any English. Since then, he has grown a passion for sports, playing football, basketball, soccer, and baseball. He has grown both as an athlete and a student. He works extra hard in school while learning English and one would never know talking with him today how far he has come in three years ago. Jesus is also on track to graduate this year from Pateros. This week he has averaged 13 points and 10 rebounds in both our games. For the season he is averaging 10 points, 8 rebounds, and shooting 50% from both inside and outside the arc. He is also shooting 50% from the free-throw line. Jesus is very coachable and when you ask him to do something, he doesn't hesitate and goes out to do what is asked. It's been a pleasure watching him grow and develop into the young man he is today.



Waterville/Mansfield Girls Basketball
Tiera Miller #2,
Senior, post & point guard

Tiera is off to another strong season as a team leader, post and point guard for the Shockers basketball team. Miller starts the game in a post position which at 5'6" is undersized. However, her physical strength and personal determination more than make up for any height difference versus opponents. As the game continues Miller moves to point guard which she has played since 6th grade. Tiera's quickness and willingness to set up her teammates puts pressure on opposing defenses when running the point guard position.

SCHEDULE

GIRLS BASKETBALL	
Dec. 20	Pateros vs Manson, Away at 6 p.m.
Dec. 22	Brewster vs Napavine High School, Away at 6 p.m.
Dec. 23	Brewster vs Rainier High School, Away at 12 p.m.

BOYS BASKETBALL	
Dec. 20	Waterville vs Columbia High School, Home at 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 22	Brewster vs Napavine High School, Away at 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 23	Brewster vs Rainier High School, Away at 1:30 p.m.

SCOREBOARD

GIRLS BASKETBALL	
Dec. 11	Bridgeport 39, Oroville 57; Loss
Dec. 12	Pateros 55, Manson 25; Win
Dec. 14	Pateros 28, Waterville 52; Loss
Dec. 14	Waterville 52, Pateros Junior/High School 28; Win
Dec. 15	Brewster 65, Lake Roosevelt High School 34; Win
Dec. 16	Brewster 67, Quincy High School 25; Win

BOYS BASKETBALL	
Dec. 11	Bridgeport 64, Oroville 46; Win
Dec. 12	Pateros 56, Manson 61; Loss
Dec. 14	Pateros 31, Waterville 40; Loss
Dec. 14	Waterville 40, Pateros Junior/High School 31; Win
Dec. 15	Brewster 56, Lake Roosevelt High School 90; Loss
Dec. 15	Waterville 40, Moses Lake Christian Academy 39; Win
Dec. 16	Brewster 61, Quincy High School 90; Loss

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Go Mustangs

Bears capture first win of season over Liberty Bell

By MIKE MALTAIS
Ward Media Staff Reporter

BREWSTER – The Bears varsity boys basketball team captured their first win of the season with a 69-60 non-league victory on the road at Liberty Bell last Saturday, Dec. 9, but they had to work for it.

Brewster took a four-point first-quarter lead, 19-15, behind the fairly even scoring from Brady Wulf with six points, Mario Camacho, Jr., with five, and Cort and Kelson Gebbers with four apiece.

“Liberty Bell plays hard and multiple guys look to put pressure on you on both ends of the floor,” said head coach Michael Taylor. “We handled the pressure at times, but still need to be more consistent in that phase of the game.”

That pressure allowed the Mountain Lions to get back into the game with a two-point lead, 35-33, at halftime. Wulf and Cort Gebbers kept the Bears close with nine and five points respectively.

“We played multiple defenses which I thought



Brewster head coach Michael Taylor confers with his team during a time out.

played a role in us coming out with a win, even though many times we were not all in sync with what we were doing,” said Taylor. “We will have to get better at that go-

ing forward.”

Brewster opened up an eight-point lead in the third quarter and matched Liberty Bell point-for-point through most of the fourth quarter to

win by nine.

“We scored at a higher rate thanks to some better shooting and some clean looks,” said Taylor. “We have lots of work to do but this is a good win to build on.”

Wulf led all scorers with 30 points while the Mountain Lions had more balanced scoring with four players hitting in double figures.

Taylor said the team needs to get in better shape and improve on many facets of the game, particularly taking care of the ball and reducing turnovers.

“We also need our younger bench guys to build some confidence, so they can be a bigger presence in these games,” Taylor said.

Brewster: 19-33-49-69
Liberty Bell: 15-35-41-60

Brewster scoring

- B. Wulf – 30
- C. Gebbers – 14
- K. Gebbers – 13
- M. Camacho, Jr. – 8
- S. Arevalo – 2
- G. Baker – 2

Mike Maltais 360-333-8483 or michael@ward.media

Chelan boys basketball team wins, girls fall

OKANOGAN – The Chelan High School varsity boys' basketball team improved its overall win-loss record to 5-1 following a convincing 60-29 win on the road against the Bulldogs on Tuesday, Dec. 12.

The Goats established the game tempo and took control early with a 16-8 first quarter helped by the defense's six forced turnovers. When they added another eight turnovers in the second quarter on top of a 30-20 lead, Okanogan knew it had a big hole to fill if it was going to forestall a rout by the Goats.

If anything, the Chelan defense ratcheted up a notch or two in the third quarter, enough so that the Bulldogs were held scoreless through the entire eight minutes. With an all-but-insurmountable 41-25 lead going into the fourth quarter, a younger and smaller Goats' lineup still held Okanogan to just four points to answer the 19 by Chelan.

Jacob Allen paced Chelan scoring with 14 points including two three pointers. Ryan Rainville added 13 and Isaac Wilson, 10.

“It was great to see our team stay composed and display such solid sportsmanship during a physical game,” said head coach Tony Callero. “Our kids took 20 hard fouls and never backed down and never let it bother them.”

Callero also praised Allen's performance.

“Jacob Allen played a great game! He was on every loose ball, went after every rebound and was always in the right spots at the right time offensively,” said Callero. “He made six shots and maybe only had one miss.”

Girls hit a wall

What the Goats did to the Okanogan boys was repaid in full measure by the Bulldogs who started with a strong 17-6 first quarter and built from there.

The Chelan girls did not have an answer for the pressure defense and steady scoring Okanogan brought to its home court. At half-time, the Lady Bulldogs were up 39-12.

Okanogan's defense allowed just two points in the third period and none in the fourth to win going away, 77-14.

Brynn Hughbanks led Chelan with 10 points while Arabelle Finch and Jayci Simmons contributed two points each.

“We came to Okanogan to-night not ready to play,” said head coach Nick Longmire. “The Bulldogs are a very good team, but you always want to play your best basketball against teams like that and we didn't. Okanogan is a demonstration of what a playoff team looks like.”

JV GIRLS RESULTS:

- 1st Qtr: Chelan – 0, Okanogan – 18
- 2nd Qtr: Chelan – 4, Okanogan – 11
- 3rd Qtr: Chelan – 0, Okanogan – 11
- 4th Qtr: Chelan – 0, Okanogan – 14

Scoring leaders:

- Finley Brandt – 2
- Peyton Bodle – 2

“The girls are growing together as a team,” said head coach Abby Lewellen. “We have now played three contests and they are learning more and more about the aspects of the game.”

Mike Maltais: 360-333-8483 or michael@ward.media

Cisneros tops Chelan wrestlers at Connell

CHELAN – The Chelan High School wrestling team descended upon Connell last Saturday, Dec. 9, to participate in the highly competitive Connell Invite. The athletes faced tough competition but were led by standout performances from Sebastian Cisneros, Ronald Hooten, Zimri Kelling, and freshman Maddoc Finch.

Cisneros emerged as the star of the day, battling through a series of intense

matches to claim an undefeated championship.

Ronald Hooten, another key contributor to the team's success, faced tough competition throughout the day. Despite a hard-fought loss in the semifinals, Hooten rebounded, securing a crucial win to clinch the third-place spot in his weight class.

Zimri Kelling faced an early setback, losing his first match of the day. Undeterred, Kelling

then won four consecutive matches by pin to secure a well-deserved fifth-place finish.

Freshman Maddoc Finch showed skill and composure, winning three matches and only experiencing a single loss on his way to claim fifth place in his weight class.

“Overall, we wrestled good. There was a lot of close matches that we won because we outworked our opponents

which is really exciting for me,” said head coach Zach Linton. “The first step in becoming a champion is outworking the opponent, then everything else will fall into place. To see our freshman doing so well this early gives me high optimism for the rest of the season and for our future years.”

Mike Maltais: 360-333-8483 or michael@ward.media



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Create an Interview!

Imagine you are a newspaper reporter. What question would you ask a Christmas tree and a snowman? Write your question, then write what you think the answer might be.

Q: _____

A: _____



Q: _____

A: _____



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Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: INTERVIEW
Interview as a verb means to have a conversation between a reporter and a person who will be the subject of the report.

The newspaper reporter interviewed the mayor, asking her many questions.

Use the word **interview** today when talking with your friends and family members.



SANTA ANSWERS ALL!

Imagine you had a chance to interview Santa Claus! What would you ask? What would Santa say? Here are some ideas from some *Kid Scoop* readers, who came up with the questions and the answers for today's page.

Q: How did you become Santa and how did you get your magic?

Santa: I was a smart, cheerful child. When my parents died, I was heartbroken. I cried, not out of self-pity, but out of true love. One of my tears dropped into the snow and froze to make an ice marble. When I held it, it glowed and took me to the North Pole. I met the elves and they needed my help.

How many ice marbles can you find on today's page?



After I grew up with them I took on the greatest task of all—delivering presents. The ice marble gave me powers I have today.

— By Chris

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow one-step written directions.



Help Santa find his way through the magic maze back to the North Pole.



Q: What kind of milk do you like?

Santa: I like whole milk best, but Mrs. Claus put me on a diet so I have to drink non-fat.

— By Nick

Q: How can you visit all of the children of the world in one night?

Santa: I fly at super speed; that's why you can't see me.

— By Adrian

Extra! Extra!

Santa Comes to YOUR Town!

Pretend Santa has to buy all of his Christmas presents from the stores advertising in your newspaper. Help him by selecting a gift for everyone in your class using ads in the paper. Don't spend more than \$500.

Standards Link: Math/Number Sense: Solve addition problems using money amounts.

Q: Where do you buy your groceries?

Santa: I don't buy them; Mrs. Claus grows them. On Christmas Eve I come back with a sleigh full of soil instead of an empty sleigh. We grow food in our greenhouse and eat fresh veggies and fruit everyday.

— By Laurena



Find the two identical fruit trees.

Find at least 10 differences between Santa and his reflection.



Standards Link: Investigation: Identify similarities and differences in common objects.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Q: Do you think you'll want to be Santa forever?

Santa: As long as my heart is _____ and my belly is _____, I reckon I'll want to be!

— By Maya

Q: Has there ever been a year when you gave out more _____ than presents?

Santa: No, and I _____ that never _____.

— By Michael



Where does each of these words belong?

- JIGGLING
- COAL
- HOPE
- HAPPENS
- POUNGING

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

- INTERVIEW
- MARBLE
- SANTA
- ANSWERS
- POUNGING
- FRUIT
- REFLECTION
- CLASS
- POLE
- MILK
- CLAUS
- CHEERFUL
- SNOW
- BELLY
- DIET

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

P	H	A	P	M	Y	L	L	E	B
P	O	U	N	D	I	N	G	A	P
C	W	L	Y	S	D	L	M	A	A
L	D	I	E	T	W	A	K	T	T
A	W	E	I	V	R	E	T	N	I
U	Y	S	A	B	N	T	R	A	U
S	S	A	L	C	W	O	N	S	R
C	H	E	E	R	F	U	L	A	F
N	O	I	T	C	E	L	F	E	R

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

What's the question?

Find five to ten quotes in articles in today's newspaper. On a separate piece of paper, write the question you think each quote answers.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Analysis of media communications.



What did The ghost say To Santa Claus?

ANSWER: I'll have a boo Christmas without you.

Write On!

Interview Santa

Imagine that you could interview Santa Claus. What would you ask him? What do you think his answer would be? Write one question and make up an answer for the question as if Santa had answered it.



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WARD MEDIA

Help Wanted



The City of Chelan's Public Works Department is accepting applications for a temporary 5-month Administrative Assistant. This position would commence in January and end in June of 2024. This position would be compensated at 25\$/hr and receive paid holidays that fell within the employment window. Application materials are located on the City's website: <https://cityofchelan.us/Job.aspx>. First review of applications will be January 2, 2024. Position is open until filled. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

For Sale

Pets

Bernese Mountain Dog Puppies, AKC, smart, docile, affectionate, good with kids and older people. Good in cold and hot weather, apartments or homes. All shots and wormed, w/w/o papers. \$1500. (509)675-1767

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Employment

Help Wanted

Building Official/Inspector
The City of Leavenworth is seeking an energetic, self-directed individual for the full-time position of Building Official in the Community Development Department. The ideal candidate will have Building Official certification or five years related knowledge of residential building, mechanical, plumbing and inspection processes with the ability to obtain ICC certification as a Building Official within one year of employment. Primary responsibilities include plan review, performing inspections, issuing certificates of occupancy, ensuring code compliance, maintaining accurate records, and responding to in-person and telephone inquiries. This position is a union position with a salary range of \$7,073 - \$9,478/month; excellent monthly benefits including 100% employer paid medical/dental/vision plan premium, \$70 employer HRA contribution, 1 day each of vacation and sick leave per month, 11.5 holidays plus 2 floating holidays per year, DRS retirement plan, and comp time/overtime accrual. Applications available on the city website at www.cityofleavenworth.com/employment or by contacting the City of Leavenworth at (509) 548-5275 or 700 US Highway 2, Leavenworth, WA 98826. The first review of applications will be on December 15, 2023. Position will remain open until filled. The City of Leavenworth is an equal opportunity employer.

Senior Planner
The City of Leavenworth is seeking an energetic, self-directed individual for the full-time Senior Planner in the Community Development Department. The ideal candidate will have five years of progressive experience in city or county planning, with the ability to obtain AICP certification within one year. Primary responsibilities include plan review, processing land use applications, facilitating the Design Review Board, issuing administrative decisions, ensuring code compliance, maintaining accurate records, and responding to in-person and telephone inquiries. Some evening meetings are required. Limited remote work is possible with this position. This position is a union position with a salary range of \$6,099 - \$8,173/month; excellent monthly benefits including 100% employer paid medical/dental/vision plan premium, \$70 employer HRA contribution, 1 day each of vacation and sick leave per month, 11.5 holidays plus 2 floating holidays per year, DRS retirement plan, and comp time/overtime accrual. Applications available on the city website at www.cityofleavenworth.com/employment or by contacting the City of Leavenworth at (509) 548-5275 or 700 US Highway 2, Leavenworth, WA 98826. The first review of applications will be on December 15, 2023. Position will remain open until filled. The City of Leavenworth is an equal opportunity employer.

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To build a pergola from a pergola kit. Cement footings already in ground. Located 4.5 miles past airport. Bonus if done quickly and securely. Contact Rebekah Near at The Ark of Chelan, LLC, 509-682-1233. Or text at 360-840-0326.

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Legals

Public Notices

PATEROS IRRIGATION DIST.
Meeting 9am on Dec 28, 2023 @ 149 Pateros Mall, Pateros
Published in the Quad City Herald online from December 13 - 27 and in print on December 20, 2023. #6917

Public Notices

Ordinance #531
A summary of an ordinance of the Town of Mansfield, Washington, adopting the amendment of the 2023 Budget. This ordinance is being summarized for publication per RCW 25.27.300. Adopted this 12th day of December 2023, in regular session at the Mansfield Town Hall, Mansfield, Washington.
Published in the Quad City Herald on December 20, 2023. #6929

Public Notices

CITY OF PATEROS REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
The City of Pateros, pursuant to (Chapter 61, Laws of 1981) is inviting statements of qualifications from consulting firms to provide professional engineering and/or survey services related to water, wastewater, streets, sidewalks, transportation, parks, and storm drainage systems. Services may include engineering planning, reports, project designs, funding applications and assistance, construction administration and inspection, environmental reviews, rate studies, survey services, and other work as directed. Projects may be funded by agencies and programs such as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program with federal funds provided by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program, USDA-Rural Development, Washington State Department of Ecology, Washington State Transportation Improvement Board, FEMA, Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office, and other state and federal funding programs. As a result, a number of state and federal equal opportunity and affirmative action requirements will apply to this selection process and the City's projects. The City of Pateros is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Employer and encourages minority and women owned firms to submit statements of qualification. A digital copy of the SOQ must be submitted to the City of Pateros no later than: 3:30 PM, Monday, January 8, 2024. Statements of Qualifications should be emailed to: City of Pateros Attn: Jord Wilson paterosparks@outlook.com or mailed to PO Box 8 Pateros, WA 98846
Published in the Quad City Herald on December 13, 20, 2023. #6856

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CRYPTO FUN
Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to entertaining. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 21 = S)

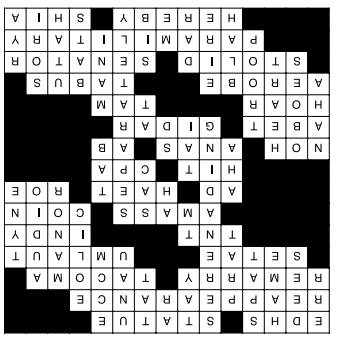
A. 3 10 21 26 6 21 21
Clue: One who entertains

B. 6 12 26 6 9 26 16 17 12
Clue: Have people over

C. 15 11 6 21 26 21
Clue: Company

D. 25 6 12 11
Clue: Planned foods

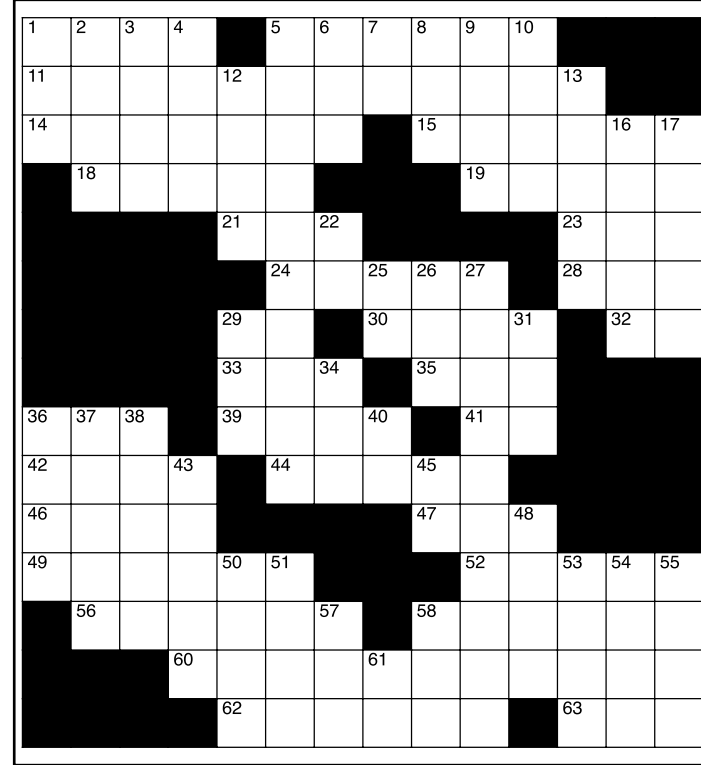
Answers: A. hostess B. entertain C. guests D. menu



Guess Who?

I am a magician and escape artist born in New York on December 19, 1967. Despite objections from my parents, I chose being a professional magician over going to college. I broke the record for being on TV more hours than any other magician.

Answer: Criss Angel

CLUES ACROSS

- Old English letters
- Place under prohibition
- Sculpture
- Showing up again
- Tie the knot again
- Washington city
- Stiff structures in invertebrates
- Mark over a vowel
- Explosive
- Popular race: _ 500
- Pile up
- Mint
- Commercial
- A minute amount (Scottish)
- Small Eurasian deer
- Baseball stat
- Numbers cruncher
- Japanese masked drama
- Gasteyer and de Armas are two
- Blood group
- Assist in wrongdoing
- Language spoken in Cameroon and Chad
- Grayish-white
- A woolen cap of Scottish origin

CLUES DOWN

- Make a mistake
- Gordon and Snider are two
- Geographical region of Finland
- Ejected saliva
- A way of performing
- Scotland's longest river
- One of the six noble gases (abbr.)
- Body art
- Two-toed sloth
- Electronic counter-countermeasures
- Foolish person (Brit.)
- Of the wind
- Grand home
- Sound
- English river
- Symbol indicating ownership
- Exclamation of surprise
- Pouch
- Apart from
- Satisfaction
- The bill in a restaurant
- Sea bream
- Port in southern Japan
- Double-reed instruments
- Center
- South Dakota
- An orderly crowd
- Indicates position
- _pedi
- Nonsense (slang)
- Republic of Ireland
- Nocturnal flyers
- American state
- Clusters in fern fronds
- Patriotic women
- A person's brother or sister
- Breed of sheep
- Popular film "Despicable _"

THE WASHINGTON OUTDOORS REPORT

Hailing a duck taxi

I was lucky enough to get an invite from my old friend Duane Inglin, the host of "Fish Hunt Northwest", to go on a guided duck hunt at Potholes Reservoir last week. We were going to go on the famed Duck Taxi. Established decades ago, by the Meseberg family, you could book a duck hunting trip in the sand dunes area of Potholes Reservoir in Eastern Washington for either guided or non-guided trips. Both adventures brought you from MarDon Resort to your blind before dawn where the decoys were set out and a well-built blind set up.

The Duck Taxi and related guide service is now owned by Shelby Ross, the owner of Ross Outdoor Adventures, who guided for the Meseberg

family for years before taking over the business. At 5:45 a.m. last Tuesday I met Shelby at the boat launch at MarDon Resort. Joining Duane and I on the trip were two other old friends, Bob Loomis and Britton Ransford with Mack's Lure, along with some new friends to include Mike Coombs, President of Outdoor Emporium in Seattle, Mike Surdyk, the Regional Sales Manager for Raymarine and Mathew Messing, who was shooting video for the television show.

We motored along the pitch-black waters and dropped off two non-guided hunters before going to our blind where associate guide Nathan LaFrance and his dog Charlie were waiting for us with the decoys set up and a bright light above the blind to mark

its location in the predawn darkness.

After getting settled into our blind Nathan gave us a safety briefing and soon enough it was time to hunt. Things started off slow on this cloudy day with light breezes but the birds started coming in at a steady rate just before 9 a.m. Small groups of two to four birds along with flocks of up to 15 birds would set their wings to land in the decoys only to be greeted by a volley of shots. The ducks were primarily mallards and bluebills, with a few teal, gadwall and shoveler ducks showing up as well.

Charlie, Nathan's eight-year-old black lab, was an amazing duck dog. Unlike most labs he was absolutely quiet and still in the blind but when sent to retrieve he

would charge into the water and get to work. Several times he retrieved not one, but two mallards at a time. Charlie was not only a hard-working dog but likable and affectionate too. He's definitely one of the better retrievers I've had the chance to hunt with in my lifetime.

By noon things had slowed down and Nathan got out a charcoal grill and grilled up a delicious appetizer of jalapeno duck poppers with cream cheese, followed by skewers of duck kabobs with duck, sausage, onions and more. It was a great way to enjoy the end of a good hunt that saw us taking home 22 ducks.

After emptying the blind, picking up the hulls of our spent shells and retrieving the decoys Nathan took us back to MarDon Resort in his

boat. A couple of hours later we met at the restaurant at the resort, the Beach House, where we enjoyed a great meal graciously paid for by Mike Coombs.

The hunt was televised by "Fish Hunt Northwest" on their YouTube channel and Facebook page on Dec. 14 and on Root Sports Sunday morning between 9 and 10 a.m. You can view the archived show on the show's YouTube Channel on demand.

Shelby Ross will continue to offer hunts on the Duck Taxi as long as the waters in the sand dunes remain ice free. He also offers guided field hunts for geese on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays in the Columbia Basin where you get a chance to harvest not only greater Canada geese but also the smaller lesser Canada

geese and snow geese which are prolific in the area. You can find out more about booking a trip with him at www.rossoutdooradventures.com

Finally, if you are looking for a place to stay it makes sense to stay at the resort you'll be launching from and returning to after your hunt. MarDon Resort has RV sites, park cottages, cabins and additional roofed accommodations for hunters and anglers this winter. With a store on-site with both sporting goods and basic necessities along with the bar and restaurant found at the Beach House, it's truly a one stop shop and oasis in the desert. Find out more at www.mardonresort.com

John Kruse - www.northwesternoutdoors.com and www.americaoutdoorsradio.com

Washington Department of Health launches interactive WIC clinic locator tool

Ward MEDIA

OLYMPIA — The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) unveiled an innovative online tool, the WIC Clinic Locator, designed to bridge connections between individuals and the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program. This initiative aims to enhance accessibility to the underutilized program across the state.

The WIC Clinic Locator map, a key feature of this online platform, showcases over 200 WIC clinics statewide. It offers comprehensive information, including clinic addresses, contact numbers, and operating hours, empowering users to locate and access WIC services easily. Additionally, a newly introduced WIC Interest Form enables individuals to submit applications directly to their chosen clinic online. Healthcare providers and community-based orga-

nizations can also utilize this form to facilitate referrals to the WIC program.

Michele Roberts, the Assistant Secretary for Prevention and Community Health at DOH highlighted the significance of this digital advancement, stating, "The WIC Clinic Locator tool is another important step the state of Washington is taking to modernize the WIC Program and improve equitable access. We know that in our state, as well

as nationally, about 50% of people on Medicaid who are also eligible for WIC benefits are not currently enrolled in the program. Our goal with this tool is to spread awareness of WIC and remove as many barriers as possible."

The WIC Nutrition Program extends monthly food benefits, emphasizing nutritious items such as milk, fruits, and vegetables. Additionally, it offers health screenings, nutritional education, and

invaluable support for breast/chest-feeding. Eligibility for WIC encompasses pregnant individuals, new mothers, those engaged in breast/chest-feeding, and children under the age of 5. Moreover, fathers, grandparents, foster parents, and guardians are encouraged to apply for WIC benefits on behalf of eligible children. In 2022, Washington's WIC program provided services to 195,655 individuals statewide.

The launch of the WIC Clinic Locator marks a pivotal step forward in the state's efforts to expand the reach and impact of the WIC Nutrition Program, striving to empower more individuals with access to essential health and nutrition services.

For further details or to explore the WIC Clinic Locator, visit the official Washington State Department of Health website at <https://doh.wa.gov/node/18893>.

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