



Strengthen brand recognition and loyalty with consistent brand building

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Quad City Herald

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Area drug task force sees success in fight on drugs

By **QUINN PROPST**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

The Columbia River Drug Task Force had a successful year in 2023 in the fight against the drug epidemic.

The mission of the CRDTF is to combat illegal drug activity, current law enforcement issues facing the community, and to help promote successful and thriving communities in both Chelan and Douglas County.

Last year, members of the CRDTF seized nearly 5,500 grams of methamphetamine, 750 grams of cocaine, 24,970 fentanyl pills, and 74.6 grams of pure fentanyl powder.

It is impossible to quantify the number of lives saved by these drug seizures. However, it is important to note that two milligrams of fentanyl powder can be lethal, the task force said in a recent press release.

Chief Ryan Moody said it is hard to measure preventative enforcement.

"I think we can easily say that some lives were saved based off the amount of fentanyl and pills that were taken off the street," he said.

Other drug seizures included heroin, marijuana, and a variety of illicit prescription-type drugs.

The CRDTF served 56 search warrants that resulted in the recovery of 21 firearms, many of which were stolen.

In 2023, the CRDTF opened 119 new cases. Out of those cases, they made 104 arrests and seized over \$76,000 in cash and \$175,000 in bank accounts.

"As far as the other effect that we have on the community is the number of arrests that we do make, it makes it harder for people that want to come here to deal drugs," he said. "I mean, they'll basically go

where they can get away with doing it and if we can try and put a dent in it, and in showing that this isn't an easy place for them to deal drugs. I think that that'll affect the community as well."

The CRDTF not only combats the drug epidemic but also remains flexible in the cases they work and how those cases relate to the needs of the community.

As a result, they also work cases that relate to firearms, gangs, violent crimes, and serial offenders.

This combined focus had a positive impact on juvenile gang violence, in addition to the increasing drug use

and fentanyl overdoses.

The CRDTF worked a case that led to the arrest of a resident of Safe Park 1 in the City of Wenatchee.

That investigation led to two additional arrests of drug dealers who were supplying drugs to residents of the Safe Park locations.

Additionally, the CRDTF met with all the principals from Eastmont School District to educate them on youth gang trends and fentanyl.

CRDTF members also did presentations at two other local schools and participated in the WPD Citizen's Academy.

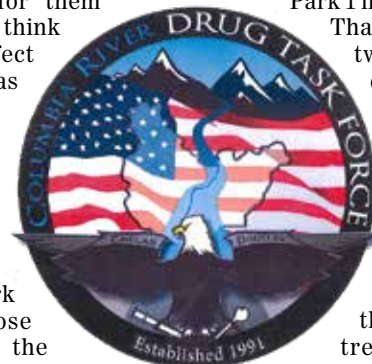
One of the biggest challenges the task force faces is funding. Currently, the task force is funded

by the Byrne JAG grant through the Washington State Department of Commerce. However, that funding will end after 2024.

The Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs asked Washington legislatures to continue funding drug task forces. So the task force will be funded through next year, but after that, they don't know where their funding will come from, Moody said.

Moving forward into 2024, the CRDTF aims to continue to reduce crime rates, help community members feel safe, and continue Wenatchee, East Wenatchee, Chelan, and Douglas County's reputations as great places to raise families and live for generations to come.

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Local ag co-op nurtures tree fruit industry from bud to box



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NORTHWEST WHOLESALE, INC.

By **QUINN PROPST**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

Since the 1930s, Northwest Wholesale, Inc., a locally owned agricultural cooperative, has been an impactful part of the tree fruit industry in North Central Washington.

Cooperatives of all kinds are a vital part of rural America, and agricultural co-ops are no exception as they work to maximize buying power and benefits for their members.

NWW is uniquely tailored to the tree fruit industry in North Central Washington and serves growers and packers "from bud to box."

NWW CEO Rodney Van Orman said the fruits grown in NCW include

pears, cherries, and apples.

"We're pretty unique in our co-op in that we do the pre-harvest side, and we do the post-harvest side," Van Orman said. "And it's all related to tree fruit where a lot of other co-ops have other types of business activities, like retail or they do fuel products like propane, gas, diesel, petroleum products, and then some a lot of other coops in this region also work with grain growers. So essentially, we're pretty unique in the co-op world."

The co-op is headquartered in Wenatchee, with branch locations in Brewster, Cashmere, Chelan, Omak/Okanogan, Oroville, Tonasket, and Royal City.

"With those branches, we service growers in the orchard, and we

call that the pre-harvest side of the business, which we have 10 PCAs or what we call field staff that will go out and go through the orchard with growers and write recommendations for crop protection, as well as nutrients for the for the trees, the orchard," he said.

"And then the other side of the business we call post-harvest," he said. "And on that side of the business, we work with the packaging warehouses, and we supply them with the consumable goods, boxes, trays, bags, and post-harvest chemicals so that the fruit can get to the market in the packaging."

In a co-op business model, members are essentially the owners.

"With the co-op model, what it does is it brings volume from the

growers, which helps improve the buying power that the co-op has, so the more the members buy from the coop, the more buying power the coop has that saves the grower money," he said.

"And as a co-op, we're essentially a nonprofit, and the co-op keeps the money that it needs to pay for the operating expenses, and then whatever's leftover, it pays back the growers at the end of the year," he said. "The profitability goes back to the growers in what we call equity."

NWW offers incentive programs for members buying from the co-op. On the packaging side, they have volume incentives, so the more they buy, the more they get back. On the

See **TREE FRUIT** Page **B2**

Three Rivers board revisits hospital bond issue

By **MIKE MALTAIS**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

BREWSTER – Since the failure of its \$72 million building bond in last November's general election, the Three Rivers Hospital (TRH) Board of Commissioners has been engaged – starting with a Jan. 15 strategic planning meeting – in discussions about the facility's future.

No one involved with TRH operations disputes the critical need to upgrade the current infrastructure. With 44 percent of voters supporting the bond, based on last November's results, the challenge is finding the key to convince another 16 percent needed to reach the 60 percent margin of approval.

Among the topics discussed is mounting a new bond campaign for the November 2024 ballot. The board approved that proposal only after knowledgeable stakeholders were consulted for their analysis and advice. Key among those is David Franklund of KDF Architecture, who designed the "new but modest public facility" at the center of the 2023 bond measure.

Summary and Next Steps

"As a public hospital serving the underserved, we need to find a way to stay viable for our community," the board concluded. "Going forward, we will work along parallel tracks for branding, a new building proposal, and reaching out to groups who have alternative views."

Toward that end, the following action items will:

See **THREE RIVERS** Page **B2**



Bridgeport Chamber calls for Easter volunteers

By **MIKE MALTAIS**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

BRIDGEPORT – Few people get to cross off their bucket list the thrill of filling thousands of plastic Easter eggs with candies and surprises. If you are one of those few your opportunity is just around the corner. The Bridgeport Chamber of Commerce is inviting volunteers to help fill plastic Easter eggs at 6 p.m., March 21, in the city library at 1206 Columbia Avenue.

"A couple thousand eggs," said Chamber president Jose Sanchez of the quantity to fill. "We put a candy in each one. We'll try to do a thousand that day and go from there," Sanchez said.

Easter preparation was the main topic of discussion at the regular monthly meeting of the Chamber on Feb. 15. A major change from last year's hunt is that this one will be held in Bouska Park across from city hall rather than Berryman Park.

The city is in the early stages of upgrading its Berryman facilities.

"They pulled some of the toys out," said Sanchez.

Again, this year, the hunt will be divided among three age groups from toddlers to 13 years of age.

The next event on the Chamber's agenda is the city's biggest, Bridgeport Daze. This year's three-day run will be from June 7-9. The parade will be held on Saturday, June 8.

A new addition to Bridgeport Daze

this year is a T-shirt design contest. Details are listed on the Chamber's Facebook website.

The design elements must include Chief Joseph Dam, Bridgeport Daze 2024, and a representation of Bridgeport. The deadline for design submissions is March 18. The winner will be announced on March 22 and receive a \$50 VISA gift card and a free T-shirt.

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



MIKE MALTAIS/WARD MEDIA
Dr. Tracy Shrable is sworn in as the newest TRH Board of Commissioners member.

Inside The Quad City Herald this Week

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Letters policy

The Quad City Herald 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 non-profit organizations and events. We will not publish lists of businesses, or lists of individual names. Email your letters to: terry@ward.media

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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!



5 THINGS TO DO THIS WEEK

STEAM Friday

The Omak Library will host STEAM Fridays on Friday, March 8 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. in the children's area.

"Join us the second and fourth Friday for STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math)," the event page states. "Each Friday will be a different activity to help you find a passion in the STEAM world. There is so much to explore so join us to learn something fun."

For more information visit ncwlibraries.org.

Guided painting

The Pateros Library will host a guided painting class on Friday, March 8 from 4-6 p.m. at the Pateros Brewster Community Resource Center in Pateros.

"Join us for a step-by-step painting class," the

event page states. "We will be following a video to paint a turtle underwater. Recommended for ages 10+ but younger children are welcome to participate with the help of an adult. All supplies will be provided, and participants will take their artwork home at the end of the class."

Space is limited and registration is required.

For more information and to register visit ncwlibraries.org.

Taste Chelan 2024

Visit Chelan to enjoy Taste Chelan 2024 on Saturday, March 9 from noon to 8 p.m. at select locations.

"March is a food and wine lover's dream in Lake Chelan," the event page states. "Each ticket gets you a curated taste of food and wine at four select locations across the Lake Chelan Wine Valley."

"Don't miss this unique and simply delicious chance to taste some of the best food and wine in Washington's paradise, the Lake Chelan Wine Valley," the event page states.

For more information visit tastechelan.com.

Live music with Chris Ward

Sigillo Cellars in Chelan will host live music by Chris Ward on Saturday, March 9 from 6-9 p.m.

"Enjoy wine flights, glass pours and light fare from our Public House while watching local artists perform," the event page states.

For more information visit sigillocellars.com.

Omak writing group

The Omak Library will host the Omak Writing Group on Monday, March 11 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. in the Pioneer room.

"Join us every Monday starting at 3:30 p.m.," the event page states. "Each week we will share our works in progress, challenge yourself

with a story prompt, and talk about the different aspects of writing. This will be a great chance to improve your writing and to get constructive feedback from other writers as well."

For more information visit ncwlibraries.org.

Strengthen brand recognition and loyalty with consistent brand building

In the world of marketing, where trends come and go, one principle remains constant: the importance of consistency. This is true whether you're a multinational corporation or a family-owned business in our NCW community; consistency across your marketing channels is key to building a strong brand presence with continued customer loyalty. In this article, we'll look at the concept of Top of Mind Awareness (TOMA) and explore how consistency can place your brand at the forefront of customers' minds.

Understanding Top of Mind Awareness (TOMA)

TOMA isn't a new concept for this column; we discussed it in January, and at its core, it means consistently occupying a prominent space in the minds of your audience. It's not just about having a presence; it's about being the go-to option when a need arises. Regularly engaging with your audience through a variety of tactics, be it billboards, radio, social media, email campaigns, or digital or print advertising, reinforces your brand presence. The more frequently your audience sees your brand, the more likely they will remember and choose you when making purchasing decisions.

The Role of Consistency in Brand Building

Consistency is key when we talk about TOMA. It's about presenting a unified brand image and message across all touchpoints, from your website and social media profiles to your advertising campaigns and customer interactions. Consistency breeds familiarity, and familiarity breeds trust.

Customers who encounter a consistent brand experience at every interaction develop a sense of confidence and reliability in your brand, making them more likely to choose you over competitors.

Strategies for Maintaining Consistency

Achieving consistency requires careful planning and execution. Consider these key strategies to help you maintain consistency across your marketing channels:

Create Brand Guidelines: This isn't as scary as it seems; you've probably already done it; just get it down on paper. Outline your brand's personality, voice, tone, and visual identity. These guidelines serve as a roadmap for all marketing efforts, ensuring a consistent brand experience across all channels whether it's radio, print, digital or social media.

Implement a Centralized System of Organization: Again, not scary. Keep track in a spreadsheet or in a planner of all tactics you're using, how long they are running and your investment spend. This will streamline the creation, approval, and distribution of marketing materials and keep you moving forward. It also ensures all content aligns with your brand guidelines, maintains consistency across channels, and that you are reaching all segments of your audience.

Regularly Audit and Optimize: Conduct regular checks of your marketing materials to identify any inconsistencies or deviations from your brand guidelines. Take proactive steps to address these issues and optimize your marketing efforts for

maximum consistency and performance.

Train Staff: Train your staff to uphold your brand standards in all customer interactions, whether in-person, over the phone, or online. Consistency in customer service is just as important as consistency in marketing materials.

Leveraging Multichannel Engagement

Consistency is not limited to a single marketing channel; it must be maintained across all channels to create a cohesive brand experience. Whether it's your social media profiles, email marketing campaigns, website, or traditional print and digital advertising channels, consistency is key to reinforcing your brand message and identity.

Case Study and Example

During the 2008 recession, McDonald's made a bold decision to stick with its advertising strategy and budget, maintaining consistency in its messaging and brand image despite economic uncertainty. Meanwhile, competitors like Burger King and Taco Bell did the opposite. The results were telling: in just 13 months, McDonald's not only weathered the recession but also grew its market share by 5%, demonstrating the power of consistency in branding and customer assurance. Remarkably, McDonald's stock only experienced a minor 3% drop during this period. In



By **AMY YALEY**
COO of Ward Media

contrast, Burger King's stock plummeted by 25%, while Taco Bell's dropped by 29%. These differences underscore the importance of creating certainty for customers in uncertain times. By maintaining consistency in branding and messaging, businesses can instill confidence and trust in their customers, ultimately leading to long-term loyalty and success.

Measuring the Impact of Consistency

Measuring the impact of consistency on brand recognition and loyalty is key for evaluating the effectiveness of your marketing efforts. Metrics such as brand awareness surveys, customer retention rates, and social media engagement metrics can provide valuable insights into the success of your consistency initiatives.

Consistency is not just a buzzword in marketing; it's a fundamental principle that can make or break your brand. By maintaining consistency across your

marketing channels, you can strengthen brand recognition, foster customer loyalty, and ultimately achieve Top of Mind Awareness. In today's competitive landscape, where consumers are inundated with choices, consistency is the key to standing out and winning the hearts and minds of your target audience whether they are here in the heart of Washington or across the globe.

Your Homework

Assess your current branding strategies and identify areas where consistency can be improved. Whether it's updating your brand guidelines, optimizing your content management systems, or training your staff, take proactive steps to ensure consistency across all marketing channels. Your brand's success depends on it.

Amy Yaley is the COO of Ward Media and the co-owner of Apple Capital Marketing & Northwest Swag Works. She can be reached at amy@ward.media.

Have an idea for a story?

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DEATH NOTICE

Jason Rodriguez Lopez

Jason Rodriguez Lopez, 25, of Brewster, Washington passed away on February 23, 2024.

Rosary & Visitation FEB 28. 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Barnes Chapel
Mass of Christian Burial FEB 29. 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Interment FEB 29. 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Locust Grove Cemetery
 Barnes Chapel is handling the arrangements for the family.

OBITUARY

Cherrie Dee Cool (Bennett)

Cherrie Dee Cool (Bennett), affectionately known as Twinks to most of her friends and family, passed away at home on Saturday, February 24, 2024, after a short but valiant fight with cancer.

She was born on December 8, 1961, in Brewster, Washington, to Carl D. and Sharon L. Bennett (Jackson).

She attended Bridgeport Schools and graduated in 1980. In high school, she was a Varsity Basketball and Volleyball player, Cheerleader, and Homecoming Queen. She developed a love of horses and cattle working on her grandpa's ranch in Washington Creek near Chelan and the family cattle and wheat ranch on Pearl Hill, N.E. of Bridgeport. She served in the U.S. Army Reserve from 1982 to 1988. She attended Wenatchee Valley College and Spokane Community College and earned her AAS in Agriculture in 1985.

She then attended Washington State University graduating Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture with a minor in Animal Science and Agriculture Economics.

She met the love of her life in 1981 while working at Campbell's Resort in

Chelan, spending the next 42 years with him. She married Rod Cool in June of 1987. They were blessed with a son, Tucker, in 1991 and a daughter, Sammi Jo, in 1993. After the birth of her daughter, Cherrie set aside her career in the livestock industry to become a full-time mom. She poured her heart and soul into it, volunteering in their classrooms at MOE in Chelan and with 4-H and FFA projects. She was Jr. Rodeo mom, Soccer Mom, 4-H mom, FFA mom to her kids, and many others. She fixed breakfast for fair kids at the NCW and Chelan County Fairs for 14 years and was affectionately known as "Momma Cherrie" to all the kids who stopped by the camper. She was an Ag Teacher's wife for 36 years, which meant she chaperoned trips to State and National Convention, she coached teams, went on project visits, weighed pigs, judged speeches, and all the other things that come with that job. She was proud of her children for all they accomplished, especially when both of them were elected to serve as Washington State FFA Presidents.

She is survived by her husband Rod of Chelan, son Tucker and his wife Haley, grandson Waylon and granddaughter Bryndle



of Davenport, daughter Sammi Jo Sims and her husband Clyde, grandson Cleo and granddaughters Murphie and Rytte of Ellensburg, her mother Sharon Hammons of Pearl Hill, her sister Cindy Huey (Steve) of Brewster, sister Shannon DuClose (Keefer) of Wilbur, brother Terry Bennett (Lori) of Marysville, brother-in-law and sister-in-law Aaron and Carolyn Cool of Stevens Point, WI, mother-in-law Helen Cool of Chelan and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her father, stepfather, and brother, Gary.

Donations can be made to the Washington FFA Foundation State Officer Travel Fund in her name. If you have any thoughts and memories for the family, please leave them at www.prechtrose.com. Services are under the direction of Precht Rose Chapel of Chelan.

Chelan PUD billing statements delayed due to cybersecurity event

NCW News
Ward Media

WENATCHEE – Chelan Public Utility District announced that billing statements might arrive late this month following a cybersecurity event affecting its billing statement vendor.

The utility typically sends about 2,000 billing statements daily through a national service provider. Due to the incident, the vendor could not issue statements for the last week electronically or via mail.

Chelan PUD shares customer names, mailing addresses, services, amounts owed, due dates, and account numbers with the vendor to facilitate billing. The utility is assessing if this data was compromised during the cybersecurity event. It confirmed that the vendor does not hold payment method details or other sensitive, personally identifiable information.

"We apologize for the inconvenience," said Customer Utilities Manager Lindsey Mohns. "Once this is resolved and billing resumes, we will adjust any due dates to correspond with the new billing date. Our priority is to support customers and avoid any unintentional impacts."

Customers can still view their current balance and pay bills through the usual channels, including online, mail, and payment kiosks and drop boxes in Leavenworth, Chelan, and Wenatchee. However, access to previous billing statements is currently unavailable.

Chelan PUD has directed customers to contact Customer Relations at (509) 661-8002 for account-related inquiries.

Okanogan & Douglas County Sheriff, Brewster Police Dept Report

This report is compiled from records provided by the Okanogan & Douglas County Sheriff, Brewster Police Dept. The publisher cannot certify the complete accuracy of the information provided.



Douglas County February 23

8:12:10 Suspicious, 63 Washburn Ave, Bridgeport
 9:00:30 Cps/Aps Refer, 304 N Baker St, Waterville
 11:39:49 Assist Agency, 608 Eash St, Waterville
 11:53:12 Cps/Aps Refer, 2017 Nw Cascade Ave# D14
 13:36:31 Animal Problem, 108 Pine St, Bridgeport

February 24

12:53:39 Harass/Threat, 610 E Locust St, Waterville

February 25

9:22:42 Domestic Disturbance, 415 N Greene St, Waterville
 16:05:00 Extra Patrol, 63 Washburn Ave, Bridgeport

February 26

10:30:27 Parking/Abandon, 124 W Maple St, Waterville
 13:57:44 Fraud/Forgery, 603 15th St, Bridgeport
 19:36:56 Animal Problem, 1809 Raymond Ave, Bridgeport
 0:04:10 Assist Agency, Hanson & 4th, Brewster

February 27

10:36:36 911, 1400 Tacoma Ave; Bridgeport

February 28

11:52:10 Civil, 407 N Adams St, Waterville
 19:00:28 Domestic Disturbance, 1255 Fairview Ave# 8, Bridgeport
 21:45:46 Assist Agency, Sr 172 Mp 10, Waterville

February 29

07:27:38 Sex Offense, 2400 Tacoma Ave# 8, Bridgeport
 10:50:13 Cps/Aps Refer, 1341 Rd B Nw, Mansfield

12:00:25 Scam, 411 N Central Ave, Waterville
 14:31:44 Property, 102 S Chelan Ave, Waterville
 17:37:13 Sex Offense, Mansfield, Mansfield
 18:34:26 Sex Offense, 929 Maple St# 163, Bridgeport
 Brewster Police Department

February 23

06:44:58 Alarm Other, Hospital Way; Three River
 16:10:05 Agency Assist, Okanogan Airport Rd & Highway 97
 18:21:39 Agency Assist, S Bridge St
 20:44:46 Noise Complaint Hospital Way

February 24

12:48:16 Warrant Arrest, E Main Ave & N Bridge St

February 25

16:25:12 Mal Mischief, W Cliff Ave

February 26

12:23:11 Sex Offense
 21:09:18 Alarm Medical, Highway 97
 23:45:47 Dui, W Hanson Ave & S 4th St

Okanogan County Sheriff

February 22

17:17:12 Agency Assist, Old Hwy 97 & North Star Rd

February 24

02:06:49 Traffic Offense Highway 97, Pateros

February 25

19:18:37 Disabled Vehicle, Monse Bridge Rd, Brewster
 20:18:16 Suspicious, W Warren Ave, Pateros

February 26

16:13:21 Theft Other, Highway 97; Brewster

Farm-to-School meet-up planned in East Wenatchee

NCW News
Ward Media

EAST WENATCHEE — A meet-up designed to foster connections between local farmers and school food service directors will take place on Monday, March 11, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Eastmont Community Center, located at 230 N. Georgia Ave.

The event, supported by the Washington State Department of Agriculture's market program, aims to share insights into successful farm-to-school partnerships. Attendees will gain access to valuable resources, information on grants, and regulatory guidance pertinent to the procurement of Washington's agricultural products by local

schools.

This gathering presents an invaluable chance for local agriculturists to engage with potential buyers from schools, paving the way for enriching the local food ecosystem and supporting community-based agriculture.

Participants are encouraged to preregister for the event. For additional details, contact Margaret Viebrock of the WSU Extension at 509-745-8531 or via email at viebrock@wsu.edu.

Write on the River and NCW Libraries announce High School Writer's Competition

NCW News
Ward Media

WENATCHEE — Write on the River, in collaboration with NCW Libraries, has announced the 13th annual High School Writers Competition. The competition is open to students in grades 9-12 who are within the service area of NCW Libraries, encompassing Chelan, Douglas, Okanogan, Grant, and Ferry counties.

"It's been really heartening to see submissions grow every year. In conversations with the winning writers, I sense a lot of confidence and pride, and for some of these high school

students, the competition is an affirming boost toward their future writing careers," said Susan Lagsdin, Emeritus Board Member, Write on the River.

The competition offers \$200 in cash prizes across three categories for original fiction. Entries can be either a complete short story or the first chapter of a novel, with a length requirement of 500-2,000 words. There is no fee to enter.

Eligibility extends to public, private, and home-schooled students, as well as those in the Running Start program. The submission period is from March 1, 2024, to April 15, 2024. Details and submission

guidelines are available at www.writeontheriver.org.

Initiated by New York Times bestselling author Chelsea Cain in 2011, the competition is part of Write on the River's efforts to support and nurture the regional writing community by providing learning opportunities in fiction, nonfiction, and publishing.

NCW Libraries serves the region with 30 locations, an online catalog, a Mail Order Library, and a Community Bookmobile, aiming to connect residents to resources that support personal growth and community strength.

Chelan County property tax bills delayed; expected mid-March

NCW News
Ward Media

WENATCHEE — Chelan County officials have announced a delay in mailing 2024 property tax statements.

According to the Chelan County Treasurer's Office, residents can anticipate receiving their tax bills by mid-March.

The Treasurer's Office assures that the county's parcel search website will be

updated with the new 2024 tax amounts as soon as they become payable.

As per state law, specifically RCW 84.56.020, the deadlines for property tax payments remain unchanged. Property owners are required to pay the first half of their taxes by April 30 and the second half by Oct. 31.

Coming in March!!



Wenatchee Mariachi

Friday, March 15 @ 7pm

Shea-Kim Duo

Brendan Shea
on the violin

Yerin Kim
on the Piano



Friday, March 29 @ 7pm

ADULTS \$28.00 - STUDENTS \$10.00 - UNDER 5 FREE

RAWSONS, KELLEY IMAGING, TONASKET INTERIORS

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR TICKET INFORMATION AND DETAILS

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Compre sus boletas: Adultos \$28, Estudiantes \$10.00, Menores de 4 años GRATIS. Puede comprar boletas por internet www.omakpac.org o en Rawsons, Kelley Imaging, Tonasket Interiors. 509-846-4773



SCAN ME

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Jasmine Garcia **Waterville-Mansfield**
Girls Basketball Senior



Senior Jasmine Garcia led the Shockers girls' basketball team of Waterville-Mansfield to the District Championship last Thursday with 18 points and 5

steals. She was also named league MVP. Garcia, nicknamed "Jag," is the Shockers' leader in points and steals for the season.

Pateros, Shockers land players on All-League

Shockers' Finkbeiner named Coach of the Year
By **MIKE MALTAIS**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

PATEROS – Ten varsity basketball players from the Pateros and Waterville-Mansfield teams, including the girls' Most Valuable Player, comprise nearly half the roster of Central Washington 1B All-League teams selected by league coaches and athletic directors this season.

Pateros Nannies were dethroned on their road to state by a loss to Garfield-Palouse in the first round of state play on Feb. 24.

The Waterville-Mansfield

Lady Shockers are on deck to meet their state opponent in the Spokane Arena in the quarterfinal play on Thursday, Feb. 29.

CW1B Boys

League MVP: Trey Landdeck, Soap Lake

First Team

- Johnny Ferguson, MLCA/CCS
 - Jonah Robertson, MLCA/CCS
 - Micah Morgan, Riverside Christian
 - Haydn Edwards, Riverside Christian
 - Pavlo Stoyan, Soap Lake
- ### Second Team
- Ishmael Mireles, Pateros

- Marshall Mires, Waterville/Mansfield
- Armando Baltazar, Waterville/Mansfield
- Monico Valadez-Robinson, Entiat
- Ruvim Goloborodko, Soap Lake
- Zane McMillan, Wilson Creek

Coach of the Year: Emerson Ferguson, MLCA/CCS
Sportsmanship: Thorp

CW1B Girls

League MVP: Jasmine Garcia, Waterville/Mansfield

First Team

- Stevie Simmons, Pateros
- Addison Henton, Pateros
- Holly Finkbeiner, Waterville/Mansfield

- Delainey Nelson, Waterville/Mansfield
- Shannon Bell, Entiat
- Olivia McCrady, Soap Lake

Second Team

- Wrandie Bowen, Pateros
- Hanna Nelson, Waterville/Mansfield
- Jordan Long, Entiat
- Mylee Dana, Soap Lake
- Neely Odorizzi, Wilson Creek

Coach of Year: Kieth Finkbeiner, Waterville/Mansfield

Sportsmanship: MLCA/CCS

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

Young Lady Bears basketball team captures fourth place at state

By **MIKE MALTAIS**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

Bears down Fighting Ducks

SPOKANE – The Brewster girls' young varsity basketball team, with just three seniors on the roster, capped its trip to state with the fourth-place trophy following a 77-71 win over Mabton last Saturday, March 2, in the Spokane Arena.

The Lady Bears opened the game with a quick 11-1 lead and appeared to be running away with the floor before encountering a four-minute cold streak where they went scoreless while the Vikings tied the game. Brewster recovered its shooting range enough to take a 15-11 lead at the end of the quarter.

The Lady Bears used the second quarter to build as large as a 12-point lead before settling for six, 34-28.

Mabton closed within three points early in the third quarter after a basket and steal for back-to-back four points but got no closer. Free throws helped the Lady Bears maintain a nine-point, 57-50, margin at the end of the quarter.

Brewster led from wire to wire through the fourth quarter letting Mabton within three before the Lady Bears opened a 10-point lead in the closing minutes. Brewster ended with five players scoring in double figures. Morgan McGuire led the Bears with 19 points before fouling out late in the fourth quarter. Senior Gimena Hurtado had the best game of her high school career scoring 13 critical points in the Bears' victory. Pepper Boesel scored 14, Kara Schertenleib had 11, and Grace Becker 10.

On the heels of the previous day's possible record 33 of 37 free throws against Toutle Lake, Brewster had 38 free throw attempts against the Vikings, and just three shy of 100 free throws in the last three games.

The Lady Bears will lose seniors Hurtado, Kaydence Carrington, and Mia Gamble to graduation from a remaining team of three juniors, two sophomores, and four freshmen.

BREWSTER SCORING:

Morgan McGuire	19
Pepper Boesel	4
Gimena Hurtado	13
Kara Schertenleib	11
Grace Becker	10
Paige Wulf	8
Hyleah Aparicio	2

Free throws, more free throws, and even more free throws made the difference in the Lady Bears 70-54 win over Toutle Lake Friday morning, March 1, in the Spokane Arena. Of those 70 points scored by Brewster, 33 came from the free throw stripe as the Lady Bears shot an impressive 33-37 for nearly half their team point total.

Toutle Lake opened Friday's game with a two-point lead but could come no closer than three ties on the way to 10 points before Brewster took control at mid-quarter and led thereafter. Brewster was up 20-17 at the end of the first, 39-29 at halftime, and ahead by as many as 18 points in the third quarter before the Fighting Ducks chipped away at the lead.

Contrary to their loss to No.1 Napavine the previous day where missed free throws made the difference in Brewster's two-point loss, the Lady Bears were lethal from the foul line, hitting 15 straight before their first miss in the third quarter.

The foul stripe accuracy was such a factor that in the fourth quarter when Toutle Lake was within four points, the Lady Bears drilled 19 points and all but two of those were free throws.

Toutle Lake was no slacker from the foul line either, hitting 20 of 26. Between the two teams they committed 47 fouls that sent three players to the bench.

Paige Wulf received the game sportsmanship award.

Napavine edges Lady Bears

In a game that was close from the starting bell, the Lady Bears lost their quarterfinal playoff battle to the Napavine Lady Tigers, 48-46, in the final minute of the fourth quarter on Thursday, Feb. 29, in the Spokane Arena.

Led by the 16 points of freshman Pepper Boesel – all scored in the second half – Brewster had the ball in the final 12.5 seconds but could not get a good shot off to tie or win the game.

The difference between the well-matched teams was at the free throw line where Napavine hit 19 of 29, while the Lady Bears shot a cool 8 of 21.

To provide an idea of the close scoring, Napavine's biggest lead – three points – did not happen until early in the fourth quarter when the Lady Tigers held a brief 33-30 advantage. The game was tied twice going down the stretch,

the final time when a Kara Schertenleib three-pointer knotted it at 44-all. Through the final quarter it was a Boesel-Gimena Hurtado combination of six points each that helped keep pace with Napavine.

Boesel	16
Schertenleib	11
Hurtado	6
McGuire	6
Becker	3
Wulf	2
Kaydence Carrington	2

Bears down Fighting Ducks

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Paige Wulf received the game sportsmanship award.

BREWSTER SCORING:

McGuire	22
Boesel	15
Schertenleib	10
Wulf	9
Becker	8
Carrington	6

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



COURTESY OF ROY BAKER

Senior Gimena Hurtado holds the team's fourth place state trophy.

Shocker girls take third in 1B state basketball

By **MIKE MALTAIS**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

SPOKANE – What was expected to be a close contest last Saturday, March 2, between Waterville-Mansfield and Crosspoint for the state's 1B third-place basketball trophy became more of a clinic when the Shockers jolted the Warriors with a 67-38 win.

Waterville-Mansfield staked its claim early with seven unanswered points to open the first quarter, 22-13. The rout began in the second quarter when the Lady Shockers defense held Crosspoint to just four points while Waterville-Mansfield scored 17 to take a 39-17 halftime lead.

The anticipated change of momentum that often occurs when the teams return to the court never materialized as the Shockers again scorched the floor with 15 points while holding Crosspoint to single digits, 54-25. League MVP Jasmine "Jag" Garcia drilled five three-pointers in the first half to pace Waterville-

Mansfield with a game-high 21 points.

With a commanding 29-point margin at the start of the final quarter, the game was all but over as the Lady Shockers continued to extend their lead by as much as 36 points before the game ended with that same 29-point advantage.

Waterville-Mansfield improved its 2023 sixth-place finish with six seniors on this season's roster. They include MVP Garcia, Tiera Miller, Jada Freels, Evalee Shafer, Caroline Peterson, and Jimena Garcia.

Shockers knock out Garfield-Palouse

The No. 3-seeded Waterville-Mansfield girls' varsity basketball team proved that their 56-33 drubbing of 1B regional opponent Oakesdale on Feb. 24 at Wenatchee High School was more than a one-and-done affair.

The Lady Shockers delivered a similar, 55-33, knockout blow to Garfield-Palouse on Thursday, Feb. 29, in the Spokane Arena. Waterville-Mansfield took

control early and led the No. 12 Vikings, 31-16, at halftime, and 45-20 at the end of the third quarter. Along the way the Lady Shockers forced Garland-Palouse to turn the ball over 34 times compared to 13 for Waterville-Mansfield.

Holly Finkbeiner, with 20 points, led two other teammates who also scored in double figures, Jasmine Garcia, with 11, and Delaney Nelson had 10.

Hurricanes defuse Shockers

Waterville-Mansfield met its match against the Mount Vernon Christian Hurricanes in semifinal play last Friday, March 1. The game was close for three quarters with the Shockers trailing at all three breaks, 6-4, 17-12, and 28-26. After Waterville-Mansfield tied the game 28-all at the start of the fourth, Mount Vernon broke it open with 17 unanswered points to win 43-28.

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

QUAD CITY CHURCH GUIDE

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

~ Matthew 19:26



To place your Church information in the Church Guide call Ruth at 509-682-2213 or email: ruth@ward.media

Red Cross Month kicks off in March to honor community heroes

NCW News
Ward Media

WENATCHEE - The American Red Cross Northwest Region is set to commence its annual Red Cross Month celebration in March, recognizing the vital role local volunteers play in aiding their communities during times of crisis. This month-long observance,

rooted in a tradition initiated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in March 1943, celebrates community heroes across the nation, including those in Wenatchee and East Wenatchee.

The local celebrations are part of a broader initiative that has seen 19 cities across Western Washington, including Wenatchee and East Wenatchee, declare March

as Red Cross Month. These declarations acknowledge the indispensable service of Red Cross volunteers who assist their neighbors in emergencies, reinforcing the organization's mission through their selfless contributions.

In Wenatchee, the downtown area will once again be adorned with street banners commemorating Red Cross Month, a longstanding local

tradition that underscores the community's support for the organization's efforts.

"During Red Cross Month, we are proud to honor the people in our community who step up to support one another when help can't wait during emergencies," said Megan Dulgar, CEO Northwest Region. "This relief and hope wouldn't be possible without these local heroes. Please

consider joining in their commitment by donating, volunteering, giving blood or platelets, or taking a lifesaving skills course."

As winter draws to a close, the Red Cross is urging individuals to donate blood or platelets to bolster the blood supply for the upcoming spring season. Donors participating in Red Cross Month, from March 1-24, will receive a \$10 e-gift

card to a pet supply merchant and a chance to win one of five \$3,000 gift cards.

The Red Cross's lifesaving mission is powered by volunteers, who make up 90% of its workforce. Their dedication, along with contributions from blood and financial donors and individuals trained in first aid and CPR, is crucial in providing emergency assistance.

Link Transit CEO shares milestones and innovations with Chelan City Council



Link Transit staff members pose in front of two of their clean quiet electric busses.

COURTESY OF LINK TRANSIT

By Mike Maltais
Ward Media Staff Reporter

CHELAN - Nick Covey, CEO of Link Transit, addressed the regular bi-monthly meeting of the Chelan city council on Feb. 27 with a presentation that included everything short of driving an electric bus through the council chamber doors.

Covey began with some background details.

- First day of service was Dec 16, 1991.
- 13-member Board of Directors and 188 employees, give or take. Councilmember and former mayor Bob Goedde served on the Link board for 19 years, a position now filled by Mayor Erin McCardle.
- Service Area of 3,660 square miles covering all of Chelan County and one-third of Douglas.
- Largest public transit service area in the state.
- Serves a population 128,000, seven days a week and travels 2.4 million miles annually.
- More than one million boardings for the first time since 2015.
- Link has service options to cover every commuter need.
- Fixed route involves the big busses seen driving through town daily.
- DART is same-day Dial-A-Ride service in Chelan and Wenatchee. Riders can use a phone app or call in for same-day service. Additional DART is planned for Chelan Falls and Apple Acres/Airport (2025).
- LinkPlus is a complementary paratransit service for the fixed route that provides door-to-door service for ADA-qualified users.

• TripLink is a new service for those out-of-service-area users without personal vehicles. They can have friend or neighbor transport them and Link will reimburse mileage costs for a limited number of monthly trips.

• Rideshare is a monthly fee service for three or more riders via a provided Link van. For example, workers from Wenatchee going to Grand Coulee or Wells dams find Rideshare a good fit.

The Link fleet provides a variety of vehicles, and all are ADA-compliant.

• 23 battery-electric BYD-manufactured buses with nine more arriving spring 2025. Link contracted with BYD largely for the beneficial battery arrangement.

"Batteries usually last about half the life of the vehicle," said Covey. "The big busses are 12-year, 500,000-mile vehicles. BYD warranties their batteries for 12 years. If something goes wrong, they replace them for us."

Covey explained the benefit of not having to replace batteries that can cost half the price of a bus. BYD also buys the used batteries back from Link, eliminating the need for battery disposal.

• Twelve 40-foot Gillig-manufactured (diesel) busses that travel about 600 miles daily, a distance not yet capable for electric models.

• 22 Cutaway mini busses.

• 24 Paratransit vans

• 18 staff vehicles.

To help keep some of its vehicles charging while in service Link employs a series of wireless inductive charging locations.

See LINK TRANSIT Page B2

March is National Sleep Awareness Month 2024

Sixteen years ago, my father got a knee replacement. In the final year of World War II, he injured it while serving on an aircraft carrier in the Pacific.

When the doctor confirmed that Dad's left knee needed replaced, he kept putting it off because of my mother's dementia. He cared for her at home until she passed.

Now living alone, my father needed someone to be with him to avoid having to recover from the surgery at a nursing facility. My sisters and I took turns staying with him, making sure he took his medicines and did his daily physical therapy. I covered Mondays through Thursdays of his first 3 weeks home from the hospital on the weekdays, driving him to his physical therapy appointments and other errands until he was medically cleared to do it himself.

On his very first night home from the hospital, I noticed that he'd slept for only three hours.

"Dad, you only slept for 3 hours last night. Are you SURE you're not in pain?"

"The pain pills work just fine. Three hours is pretty typical for me; I've had trouble sleeping for years."

"We'll need to do better than 3 hours a night, or it will take you a long time to recover from your surgery. People who don't sleep well, don't heal well."

At 6 foot one and 270 pounds, Dad had never been sensitive to medications. On the way home from his physical therapy appointment later that day, we stopped at his favorite grocery store to look for something to help him get more rest.

Walking slowly so Dad and his walker could keep up, we

checked out the aisle with the sleeping medicines.

Due to his age, I chose a bottle of 25mg diphenhydramine rather than the 50mg maximum strength, and he tried one of them that night. When it didn't seem to help, the next night I had him try the maximum dose of two tablets at bedtime. Dad was smiling as I poured him coffee the following morning.

"I slept for five hours straight before waking up. It's been years since I've slept that well."

March is National Sleep Awareness Month, the month we move our clocks forward to Daylight Savings Time. Adjusting to a new time can disrupt our sleep cycle.

Non-prescription medications for sleep often contain antihistamines like diphenhydramine or doxylamine. They may also contain more natural options, like melatonin, a hormone that helps you sleep.

In a typical grocery or pharmacy, you can find diphenhydramine (Benadryl®) in two places. The 25mg tablets or capsules are in the allergy section, and you'll find 50mg tablets in the sleep aid aisle marketed as Sominex®, Nytol®, and zzQuil®. Doxylamine is available as 50mg Maximum Strength Unisom®.

The effects of diphenhydramine last about 6 hours. It is considered safer in older adults than doxylamine, which works longer, up to 10 hours.

Some popular non-prescription sleep aids include Tylenol PM® and Advil PM®. While both contain diphenhydramine, Tylenol PM® also contains

extra strength Tylenol® (acetaminophen) 500mg in each tablet, and Advil PM® contains 200mg of ibuprofen.

Confusion, dry mouth, constipation, and urinary retention are common side effects of diphenhydramine and doxylamine. These unwanted effects are more severe if you take a prescription medicine for bladder control, depression or insomnia.

Here are 5 Tips on Taking Sleep Aids to Help Insomnia:

1. Avoid Alcohol.

Although alcohol may be relaxing, it can interfere with staying asleep. Drinking alcohol when taking prescription narcotic pain medicine, prescription anxiety medicine, and prescription sleeping pills increases the risk of accidental fatal overdose.

2. Try diphenhydramine over doxylamine.

The sleepiness from doxylamine may last up to 10 hours compared to only 6 hours for diphenhydramine. A longer-acting sleep aid is not always an advantage, because you may feel "hung over" if the effects of your sleeping pill haven't worn off by the time you are due to wake up.

3. Try melatonin.

As we age, our body makes less melatonin, which is produced from tryptophan, an amino acid. Try 3mg to 6mg of melatonin 30-60 minutes before bed.

4. Start low.

The older we are, the more sensitive to medications we become. Try half a dose of any new sleeping pill, in case you are sensitive to it. If you're not sleepy within 30 minutes, you can take the other half.



5. Don't ignore dry mouth symptoms.

Your saliva contains antibacterial properties and keeps food from sticking to your teeth. Having less saliva encourages tooth decay. Sweet dreams!

Dr. Louise Achey, Doctor of Pharmacy, is a 45-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, TheMedicationInsider.com. ©2024 Louise Achey

Learn to Landscape with Native Plants: free virtual workshops offered in March

NCW News
Ward Media

Registration is now open for a series of free virtual workshops aimed at helping individuals learn how to incorporate native plants into their landscapes, whether they have a compact city patio or a vast rural homestead. The "Native Planting 101" workshop will take place via Zoom every Wednesday evening in March at 7:00 pm.

Local experts will guide participants on starting or expanding their use of native flora. The sessions are designed for all levels of gardening enthusiasts, from beginners to those looking to deepen their existing landscaping practices.

The expert speaker lineup includes:

- **Mel Asher**, kicking off the series on March 6 with "Native Plantings: Getting Started!" This session will provide foundational knowledge for newcomers to native planting.
- **Betsy Dudash**, on March 13 will delve into "Using Native Annuals in Your Landscape," offering insights into how annuals can enhance and diversify garden ecosystems.
- **Don Schaechtel** shares his extensive experience on March 20 with "Lessons Learned From 14 Years of Native Plant Gardening," providing valuable tips

and personal anecdotes from over a decade of gardening with native plants.

• **Al Murphy** concludes the series on March 27 with "Using Plants Adapted to Our Changing Climate," focusing on selecting plants resilient to climatic shifts, ensuring sustainable gardening practices.

Interested participants can register at <https://tinyurl.com/mu54uksy>. Don't miss this opportunity to enrich your gardening skills and contribute to local biodiversity by thoughtfully integrating native plants into your landscape.



MIKE MALTAIS/WARD MEDIA

One possible solution to the small, affordable housing crisis sits in the backyard of this inventive Omak resident.

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Community Bulletin Board

Local, Regional Community News & Events

Any non-profit 501(c)-3 group, person(s). Must provide: full name, city, phone number. Items pertaining to local events that are free or minimum charge. Garage and Yard Sale Ads are paid events, please email: classifieds@ward.media. To submit info call 509-548-5286 or email: ruth@ward.media

BREWSTER March 6, 8, 12

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

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 donations have increased. For those over age 60 is now \$5. For those 60 and under the cost is now \$12. March 6: Chicken Cordon Bleu, Rice Pilaf, Venetian Veggies, Greek Salad, Fruit Salad, WW Roll, Dessert; March 8: Tater Tot Casserole, Cuke & Tomato Salad, Apricots, WW, Roll, Rice Krispies Treats; March 12: Scrambled Eggs, Sausage Patty, Potatoes O'Brien, Peaches, Juice, Muffin

March 6-9, 11-16

Senior Center Thrift Store

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.

March 6, 20

American Legion meeting

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 506-550-6474.

March 6

American Legion Auxiliary to meet

The American Legion Auxiliary #97 meets the first Wednesday of each month, at the American Legion Hall at 5 p.m.

March 7, 8, 10, 16, 23

American Legion events - Crab dinner March 23, Pop-up Yard Sale

Mark your calendars for March 23, 5-8 p.m., they will be offering a Crab dinner. You will get approximately 2 1/4 pounds of Dungeness Crab with coleslaw and roll. For people that would like to join their family, but don't want crab, there will be a steak dinner available as well. Or you can add a steak to your crab dinner. Presale Tickets Only: Only 75 crab dinner tickets. Purchase from one of the board members or at the Legion Hall. You can also purchase online - online purchases can be picked up at the American Legion day of the event. Please bring your receipt. Crab dinner \$50.00: <https://square.link/u/bAmBZZIlg>; Crab dinner add 8 oz Sirloin \$62.00: <https://square.link/u/hRbb0oqh>; Steak dinner \$15.00: <https://square.link/u/Vtzb2vrtq>. sBrewster American Legion Bingo every Thursday night at 6 p.m. Open to the public. Come early to buy your bingo cards and dinner. Upcoming dinners: Every Friday Steak Dinner starts at 5 p.m., 8 ounce sirloin, baked potato, garlic bread and salad, \$16.50. Every Sunday 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., order from the full breakfast menu. They also offer daily lunch specials except for Mondays and Saturday when they are closed.

American Legion Post 97, Brewster will host a "Pop-up" yard sale March 16, from 9 a.m.

to 4 p.m. Table rental will be \$15 per table and will benefit Post 97. Bring only what will fit on a 2 x 6' table. If you pack it in, you must pack it out. Crafters can also bring craft supplies or crafts you want to unload. Tables are limited to 18. Call 509-689-5402. Tables are going fairly fast. This is held as an endeavor to help our local American Legion Post 97 with unforeseen expenses that are causing hardship in our ongoing mission to keep this facility open for our Veterans and Community. If anyone wants to donate the proceeds/ or a portion of their sales to Post 97 they will welcome that.

Chelan Valley Hope March 6-7, 11-14

Serving Bridgeport, Mansfield, Waterville, Orondo, Chelan, Manson, Chelan Falls, Entiat

March is Women's History Month. Hope celebrates women's contributions to the world, this country, in Chelan, and especially here at Hope. This organization would not be possible without all the fantastic women involved. Did you know that Hope is a female lead organization? Our President of the Board of Directors, Stacey, Executive Director Tamra, and many more important ladies here have all contributed dramatically in leading the way in making resources accessible to all. Women's History Month is important because history helps us learn who we are and who our neighbors are and gives us the power to achieve new hopes, dreams, and possibilities. For more information about donations, services, or volunteer opportunities, you may call or visit us Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. (closed Noon to 1

p.m.), and speak with one of our helpful volunteers.

March 16

Shamrock Shuffle

The Shamrock Shuffle is coming. Get your green on and walk, run, or shuffle along with the Lake Chelan Lions Club on Saturday, March 16. This 5K event supports the Lake Chelan Lions Club program to send kids with Type One Diabetes to Camp Stix and promote local awareness about Diabetes for all ages. There will be Best Dressed prizes for male, female, child and dog. All ages are welcome on Saturday, March 16 just prior to the Top Dog Parade in downtown Chelan. Registration will be 8:30-9:15 a.m. in the covered area at Riverwalk Park, with the run starting at 9:30 a.m. Bring your Kelly Green Beanie you received if you participated last year and receive a 2024 pin to wear on it. New Beanies and pins will also be given out. Register now at [EVENTBRITE.COM](https://www.eventbrite.com) and search Shamrock Shuffle 5K.

March 20

Death Cafe Chelan

The Death Cafe is a national organization started by Jon

Underwood and the Chelan organization meets the Third Wednesday of the month at the Chelan Public Library on Emerson Street, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. All are welcome. Please join them for coffee and cake. For more information: Contact Concie Luna or Vita Monteleone at monte419@nwi.net.

Okanogan March 7

Okanogan Ladies quilting club

Okanogan Ladies quilting club, the "Ok Quilts of Valor", are having a meeting March 7, 11 a.m. at the old flour mill, 96 pine street, Okanogan. The club meets in the basement. Contact Lori Morgan 509-322-3063 for more information. These quilts are given to veterans. This is an all-volunteer club, and they are looking for other quilters to join.

March 11

Okanogan County Fair Advisory Committee

The Okanogan County Fair Advisory Committee meets the second Monday of the month and is always looking for volunteers. The meetings are

open to the public and begin at 6 p.m. in the Okanogan County Commissioners' hearing room, 123 N. Fifth Ave., Okanogan.

March 12, 26

Okanogan County PUD meeting

The next meeting of the Okanogan County PUD Board of Commissioners is at 3 p.m. For more information okanoganpud.org

Wenatchee March 12

Survivors of Suicide Loss Support Group

Survivors of Suicide Loss Support Group meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month, 7-8:30 p.m., at Grace Lutheran Church, 1408 Washington Street, Wenatchee. For information, call 509-860-3620 or visit their website at: [tcfwenatcheevalley.org](https://www.tcfwenatcheevalley.org)

March 18

Family and friends Support Group

Family and friends Support Group meets the 3rd Monday of every month, 7-8:30 p.m., at Grace Lutheran Church, 1408 Washington Street, Wenatchee. For information, call 509-860-3620 or visit their website at: [tcfwenatcheevalley.org](https://www.tcfwenatcheevalley.org)

Tree fruit

Continued from page A1

grower side of the business, they offer a large grower discount.

"So essentially, the growers are the owners of the co-op and buy, and then those growers are combining the volumes of the products that they're buying, which in turn helps with the buying power of the co-op with vendors and suppliers to get the best pricing and pass that on to our members," he said.

"The other benefit of the co-op is the money stays locally," he said. "So that money that's spent with the co-op stays locally with the growers, the employees, or the co-op and then also within the communities of the co-op as well."

Van Orman said a challenge the co-op faces is that as new people come into the industry or younger generations come up, they don't necessarily understand the co-op model.

Another challenge they face is that now people want savings upfront when they are buying.

"So they're looking for the best price upfront, and they want to see that versus waiting till the end of the year when they get their equity check," he said. "And then they're getting that savings back at the end of the year versus immediately. People want satisfaction now versus waiting, and that's part of the challenge of people not understanding the co-op model."

That opens an opportunity for competition to come in and look like a better deal than co-op but in the long run, the

co-op is actually better if they are patient, he said.

"I think that's a challenge for all agricultural co-ops these days," he said.

NWW was started in 1937 by a group of bankers looking for ways to come out of the Great Depression and support the struggling fruit industry. The group sought to consolidate their purchasing to get better pricing for growers.

Today, the co-op has just under 300 members.

In the future, Van Orman hopes to continue to expand sales in the Wenatchee area and to expand into the Yakima market, and they are always looking at different business segments that would complement what they are doing now, he said.

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

Three Rivers

Continued from page A1

- Restart the New Building Steering Committee meetings.
- Consult with our legal team about rebranding.
- Meet with Dave Franklund to discuss design modifications.
- Reach to Peter Morgan and his group (North Central Washington Accountable Communities of Health) for further understanding on what they would like to see happen with healthcare in the region.
- Reach out to Matt Ellsworth with the Association of Washington Public Hospital Districts (AWPHD) on how to proceed with a new campaign.
- Meet with other facilities in the region to get their perspectives.
- Explore ways to eliminate the barrier of transportation

and work with local public transportation and TranGo.

Progress is happening on several of those fronts as reported by TRH CEO Scott Graham at the Commissioners meeting last Wednesday, Feb. 27.

Graham said he spoke with Franklund about revisiting the original design with "a sharpened pencil proposal for the offering we will put on the ballot in November."

"He is very open to doing that," said Graham while being aware that "the cost-based reimbursement was based on square footage and services," so any refinements must bear that qualifier in mind, so that a scaled-down design does not reduce the maximum amount the hospital can get back it the cost report.

Graham said he also conducted phone meetings with Morgan and the CEOs of other hospitals and engaged with the group that opposed

the new building in favor of a more regional alternative.

Graham advised the board that the Washington State Hospital Association (WSHA) has reintroduced the Distressed Hospital Fund. If it meets the fund criteria, TRH will apply for the additional funding it would provide.

In other developments:

- TRH had a public information table at the Path to the Podium youth basketball tournament held at Brewster High School in early February.
- TRH will host a hole at the ninth annual Brewster Boys and Girls Club Golf Fundraiser at Gamble Sands on April 22.
- A new TRH clinic billboard along Highway 97 is generating some public response.

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

Link Transit

Continued from page B1

"This is in-ground charging the bus drives over," said Covey, "It's 300 kilowatts. One minute of charging gives us about two additional miles."

For some downtown and urban Wenatchee routes of 200-250 miles with bus ranges of 130 miles, the wireless chargers provides busses with enough extended range to operate 15 hours a day. Link has four of the grant-funded \$500,000 chargers, three at Columbia Station and one in Leavenworth. One will be installed in the East Wenatchee Park and Ride and another in Manson.

Link capital projects for 2024 include:

- A 41,000 sq. ft enclosed and heated electric bus parking garage at the Olds Station operations base.
- A park and ride in Entiat and another at Rock Island.
- Bus stop improvements for destinations including Mill Bay Casino.
- Four new purpose-built buses for Mission Ridge and Waterville.

Other projects include the Apple Blossom Center for a possible park and ride as that area population grows. Another park and ride at Lefler Field in Manson will include a wireless charger.

Link is working with TREAD, that Covey describes

as "a local area nonprofit that has been very instrumental in bike pathways," on Chelan-to-Manson, Wenatchee-to-Leavenworth, Wenatchee-to-Rock Island, and Wenatchee-to-Malaga pathway designs.

"Part of those pathways will hook up to bus stops and pullouts so you can put your bike on the bus, or we can drop you off so you can ride on the pathway safely," Covey said.

Vision 2020 recap

Based on a successful 2019 campaign that raised additional revenue. Link embarked on a six-year Vision 2020 plan including 30-plus projects in Chelan and Douglas counties. As of Covey's report the plan is ahead of projections with about 74 percent completed ahead of the 63 percent estimated at this stage. Just one of those is a new Sunday service implemented for the first time in agency history.

A word about free fares

Link weathered the 1999 1-695 excise tax measure approved by voters that rolled back vehicle excise taxes to \$30.

"Half the funding for transit was in that motor vehicle excise tax, so we lost that," Covey said.

In 2020 Link moved into its new building at Olds Station and laid off half its staff.

"It was a tough time," said Covey, "so we implemented fares to try and regain some of that revenue. At best we got about five percent of our revenue from fares."

"When Covid hit everybody in the state went fare free," said Covey. "Once Covid got over we decided to keep it that way."

"Fares displace the folks who really need it most," said Covey who explained that the two-way fare costs for a low-income family with children was unaffordable for many.

Link's free fares also meet nearly half a dozen Federal criteria that qualify the transit service to receive more than a half-million dollars per incentive.

"Right now, we are receiving five of those," said Covey. "That's a substantial chunk of money that fares would never come close to replacing. It's better for us to keep it fare-free and to keep those incentives."

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

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The image shows two promotional posters for the Wenatchee Wild hockey team. The top poster is for "80'S NIGHT" on Friday, March 15, 2024, at 7 PM. It features a player in a white jersey with the number 19 and the team's logo. The bottom poster is for "FAN-TASTIC FAN-ALE" on Saturday, March 16, 2024, at 6 PM. It features a mascot character and logos for Ace Hardware and Ag Supply Co.



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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.

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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 Now for a no-obligation quote: 1-877-765-1117. You will need to have your zip code to connect to the right provider.

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.

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

Employment
Help Wanted

Maintenance/Grounds person needed! Darnell's Lake Resort \$20 - \$23 per hour DOE. Maintain pool, hot tub, courts, and general yard/room maintenance. Two positions available mid March through November. Contact 509-682-2015, visit www.darnellsresort.com to complete an application.

Help Wanted



Douglas PUD has an opening for:

Seasonal Fish Counter

Details at www.douglaspu.org

Utility Maintenance Worker (Full-Time, Weekends Required)
The City of Leavenworth, an equal opportunity employer, is now accepting applications for the position of Utility Maintenance Worker.

This position is full-time/permanent, union covered, and requires weekends. Salary range is \$5,073 - \$5,713 per month. Requirements: Minimum 18 years of age and Washington State driver's license with record acceptable to the City. Position will require a pre employment drug/alcohol screening and physical evaluation. This position requires a CDL which means individuals will be subject to applicable federal regulations, including random drug testing.

Individuals must be able to work weekends, holidays, and required overtime. Duties involve assistance in basic maintenance and repair of, which includes but is not limited to, garbage and cardboard collection, streets and roadways, sidewalks, ROW maintenance, buildings and structures, municipal water distribution system, sewer and stormwater collection system, cemetery grounds, headstones, restrooms, and which includes but is not limited to the scope of functions and duties listed. The typical schedule is five days per week; although, schedules may vary to support requested needs of the City. Weekend work will be required to accommodate the work demands and service requirements of the City in order to ensure safety, cleanliness, and aesthetic appeal, as well as to meet public needs and standards. The full job description, job application, and instructions on how to apply are available at City Hall, 700 US Hwy. 2, from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, online at www.cityofleavenworth.com, or by contacting us at (509) 548-5275. First review date for submitted application(s) is Friday, March 22, 2024. Position will remain open until filled.

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

Help Wanted



We Are Hiring!
The new and trending Crêpe Café located in the Obertal Mall is seeking teammates to join us in offering an authentic crêpe experience. Develop within the café while learning kitchen, customer service, cashier, and barista responsibilities with the goal of becoming a crêpe specialist, leader, and lifelong learner. Entry-level and management positions are available. Visit us in person or at CrepeCafeSisters.com/Leavenworth and complete an application by clicking on "Apply Now".

HELP WANTED
Responsible Animal Lover to occasionally feed 2 mini donkeys and 1 outside cat. Lower Brender Canyon area Cashmere. For more information please text or call 509-860-4665.



Douglas PUD has an opening for:

Student Trainee – Natural Resources

Details at www.douglaspu.org

PUD No. 1 of Okanogan County is seeking to fill a public information officer position. Please see www.okanoganpu.org for job description and requirements; and submit application with resume. Okanogan PUD is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Real Estate
Rentals

In Chelan: Remodeled 1 bedroom apartment, townhouse style for privacy. New appliances. 1 block to city park. No pets. \$1,050/ month, plus deposits. 509-682-5108.

Bridgeport, WA. Joseph Cove Apartments accepting applications for a two-bedroom apartment with central air, wash/dry hook ups, must be income eligible. For more information call Shannon at 509-686-4731

For Rent Pateros Mobile Home Partially Furnished 2 Bedroom & 2 Bath Water & Garbage Paid Available March 2024 No Dogs \$1,000 a Month First, Last & \$500 Deposit Call (509) 881-7075

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Rentals
Leavenworth Cute studio in town. Furnished. All utilities included. No pets. No smoking. \$1,125. per month. 1 year lease and references required. \$1,000. Security Deposit 509-860-4564

Boat Slip for Sale
\$152,500

Sunset Marina, Chelan, 40 ft. deep water slip with electric and water to slip. Waste dump. Clubhouse with showers, lounge with TV, bar, and kitchen for members use. Lanai seating with fire pit and barbecue. Slip B10 is best location. Secure parking. **808-298-1031** Seller is licensed Realtor Maui, HI

Legals
Public Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE IS HEREBY that the City of Pateros City Council will hold a public hearing at 6:00 pm on Monday, March 18, 2024 at the Pateros City Hall at 113 Lakeshore Drive. The purpose of the hearing is to take testimony on an application by David Barber of Pateros, Washington for a variance from the required side yard setback set forth in Chapter 17.12.100 Table B of the Pateros Municipal code for a proposed single-family dwelling to be located at 310 Pearl Street. The hearing will include a staff report on the proposed conditional. All persons requiring assistance in accessing City Hall or need other assistance are requested to contact City Hall at 923-2571 prior to the hearing. Copies of the application and related materials are available for review at City Hall. Published in the Quad City Herald on March 6, 13, 2024. #7349

Public Notices
SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR CHELAN COUNTY In the Matter of the Estate of M. TERESA PUYEAR, Deceased. No. 24-4-00057-04 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS RCW 11.40.030

The personal representative 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 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 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 as provided under RCW 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 RCW 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets. Date of First Publication: February 28, 2024 Personal Representative: Patrick S. Puyear Attorney for the Personal Representative: Russell J. Speidel Address for Mailing or Service: Speidel Bentsen LLP 7 North Wenatchee Avenue, Suite 600 P.O. Box 881 Wenatchee, WA 98807-0881 Court of Probate Proceedings and Cause Number: Chelan County Superior Court Cause No. 24-4-00057-04 /s/ Patrick S. Puyear PATRICK S. PUYEAR Personal Representative Attorneys for Personal Representative: SPEIDEL BENTSEN LLP By: /s/ Russell J. Speidel RUSSELL J. SPEIDEL WSBA No. 12838 7 North Wenatchee Avenue, Suite 600 P.O. Box 881 Wenatchee, WA 98807 Published in the Quad City Herald on February 28, March 6, 13, 2024. #7330

CRYPTO FUN
Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to basketball. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 20 = T)

A. 11 7 19 19
Clue: Toss ball

B. 11 1 21 12 20 19
Clue: Score

C. 4 1 24 14 20
Clue: Playing area

D. 2 7 19 15 9 20
Clue: Hoop

Answers: A. pass B. points C. court D. basket

SUDOKU

		1		8		2		
9								
	5			4	8			
8			9			5		
	6	2						7
			4	6		9		
7	3					4	5	
1				2				6
2						7		1

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

1	8	7	3	5	9	6	4	2
6	3	9	2	7	4	8	5	1
4	5	2	1	9	8	7	3	6
8	9	6	3	7	4	1	5	2
7	1	4	8	2	6	9	3	5
2	5	8	6	1	9	3	7	4
9	6	3	1	2	4	8	7	5
4	8	5	3	7	1	6	4	9
3	8	5	8	6	8	5	2	3

ANSWER:



Kid Scoop

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Kid Scoop Together:

Lookalike Leprechauns

Each leprechaun below has a twin. Draw a line between each twin but remember: Leprechauns can be VERY tricky! Look closely.



Standards Link: Research: Find similarities and differences in common objects.

St. Patrick's Day Exclusive! "Leprechaun Lips" Tells All!

NEWS FLASH! We found a leprechaun to answer questions about these mysterious little people! He wouldn't really show himself to us. Mostly what we saw during the interview were his lips, oversized sunglasses and his hat.

Q: How do leprechauns get all that gold?

A: We make shoes for the fairies. Silly fairies wear out their shoes quickly because they dance all night. We are always busy making new shoes for them. They pay us with gold. Lots of gold!



Q: How big are leprechauns?

A: Wee folk are we. Three feet tall at most.

Can you read inches of the newspaper columns that are equal to 3 feet?

How many shamrocks can you find on this page?

Standards Link: Measurement: Use standard measurement. Reading Comprehension: Read grade-level appropriate materials.

Q: How do you catch a leprechaun?

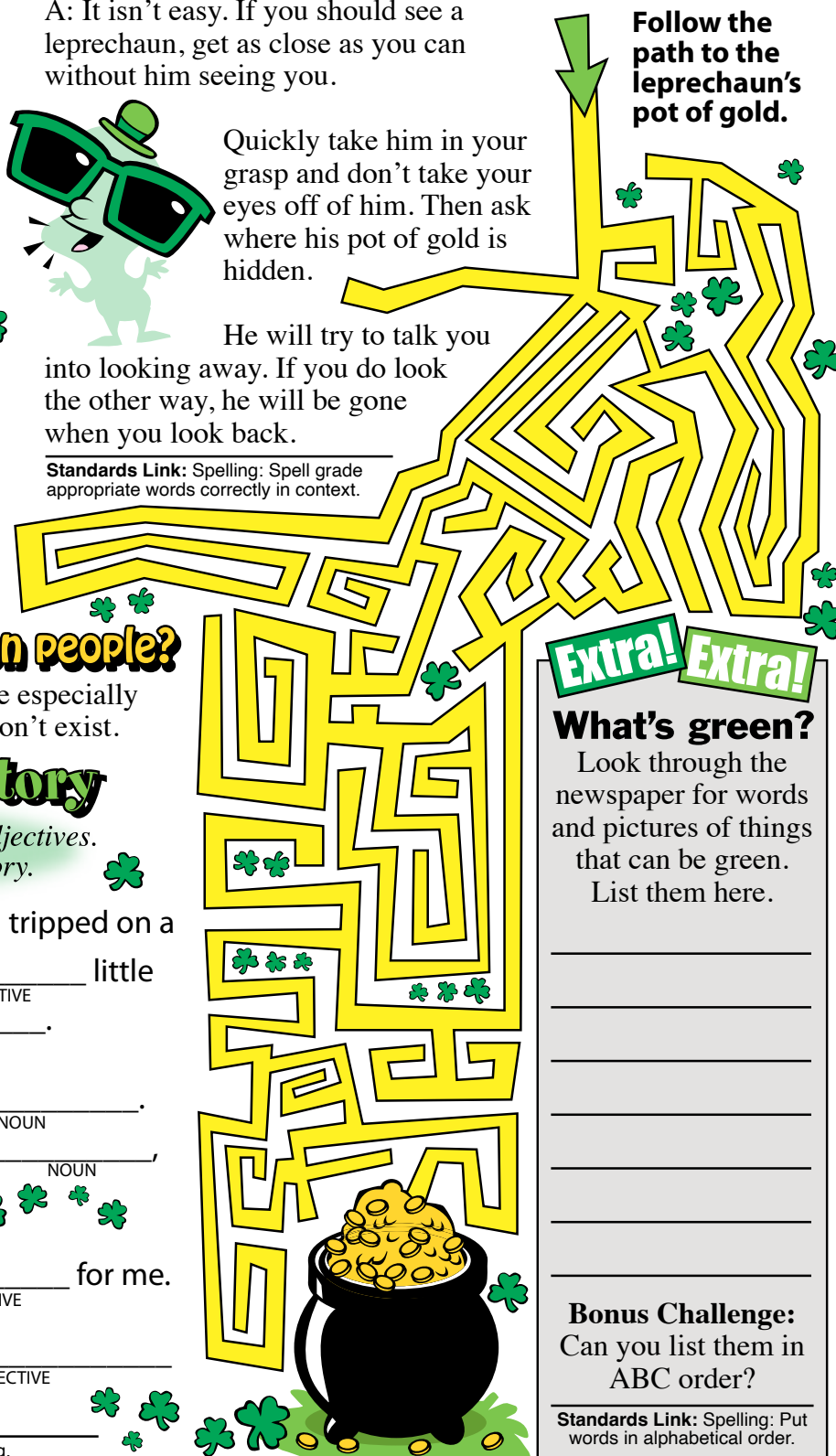
A: It isn't easy. If you should see a leprechaun, get as close as you can without him seeing you.

Follow the path to the leprechaun's pot of gold.

Quickly take him in your grasp and don't take your eyes off of him. Then ask where his pot of gold is hidden.

He will try to talk you into looking away. If you do look the other way, he will be gone when you look back.

Standards Link: Spelling: Spell grade appropriate words correctly in context.



Extra! Extra!

What's green?

Look through the newspaper for words and pictures of things that can be green. List them here.

Bonus Challenge:

Can you list them in ABC order?

Standards Link: Spelling: Put words in alphabetical order.



Leprechaun's shoe shelf has toppled. Can you match the pairs of fairy shoes?

Standards Link: Investigation: Find similarities and differences in common objects; identify matching attributes.

Q: Why do leprechauns play tricks on people?

A: We play tricks on people who don't believe in us. We especially like to bother teachers who try to tell children that we don't exist.

Leprechaun Lips Tricky Story

Ask your teacher or a friend for verbs, nouns and adjectives. Use these words to fill in the blanks of this story.

One fine morning, I went for a walk in the woods. I tripped on a _____.

When I looked down, I saw a _____ little _____ with a green _____.

"_____, " he said. "My name is _____."

I'm a leprechaun. If you want my _____ of _____, you'll have to _____ me first!"

I tried to _____ him, but he was too _____ for me.

He just laughed and called out to me, " _____ St. Patrick's Day!"

Standards Link: Grammar: Identify and use nouns, verbs and adjectives in writing.

St. Paddy's Patterns

Which leprechaun comes next in each row? Circle it.



Standards Link: Writing Applications: Relate ideas of an experience.

Double Double Word Search

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

- LAUGHED
- LOOKING
- LIPS
- GOLD
- PAY
- SHOE
- DANCE
- GREEN
- GRASP
- WOODS
- EYES
- EASY
- GONE
- ASK



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

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kidscoop.com/activity-pages/

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's phrase: **GIFT OF GAB**

If someone has the "gift of gab," it means the person is a good talker. The word *gab* comes from *gob*, the Irish word for mouth.

Katie had the gift of gab, which sometimes got her in trouble for talking too much during school.

Try to use the phrase gift of gab in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

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