

Ouad City Herald

Serving Brewster, Bridgeport, **Mansfield & Pateros area since 1901** A Ward Media Publication March 13, 2024

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Brewster initiates flood study to mitigate potential disaster in Swamp Creek Area

By MIKE MALTAIS

Ward Media Staff Reporter

BREWSTER - City officials inaugurated a flood study of the Swamp Creek drainage/Rat Lake area along Paradise Hill Road at a virtual kickoff meeting last month with representatives of the National Resources and Conservation Service (NRCS), USDA, and DJ&A engineering, surveying, and environmental consultants from Missoula, Montana.

Funded by a USDA grant, the study is researching alternative solutions to potential flooding scenarios outlined in an updated FEMA map that, if adopted, would negatively affect a large area of city residential and commercial property.

'We outlined all the documents and data needed, so we're still gathering those," said city Public Works Director Lee Webster. "But we seem to be moving fairly quickly."

Quickly, as in a tour of the drainage area in question this week.

"We do have a site visit on March 14," said Webster. "A show-and-tell of the structures, the drainage way, and the floodway. Until you actually go see it and walk it it's just numbers on a paper and pictures."

The Swamp Creek area has been the source of some flooding in past years though nothing on the scale of FEMA's worst-case scenario.

The FEMA map projects a 100-year the Brewster flood maps. event with as much as 1,260 cubic feet a second of flood water rushing over Highway 97. If not mitigated by corrective measures by the city, that floodway would reclassify about a third of city residences and businesses.

"All that (property) in the floodway would no longer be able to get a building permit for new construction," said Webster at the February council meeting. "If something happens to their building and they want to get a building permit to repair it, they can't

Tyler Ardron, vice president of Floodproofing.com in Mt. Royal, New Jersey, spoke with The Quad about

"They are preliminary and that is good," said Ardron "They (the city) do this restudy and they can change the maps."

Ardron added that if the study tried to change FEMA maps already adopted, it could take a decade, and during that interim, any affected properties would need to carry flood insurance.

Clay Goodrich, a flood mitigation specialist covering the West Coast for Floodproofing, said Brewster's challenge is by no means unique.

"All 50 states have seen flooding of some kind in the past 10 years," said Goodrich.

Goodrich said FEMA began with

paper maps in the 1980s to address high-risk flood areas. It is now upgrading those while aiming to model and map the whole country, as technology makes that easier.

Goodrich also pointed out the juxtaposition between urban expansion increasing a city's property tax base on the one hand and hardscaping the land's natural flood storage capacity and ability to direct and absorb excess water on

"You have to get ahead of that," said Goodrich. "That's hard to implement when overnight you get a flood map that now says you are flood risk."

Bridgeport Planning

Commission delays

Access Plan pending

BRIDGEPORT - A non-motorized access plan was the main docket item

at the regular monthly meeting of the

Planning Commission last Thursday,

March 7. The Commission elected to

postpone further work on that plan

until such time later this year that

state Department of Commerce grant

funding becomes available to cover

safe and convenient routes for

pedestrians, bicycles, and other forms

of non-motorized conveyance around

the downtown core and other high-

traffic areas. Those access features

can include striped and dedicated

sidewalks, sidewalk improvements,

community's non-motorized access

plan noted that 40 percent of the U.S

population does not drive and that

virtually everyone is a pedestrian in

the course of a day. Evidence supports

that pedestrian and non-motorized

trail systems can bring economic revitalization to a community. This

is a key goal of Bridgeport's current

Community Revitalization Plan

adopted in January 2021. Walking

and biking routes help create a livable

community for residents and attract

Danison said the plan will include

maps of non-motorized access routes

of sidewalks and trails and will be

part of the city's comprehensive plan.

consideration for small communities like Bridgeport to cover or partially

the costs involved with the creation and updating these mandated plans.

Danison said that in his discussions

communities he works with, the two

questions he frequently encounters

with other Douglas

Funding is always a key

Information featured in one

and crosswalks, to name a few.

Non-motorized access addresses

Non-Motorized

state grants

By MIKE MALTAIS Ward Media Staff Reporter

further work.

See FLOOD STUDY Page A5

Bridgeport's Revitalization Committee discusses Berryman Park upgrade

By MIKE MALTAIS

Ward Media Staff Reporter

BRIDGEPORT—The Revitalization Committee held its regular monthly meeting last Thursday, March 7, to discuss the latest developments in implementing the city's Community Revitalization Plan, which includes the downtown core and the SR-173

Thursday's meeting focused on the Berryman Park upgrade currently underway and financed by a grant from the state Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO). Superintendent of Public Works Stuart Dezellem has ordered structures and equipment for installation in the park, including:

- CXT precast concrete bathrooms. Scramble playground
- equipment. 20-by-24-foot picnic shelter.
- Forever Lawn playground
- resurfacing. · Merry-Go-Round.

Every renovation and upgrade comes with its own alternations and adjustments that must be made along the way and the Berryman project is not immune to them.

"The bottom of the merry-go-round that we ordered is nine inches from the surface," said city contract planner Kurt Danison. "Our assumption was it was going to be flush with the ground,"

The nine-inch height would allow children to crawl under it. Among ideas under consideration to lower the base is to adjust its elevation on the center axis shaft.

"Something will have to be done,"

Dezellem said he will be notified on March 20 of the expected arrival date of a semi flatbed load of equipment and structure pieces.

Danison had good news about the recent equipment purchases.

"The restroom, picnic shelter, playground equipment all came within reasonably close to the budget figures we submitted," Danison said.

The second phase of the Berryman project is the War Memorial and phase three is the public pool.

The Revitalization Committee was appointed four years ago, in February 2020, shortly before the COVID-19 pandemic. Seven months later, in September 2020, the Pearl Hill wildfire raced through the community, damaging structures and properties.

The plan, adopted on Jan. 20, 2021, was developed through a public outreach process and shaped by public input. It is intended to act as a guide for future growth and investment in the community.

Grants from the state Department of Commerce and the Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority funded the planning effort. Goals of the plan include: · Increase the number of visitors to

- the community,
- Adopt and enforce landscaping, screening, and buffering standards for the commercial and industrial areas.
- · Identify vacant spaces with potential for community uses.

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



COURTESY OF CITY OF BRIDGEPORT

Kurt Danison of Highland Associates is Bridgeport's contract city planner.

Bridgeport students place in NCWESD art show

By Mike Maltais

Ward Media Staff Reporter

BRIDGEPORT - Two Bridgeport High School art students were big winners at the 45th annual North Central Washington Educational Services District (NCWESD) Regional High School Art Show.

"Antonio Godinez-Martinez took first place in photography," said art instructor Brad Skiff. "Selena Hernandez took third place."

Antonio's work was titled "Bubbles" and Selena's titled "Green Marble."

"This show represents work from all high schools in the NCESD, basically, Moses Lake to the border," Skiff said.

Hernandez's entry benefited the

See NCWESD Page A5



Antonio Godinez-Martinez won first place in photography for "Bubbles."



Selena Hernandez placed third in photography with "Green

1. How long do they have to update their comprehensive plans? 2. When will money be available? "We have until the end of 2026 (to

complete the plan) and grants will be available at the end of July," said "So, we could actually have the non-

motorized access plan covered by the

update," said Planning Commission Chair Leslie Robb. The commission recommends that the city work on other comp plan items like administrative procedures

until grant money becomes available after July to pay for the non-motorized component. "It will be nice to have grant money

to do it and help save the city budget,' said Danison.

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Inside The Quad City Herald this Week







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Quad City Herald

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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!

Crafternoon at the

The Okanogan Library will host a crafternoon on Thursday, March 14 from 3-5

"Drop in after school for a fun family craft," the event page states.

For more information visit ncwlibraries.org.

St. Patrick's Day party

Kodis Noon Saloon will host a St. Patrick's Day party on Saturday, March 16 at 8 p.m. in Pateros.

"Come down and enjoy some karaoke by the amazing DJAC on March 16th," the event page states. "We will be having green beers, Jell-O shots, cocktails and food specials running all night long. Also, prizes for the best outfits. So get decked out in your green."

Video game night

The Pateros Library will host a Video Game Night on Friday, March 15 from 4-6 p.m. at the Pateros Brewster Community Resource Center in the conference room.

"Show off your video game skills during some friendly competition," the event page states. "Join us for some fun as we play various Wii games.

For more information visit ncwlibraries.org.

Shamrock Shuffle 5k

The Chelan Lion's Club will host the Shamrock Shuffle 5k on Saturday, March 16 at 9:30 a.m. at the Riverwalk Park.

Registration and check in runs from

"Enjoy one of the first fun runs of the season with us," the event page states.

a Lions Club fundraiser for kids with Type 1 Diabetes so they can go to an exceptional summer camp. This 5K is for expert runners, walkers, strollers and even dog walkers.'

Top Dog Parade

Historic downtown Chelan

By Aspen Anderson

don't match.

Washington State Journal

OLYMPIA - Washington

State is recognized for its

effective voting processes, but

officials say too many ballots

are rejected because signatures

"I think we can do a lot better in Washington State,"

Thurston County Auditor Mary

Hall said. "Updating how our

offices reach out to voters is a

simple step to ensuring both

Signature verification is

done to prove the mailed ballot

was filled out by the person

it was sent to, but too often,

people change the way they

sign their names or don't sign

their ballot at all, which results

Senator Javier Valdez (D-

Seattle) introduced SB 5890

after reviewing statistics

on ballot rejection rates in

the state. The bill received

unanimous approval in

the House and Senate and

now awaits the Governor's

the University of Washington,

showed people of color

and younger voters are the

demographics most likely to

The report, conducted by

signature.

in the ballot being rejected.

integrity and voter access."

8:30-9:30 a.m.

THINGS TO DO "The Shamrock Shuffle is

For more information visit lakechelanlions.org.

will host the Wayne Kelly Top Dog Parade on Saturday,

"Calling all dogs for the 36th Annual Wayne Kelly Top Dog Parade," the event page states. "Dress up you, your dogs and kids in green to try your hand at bringing home

the "TOP DOG" award."

Washington State takes steps

to reduce ballot rejection with new signature verification law

have their ballots rejected.

Ballot rejection rates among

Black voters are 50% higher

than white voters. Latino or

Asian voters are also much

more likely than white voters

to have their ballots rejected.

"If you are a younger voter

between 18 and 25, in 2022

there was a 5% chance that

your ballot had been rejected...

when you compare it to, if you

are 46 to 65 years old, your

percentage was .8%," Valdez

Hispanic and Asian voters

are also more likely to

have their ballots rejected,

potentially due to language

to the study, were less likely

to sign their envelope when

compared to white voters,

which they argue could point

Rights Act.

Voters of color, according

barriers or complex names.

THIS WEEK

Parade line-up begins at 11:30 a.m. behind Wells Fargo Bank. The parade starts at 12 p.m. in Historic Downtown Chelan.

For more information visit historicchelan.org.

required to use first-class mail

"Removing the requirement

of first-class mail, will result

in a few things: tremendous

savings, but it will also allow

us to reach voters where they

are, via phone or via email

because that's what people use

online form for updating a

signature if your signature

has changed. Election officials

advise people to submit a

current signature before the

next election, with the form due

eight days before election day

Hall supports most aspects

of this bill but is concerned

that notifying people after

every election could cause

"We contact them a lot," Hall

unless submitted in person.

King County provides an

these days," Hall said.

to contact voters.

DEATH NOTICE

Deborah T. Glover

Deborah T. Glover, 64, of Barnes Chapel is handling Brewster, Washington passed away on March 3, 2024.

the arrangements for the family.

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 March 1

13:10:23 Rso, 1627 Tacoma Ave, Bridgeport

March 2

00:13:31 Graffiti, 2348 Foster Creek Ave, Bridgeport 16:45:49 Animal Problem, 117 1st St, Bridgeport Bar

March 3

10:32:59 Assist Agency, 112 Sage St, Bridgeport

March 4

11:27:01 Harass/Threat, 391 Rd L Nw, Waterville 14:23:21 Accident No Inj, Bridgeport

Brewster Police Department February 29

00:18:49 Fire Other, Golden Lane Rd 07:30:30 Fraud, 604 Plaza Way Officer: Arnold Kevin

Comments: 10:35:01 Animal Problem, S 3rd St

14:40:58 Mal Mischief, Highway 97

March 1

13:21:53 Animal Stray, S 4th St March 2

14:31 911 Abuse, S 4th St

Brewster, Wa March 3 22:12:56 Traffic Hazard,

Highway 97 22:13:37 Pearson W

March 4

08:19:58 Mal Mischief, W Hanson Av 09:58:46 Mal Mischief, S 4th St 15:36:50 Mal Mischief, S 4th St 21:02:49 Mal Mischief, W Cliff Ave

March 6

05:23:29 03/06/24 Suspicious N

7th St; Brewster **Okanogan County Sheriff** February 29

06:21:50 Citizen Dispute, W Ives St, Pateros 11:04:43 02/29/24 Civil, Schnibbe Rd, Brewster

March 2

08:49:54 Agency Assist, W Warren Ave, Pateros

March 3

07:17:04 Welfare Check, Golf Course Dr, Pateros 21:15:24 03/03/24 911 Abuse, Old Hwy 97, Brewster

March 4 16:41:23 Mal Mischief,

Highway 17 & Half-Sun Way, Bridgeport

March 6

13:10:20 Assault, Schnibbe Rd, Brewster

21:29:22 Traffic Offense, Teleport Dr & Old Hwy 97, Brewster





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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

Omak May 1

OCSRA Scholarship

The Okanogan County School Retirees' Association has announced it is offering a \$2,000 college scholarship for an Okanogan County high school graduate. To be eligible, applicants must be at least a college junior working towards initial certification in an education field and must plan to work in public schools. The application deadline is May 1. Applications are available at wwsra-units.org/ okanogancounty For more information, contact Rita Figlenski at ritafig2@gmail. com.

Brewster March 13, 15, 19

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 13: Stuffed Pepper Casserole, Green Beans, Orange Quarters, WW Roll, Dessert; March 15: Corned Beef & Cabbage, Potatoes & Carrots. Tossed Salad, Tropical Fruit, WW Roll, Pistachio Pudding; March 19: Tuna Noodle Casserole, Peas & Carrots, Spiced Salad, Waldorf Salad,

Dessert. March 13-16, 18-23

Senior Center Thrift Store

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 13

Brewster Chamber to meet

The next general meeting of the Brewster Chamber of Commerce will be held Wednesday, March 13, 6 p.m. at the Senior Center, 109 Bridge Street. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. For information brewsterwachamber@gmail. com or Mike Mauk, 509-449-

March 14, 15, 17, 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/bAmBZzIg; Crab dinner add 8 oz Sirloin \$62.00: https://square.link/u/ hRbb0oqh; Steak dinner \$15.00: https://square.link/u/Vtzb2vtq. 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 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.

March 14, 20

Brewster bus trips

OCTN takes Brewster area resident to Wenatchee, second Thursday of the month. That next trip is March 14. The bus starts picking folks up at their homes at 7:30 a.m. Riders may request destination(s); medical appointments etc. On the third Thursday of each month, March 20 riders will be taken to Omak for the day. Riders request their destination(s). Wenatchee: \$12/ boarding for General Public, \$6 suggested donation/day for Seniors (60 plus). Omak: \$5.50/General Public, \$2.75 suggested donation Seniors (60 plus). (509) 826-4391 to reserve your seat.

March 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 206-550-6474.

April 3

American Legion Auxiliary to meet

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

Chelan Valley Hope March 13-14

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

It's Disability Awareness Month and during this month Chelan Valley Hope would like to bring awareness to inclusion, resources, and accessibility. At Hope, we take several steps to accommodate clients with disabilities and ensure they have equal access to the services and resources offered. Hope offers Sight and Hearing Assistance with the Lions Club. The Cornerstone building has designated handicapped parking along with a handic ap-accessible entrance and bathroom. Then, our wonderful team is ready to provide access support for clients with hearing, speech, or learning disabilities. March provides an opportunity to come together to celebrate diversity, promote accessibility, and advocate for the rights of people with disabilities. For more information about donations, services, 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

St. Patty's Top Dog Parade

The Wayne Kelly Memorial St. Patty's Top Dog Parade will be held on Saturday, March 16, starting at noon in downtown Chelan. Dress up yourself, dogs, children in green and join in the fun. Staging for the parade starts at 11:30 a.m. behind Wells Fargo.

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 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** 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 ioin them for coffee and cake For more information: Contact Concie Luna or Vita Monteleone at monte419@nwi.net.

Wenatchee 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

March 19

Douglas County PUD meetings

The next meeting the Douglas County PUD Commission is at 1:30 p.m. in the East Wenatchee office. The commission now meets the first and third Tuesday of the month. For more information douglaspud.org

April 9

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, Washington Street, 1408 Wenatchee. For information call 509-860-3620 or visit their website at: tcfwenatcheevalley.

Okanogan March 26

Okanogan County PUD meeting

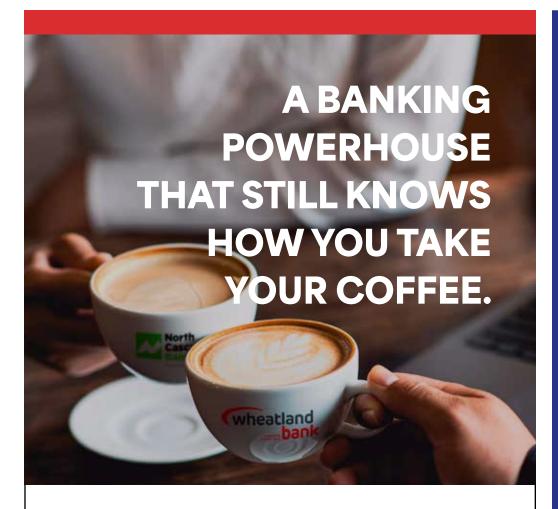
The next meeting of the Okanogan County Board of Commissioners is at 3 p.m. For more information okanoganpud.org

April 8

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.





On March 11, North Cascades Bank became

Wheatland Bank. That's right, sleeves were rolled up, spreadsheets were reconciled, and pocket protectors were pushed to their limits. And together, we created a bigger, better community bank committed to serving all of Eastern Washington. Not to mention a dream team of familiar faces you know and trust, all armed with the latest technologies to help you and your business thrive in a rapidly changing world. Welcome to the bigger, and now even better. Wheatland Bank.

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actuando en el

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Police given more leeway to pursue suspects

Rollbacks on police pursuits win bipartisan support after intense deliberations

By Mary Murphy Washington State Journal

OLYMPIA—The Legislature approved new rules that give police more leeway to engage in high-speed pursuits, which will become law on June 5,

"As you know, the people of the state are suffering, increasing rates of crime, property, crime, violent crime," said Rep. Jim Walsh, R-Aberdeen. "When I talked to cops and sheriff's deputies, they told me the one thing more than anything else that

we need is the ability to chase

bad people."

In 2021, the Legislature approved a measure that restricted police. Under that standard, vehicular pursuits were limited to when officers had "probable cause" that a person in a vehicle committed a violent offense, a sex offense, domestic violence-related offenses, driving under the influence of alcohol or trying to escape arrest. The standard was changed back to "reasonable suspicion" in 2022.

This year, in an effort to relax these standards even

more, less violent crimes such as theft were added to the list of crimes that can result in a chase.

"We have become the nation's leader in car theft," said Brian Heywood, prime funder of Let's Go Washington, which promoted the initiatives. "We've had skyrocketing increases in our car insurance rates. This is a direct result of an increased car theft caused by the inability of the police to pursue."

Some opposed the change because they believe vehicular pursuits can actually put more people in danger. James McMahan of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs explained that the law does not change the fact that officers must engage in "the balancing test."

For example, if an officer saw someone in a school zone with expired tabs, they likely would not begin a chase because it poses more harm to chase than it does to not.

Still, experts on the issue argued that vehicular pursuits are not effective and are too harmful

Dr. Jeffrey Albert, who has been studying police pursuit nationally for 30 years, cited a case from 2018 when Milwaukee, Wisconsin, took away restrictions on police oursuit

"Our data showed that pursuits increased 100%, 98%, something like that, and it was basically signing a death sentence to people on the road, because the police started chasing everything," Albert said. "The deaths, the crashes, the destruction, was horrible, and that's been seen in other

cities around the country."

Josh Parker, Senior Counsel at the policing project at NYU School of Law, cited similar studies arguing against the bill, but also drew attention to how it can put officers at risk.

"Not surprisingly, these pursuits result in officer injuries and deaths at alarming rates," Parker said. "A recent study found that pursuits account for more than 5% of all line of duty officer deaths."

Ryan Spurling, Mason County Sheriff, explained how officers see pursuits.

"I don't think any of us like pursuits," Spurling said. "I've been doing this 36 years and pursuits are dangerous. We need to find other alternatives. We don't choose to pursue; the person chooses to flee."

Spurling went on to explain that oftentimes when people choose to flee, they have committed multiple crimes, and this is where "the balancing test," comes in.

"My family drives in the community," Spurling said. "I don't want officers pursuing somebody for a taillight out and hitting my family head on and killing them, but that's the balancing test. There's no question we have to balance that out every day."

While the initiative passed with bipartisan support, some lawmakers still voted no.

Rep. Debra Entenman, D-Kent, said she worked very hard with community stakeholders in changing the law in 2021, as well as the Coalition for Police Accountability. As a Black woman, Entenman emphasized that she feels this initiative is silencing voices and urged

no

"We were trying to ensure that there was less contact in communities of color with police," Entenman said. "Because statistics have proven that when there is that contact, Black and brown young men especially do not get to go home to their families."

Sen. Manka Dhingra, D-Redmond, also cited that her own district's standards do not align with this standard of pursuit, as they are more restrictive. Other lawmakers echoed this explaining they believe this discretion should be left to individual jurisdictions.

Walsh and others who have closely worked on the initiatives explained individual jurisdictions still have the power to impose more restrictions if they want to, but that this sets the standard.

"An agency can always be more restrictive. The problem is the baseline in state law is already too restrictive," Walsh explained. "2113 restores it to a rational standard by which the law can be enforced."

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Sen. Javier Valdez has introduced various bills this session to try and improve our state election process.

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QUAD CITY CHURCH GUIDE

Brewster • Methow • Bridgeport • Pateros

BREWSTER



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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

Duad City Herald

Mar. 14



Scoreboard								
	BOYS BASEBALL							
18	Bridgeport vs. Omak, Home, 4:30 pm							
19.	Brewster vs. Tonasket, Away, 4 pm							
	GIRLS SOFTBALL							
16	Brewster vs. Cashmere, Home, 11 am							

Brewster vs. Cashmere, Home, 1 pm

Brewster vs. Tonasket, Away, 4 pm

Waterville-Mansfield vs. Quincy, Away, 4 pm

Mar.

Mar 1

Mar

Mar. 16

Mar. 19

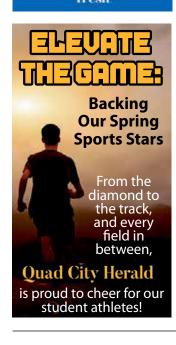
Mar. 19

	BOYS SOCCER
Mar. 12	Bridgeport vs. Cascade, Home, 4 pm
Mar. 14	Brewster vs. Tonasket, Home, 4 pm

Mar. 16	Brewster vs. Cascade, Home, 11 am
Mar. 18	Bridgeport vs. Tonasket, Away, 4 pm
Mar. 19	Brewster vs. Okanogan, Away, 4:30 pm
Mar. 19	Pateros vs. Oroville, Away, 4:30 pm
В	OYS & GIRLS TRACK
Mar. 15	Waterville-Mansfield, Windbreaker Invitational, Wahluke, 3:30 pm
Mar. 21	Waterville-Mansfield vs. Eastmont, Away, 4 pm
ВС	DYS & GIRLS TENNIS
Mar. 13	Pateros vs. Manson, Home, 4 pm
Mar. 14	Pateros vs. Liberty Bell, Home, 4 pm
Mar. 19	Pateros vs. Entiat, Home, 4 pm

Bridgeport vs. Oroville, Home, 4:30 pm





Brewster/Pateros Tennis Team



COURTESY PHOTO Back Row: Valeria Loyola, Daniela Espino, Adamary Loyola, Katie Lindquist, James **Evans, Kassidy Wilfong,** Jesus Churape, Kinden Hook, Wray Scott, Dion Reyes, Jackson Newman, Bryson **Busching, Lexi Vargas** Front Row: Sarah Zoretic, Jenessa Scroggie, Janette Hernandez, Joceline Gonzalez, Alexandra Ruiz, Jaylee Gonzalez, Brenda Isabel, Kailani Reyes, Itzel Garcia, **Amairani Gonzalez**



Proposal gives Attorney General authority to oversee hospital consolidations

By Mary Murphy

Washington State Journal

OLYMPIA - Healthcare workers say the state should have the power to review hospital consolidations to make sure levels of care are not reduced when a hospital is purchased.

Sen. Emily Randall, D-Bremerton, said she saw her own community hospital suffer after being acquired by a larger company. That's why she introduced The Keep Our Care

"In my own community, Harrison Hospital was acquired by CHI," Randall said. "And I first started learning about it not from the lens of reproductive healthcare, but from nurses and hospital employees who saw impacts to their patients and then working conditions from that acquisition."

The bill gives the Attorney General's Office the power to assess whether hospital care. The bill explicitly states the types of care that must be

examined: "emergency care, primary care, reproductive health care, gender-affirming care, and end-of-life care."

The Attorney General's Office is already required to review and be notified of mergers and acquisitions, but this bill would give them more power to stop the deal. The bill has a few exceptions, particularly for smaller hospitals that generate less than \$25 million in revenues.

In testimony, concerns were raised over Catholic hospitals that refuse to perform abortions, but Randall said this bill would not change a hospital's right to not to perform abortions.

"This bill doesn't make those hospitals do anything differently as far as their provision of care," Randall said. "It says if a hospital is going to acquire another health clinic or hospitals, will there be a decrease in access to care? Will they make a hospital that's currently mergers undermine patient providing comprehensive care stop providing comprehensive

The Washington State Hospital Association opposes the bill, arguing that mergers keep small hospitals afloat when they otherwise might

And some say the cost will be high to the state, and others suspect the bill's supporters have ulterior motives.

"I am concerned that this is an attempt to advance a social policy statement by the means of business regulation, and that's a bad mix," said Jim Walsh, R-Aberdeen.

Supporters, however, don't waver in their opinions.

"We see wings departments of hospitals closed down, because it's not in the business interest of the company to offer ambulatory surgery or a birth center anymore," Randall added.

Ian Mikusko of Washington State Nurses Association testified last year in support of the Keep Our Care Act, sharing some concerns he and his colleagues had about a merger Valley's Memorial hospital, and the effects he had already seen on nearby facilities.

"We believe it is possible that this acquisition could be connected to the closure of two critical patient services at competing Yakima County hospitals," Mikusko said. "Astria Sunnyside closed their cardiac unit, and Astria Toppenish closed their labor and delivery unit just two months later.'

Mikusko said he believes patients will die because of these mergers.

"This will result in local communities having to travel 30 to 45 miles to Yakima Memorial which is now fully controlled by MultiCare," Mikusko said. "The closure of labor and delivery of Toppenish in particular has devastated the local community and resulted in the layoff of 13 nurses."

Mikusko said concerns were brought to the Department of Health and the Attorney in Yakima. He discussed General's Office, but the Multicare acquiring Yakima acquisition was already

completed.

"This is why it's so crucial that a public assessment is done to understand the impact on access to care equity in the community," Mikusko said. "Healthcare systems like Multicare are driven by creating financial efficiencies. these financial efficiencies are often in conflict with access to care.'

Nurses are at the forefront of supporting this bill.

"As a registered nurse in a small community, we've had a large hospital system come in and take over our small community hospital," said Amanda Campbell, a registered nurse in Bothell. "It's eliminated some care for our patients, and I've seen firsthand how it affects them."

It's not just care being cut altogether that Keep our Care Act is hoping to address.

The Washington State Journal is a non-profit news website Newspaper Publishers

Although Walsh says he

is pro-carbon reduction, he

wants to do it differently. He

claims the CCA is not a good

environmental policy and is

"upper-middle class virtue

Chair of the Senate

Transportation, Marko Liias,

says he and Sen. Curtis

King, R-Yakima, ranking

member of the Transportation

Committee, worked together this legislative session to

propose a truly bipartisan

budget. King agreed. However,

Liias contends that repealing

the CCA will have profound

consequences for their budget,

signaling."

Association Foundation.

Flood study

Continued from page A1

Brewster's good fortune to "get ahead of that" began in the city clerk's office, where Director of Finance Misty Ruiz sourced the NRCS funding for a Preliminary Investigation and Feasibility Report (PIFR) to conduct the mitigation study.

Goodrich said FEMA has a program called Community Assisted Visit (CAV) that serves the dual purpose of providing technical assistance to a community while assuring that the community is adequately enforcing its floodplain management regulations. He used a city in Benton County as a CAV example where 128 residences were flagged for flood risk.

"The unfair part is that a lot of these communities were allowed to build before all this came about," said Goodrich. "They did so the honest way, the right way, and then all this comes up."

Goodrich said the problem is compounded when smaller communities do not have the budget to pay for studies and remedial upgrades to resolve FEMA requirements. The good news is that money is available.

"There's a ton of grants out there, it's just how to go about applying and submitting," said Goodrich. "For communities at risk, especially where a hard implementation is dropped in, they (grants) should be more

assessable than they are now." Ruiz said that once FEMA approves Brewster's PIFR the city also has additional grant funding to cover the cost of needed structural improvements.

We will have it paid for 100 percent," said Ruiz. "We are lucky because we can control it. We have the money, and we are moving forward.'

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

NCWESD

Continued from page A1

aspiring artist in another way. "Additionally, Selena's work was selected for a tuition waiver at Central Washington University," said Skiff. "Photography is one of the most entered categories, so they did really great."

An awards reception will be held at the Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center (WVMCC) from 1 to 3 p.m. on March 16. The pieces will be on display at the WVMCC through April 6.

Museum staff will forward a digital submission of the regional award-winning pieces to the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) on March 22.

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

Voters to decide fate of state's climate act ride public transit for free.

By Aspen Anderson Washington State Journal

OLYMPIA - The debate

over how Washington reduces greenhouse gasses is headed for a showdown in November. To supporters, The Climate

Commitment Act (CCA) is a "gold standard" environmental policy, because it sets carbon limits on polluters who must pay if they don't meet emission goals.

To critics, the program is failing because it isn't really reducing emissions, is pushing up the cost of gasoline and much of the \$1.8 billion it has generated isn't going to projects that reduce greenhouse gasses.

This November, the voters will decide who they believe.

Initiative 2117, signed by hundreds of thousands of Washington voters, calls for a repeal of the CCA. Democrat-controlled Legislature chose not to hold hearings on the initiative, so by law, it will be placed on the ballot, and voters will decide whether it should continue. The program went into effect in 2023 and is supposed to curb greenhouse gas emissions.

Republican Rep. Jim Walsh (R-Aberdeen), the original drafter of the initiatives, claims this initiative is a "consumer relief" priority to reduce gas

prices. Some argue cap and trade increased gas prices by 50 cents/gallon, while Clean and Prosperous Washington claims it's closer to 25 cents.

"The Climate Commitment Act is a house built on lies,' Walsh said. "No part of it has ever been truthful to the people of Washington, and the best example is Governor Inslee's ill-fated quote that the effect would be pennies; everyone knew that was not true even when he said it."

Paula Sardinas, CEO and President of FMS Global Strategies, disagrees. She says the repeal will devastate several projects that are positively impacting communities.

"I think it will be lifeending. We would have to ask ourselves, how much does the life of our children matter?" Sardinas said. "If we don't have funding, we can't continue to deliver on that \$17 billion green transportation promise

that we've made to these kids." Walsh and John Braun, R-Centralia, have been outspoken in asserting that none of the CCA dollars directly contribute to carbon reduction. Braun, unlike Walsh, thinks that much good is accomplished under the CCA but does not think it is

about reducing carbon. "To date, we have collected



PHOTO BY ASPEN ANDERSON

Protestors and signature gatherers on the citizen initiatives gather on the capitol steps, with some holding signs to "Stop the hidden gas tax."

about \$1.8 billion, but we have only spent about \$100 million," Braun said. "And when you really dig into how that money is spent, you will find that very little of it is actually going toward carbon reduction.'

Sardina listed a handful of projects that would go away without CCA funding.

- · Electric school buses for Black communities to help with childhood asthma.
- Three electric vehicles have been provided from CCA funding to BIPOC populations in rideshare deserts. They are able to lease the cars for \$64 dollars a day compared to

- 3,000 families who are undocumented, live in food deserts, or lack the transportation to reach a food bank or church, receive food delivered with new electric
- communities with air quality monitoring devices to measure particulate
- Electric bikes and scooters for low-income communities that do not necessarily want cars.

Uber's \$106.

- vans. CCA dollars provide
- matter.
- The kids ride free program lets children under 18 to

which can't afford the cuts. King also believes opting out of the CCA will "get us back to reality" and make us look at "what works and what doesn't." For example, he worries that Washington will become energy-dependent on other states and wonders

heavier electric cars. He is not anti-carbon reduction and has proposed alternative plans to address it, but he believes some Democrats fail to see the whole picture. He mentioned that the Department of Ecology has failed to provide a report to see if our emissions are going

how state roads will fare with

See **CLIMATE ACT** Page **A10**

Ballot Continued from page A2

so everyone follows the rules correctly.

"This bill creates an every opportunity for Washington voter to gain increased education and understand the importance of their ballot signature," said Calista Jahn from the University of Washington Evans School of Public Policy and Governance.

Under the new law, auditors also must create an outreach plan to educate communities about signature verification. In addition, the bill creates a

work group with the Secretary of State, at least two county auditors, and a representative from the University of Washington Evans School of Public Policy and Governance

to design a uniform envelope statewide to be implemented in the 2026 primary.

While some concerns about voter fatigue were raised, overall, there was strong support for updating outreach methods to ensure integrity and voting access.

After the Governor signs the bill, it will take effect 90 days after the end of the session.

The Washington State Journal is a non-profit news website funded by the Washington Newspaper Publishers Association Foundation.



Advocating for equal treatment and comprehensive care

It isn't every day that a woman goes to her primary care provider's office for medical care. Most of us are living busy lives, and healthcare, frequently, is not priority one. So, when we do find time to see our PCP, we hope the visit is efficient and effective. We hope our preventative care screenings, like pap

smears and mammograms and bone scans, all come back with negative and normal results. And we really hope – yes, this is a big one – that our concerns are heard and addressed.

It is true that women are frequently treated differently than men in medical settings. Studies have shown that, for pain of the same severity, women wait significantly longer for pain treatments than men. Women are prescribed less and weaker pain medications than men after similar major surgeries such as coronary artery bypass, even after accounting for weight differences. Women are more likely to be prescribed sedatives rather than pain medications. In fact, a wellknown study from 2000 showed that women are seven times more likely than men to be misdiagnosed and discharged while having a heart attack. (N Engl J Med, 2000) A more recent study showed that middle-aged women with chest pain and other heart disease symptoms were twice as likely to be diagnosed with mental illness compared to men with the same symptoms. (J Women's Health, 2008)

Treatment disparities are not limited to pain management, or to women. Medical conditions involved include everything from mental health diagnoses to chronic disease management to substance use disorder



LAUREN KENDALL, MD Family Physician, Clinic Medical Director Cascade Medical Center

treatment to hormone therapy and beyond. People who are Black, Asian, Indigenous, Latinx, ethnically diverse, and gender diverse encounter more unequal treatment. Discrimination of women within these groups is further magnified.

magnined.

tor
Medical Feeling a little
defensive? This

is not an article intended to demonize medical professionals or men, or to stress the women who worry they don't seek or explain their issues effectively. We are all living and working within a complex culture and medical system, and we're doing what we can to succeed. The vast majority of medical professionals, women, and men I know would never intentionally treat people differently based on gender.

Instead, I want to take this opportunity to let women know that the issue of treatment inequality is well-known. If you feel unheard, you are probably not imagining it. If you feel misunderstood, you are not alone. We want to hear you, we want to see and understand you. In the medical world, we absolutely want to work with you to address your concerns. The honest truth is, sometimes we need your help to hear and to truly listen.

So, I encourage you to come to your medical provider's office and tell us how you feel. Tell us how you REALLY feel. Please don't worry about things you might think are too embarrassing, or too personal, or too emotional - we must know your true experiences to match them with support and/or solutions. It's ok to be nervous. It's ok to be frank. It's ok to bring a friend or family for emotional support if that is helpful, and it's ok to ask them to step out for a moment (or

even the whole appointment). If you feel something is off but you can't pinpoint what, say that. And, if you feel what we are doing to help is not working, say that too.

When a medical professional offers a solution, it's almost universally based on information presented, experience, and many years of training. If, however, that solution does not address the problem, say something. So often, people get discouraged or frustrated and just give up. Please don't! Come back to the clinic and tell us what is going on, as solutions and treatment often come in a stepwise pattern and we very likely have another step of the plan in mind. It's ok to take notes or make bullet points for yourself - bringyour thoughts, your questions, your theories and we can work together to keep moving forward in the interest of your health.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, and

prevention thrives in family medicine clinics such as ours. Here are preventative medicine screenings most women should be sure to address with their primary care provider. (* denotes available at Cascade Medical)

- Pap smear* screening for cervical cancer; most women between the ages of 21 and 65, usually every 3-5 years.
- Mammogram* screening for breast cancer; most women over 40, every 1-3
- Cologuard* (take home test) or Colonoscopy* screening for colon cancer; starting at age 45, every few years depending on results
- DEXA scan* screening for osteoporosis (bone thinning); some women over 50 and most women over 65, as often as every 2 years
- Low-dose CT scan* screening for lung cancer; certain women with a

history of smoking who are also between 50 and 80, every 1 year

- Bloodwork including cholesterol* screening for blood disorders; most women 25 and older, every 1-3 years
- HIV screening* recommended for all at least once between 13 and 64 years old
- Hepatitis C screening*
 recommended for all at least
 once at 18 years and older,
 recommended for women
 with each pregnancy
- Screening for depression and anxiety* - all people 13 and over, every 1 year

Yes, all of these preventative care tests are available at Cascade Medical. We firmly believe in knowledge and in prevention when possible.

When prevention is not possible and further studies or treatments are needed, please be aware that Cascade Medical also offers many other tools like physical and occupational therapy, cardiac testing,

Xrays, diagnostic CT scans, and so much more We now have a cardiac rehabilitation center. We can provide hormone therapy for perimenopausal and menopausal women. We also have a new LGBTQIA+ resource page (https://cascademedical.org/ lgbtqia), and we can discuss and provide hormone therapy for gender-affirming care. We'll soon have colposcopy services for women with abnormal pap smears. We always have dietitian and counseling services.

This Women's History Month, I want all women, girls, people assigned female at birth and people who identify as female to know that we in medicine realize the world isn't perfect, nor are any of the folks in it (including ourselves!). But, you as a patient can prepare, trust others, and advocate for yourself and each other when you see your PCP. You deserve to be fully heard and we want to listen.







Women's HEALTH

things women should know about stress

Stress can be paradoxical. A certain amount of stress can motivate people to get things done. But having too much can cause a person to resist doing anything at all. The Cleveland Clinic says stress is the body's response to daily events that occur in life. When stress becomes chronic, it can be negative and destructive, making it hard to adapt and cope.

Chronic stress is a concern for many women. The Office on Women's Health says women are more likely than men to report symptoms of stress, including headaches and upset stomach. They're also more likely to have mental health conditions that are exacerbated by stress, including anxiety and depression.

Learning the facts about stress can help women care for their mental well-being. Here are eight things to know.

1. Stress can manifest in emotional, cognitive or physical symptoms. Notable physical symptoms



include muscle tension and headaches as well as fatigue and low energy. Emotional symptoms may include increased worry, mood swings or irritability.

- 2. Stress can lead to unhealthy habits. Women have higher risk of overeating due to stress, and may become inactive or smoke to cope with stress, says the American Heart Association.
- Common causes of longterm stress include poverty and financial

worries. Women in poverty who care for children or other family members may develop more severe stress, says the Office of Assistant Secretary for Health.

4. Women respond to stress differently. Healthline indicates women have a higher percentage of perception of stress than men, and also are more apt to realize they must manage it. Seventy percent of women have tried to reduce stress over the past five years.

- 5. Research reported on by the American Psychological Association says women are more likely to internalize stress, leading more readily to both physical and mental disorders. Men tend to be better at disassociating from stress.
- 6. Women are more likely to cancel plans due to stress than men, despite realizing they could use more social support.
- 7. Stress can disrupt hormonal balance in women, leading to menstrual irregularities.
- 8. Stress can trigger increased pain sensitivity, making women more prone to tension headaches and migraine attacks.

Stress can take its toll on anyone, including women. Recognizing help is needed, setting measurable targets and being realistic about managing stress can help women feel better.

Family Health Centers Brings Personalized Care to Our Pregnant Patients

Here's How...
By Family Health Centers

The establishment of the Women's Health Care Coordinator position in 2021, funded by a CHPW grant, aims to enhance the quality of care provided to our OB patients. This role takes an inclusive approach to serve as a pivotal point of contact, enabling patients to communicate their individual needs and preferences for personalized care.

Upon confirmation of a positive pregnancy test, we initiate comprehensive patient tracking to ensure the availability of all pregnancy-related benefits. Through proactive discussions that feature cultural humility and active listening, we introduce available resources and programs to support our patients at every stage of their pregnancy journey.

Our support extends to facilitating internal referrals and services such as WIC benefits, dental examinations, assistance with insurance enrollment, childbirth classes, facilitation of insurance rewards where applicable, access to child safety technician

services, distribution of newborn care packages, coordination of breast pump requests, assistance with FMLA paperwork, provision of postpartum birth control options, and referral to specialists as needed.

The Women's Health Care Coordinator role also streamlines the exchange of obstetric records between our clinic and delivery hospitals, ensuring seamless transfer of essential information. By overseeing the entire medical chart, laboratory tests, and imaging during pregnancy, we maintain a centralized record of each patient's prenatal and postpartum care, enhancing efficiency and coordination.

Collaboration with external organizations is a cornerstone of our approach, as we actively engage with partners to optimize care delivery for our patients and the wider community.

Family Health Centers is committed to providing excellent, inclusive and relevant care to growing families in our community that demonstrates respect for their individual needs, preferences and culture."





Men and women share various health concerns. However, certain health issues affect women differently and more frequently than men. In addition, certain health conditions, such as cervical cancer, are exclusive to women.

Women who want to take charge of their health

can recognize that various conditions and diseases are more common than others. The following are five common and notable health issues affecting women today.

- Heart disease: Heart disease affects more than 60 million women in the United States and is the leading cause of death for women. Heart disease can affect women of all ages. Despite this, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says only 56 percent of women recognize the prevalence of heart disease. In addition, it's important to note that most women between the ages of 40 and 60 have at least one or more risk factors for heart disease and likely do not even realize it.
- Breast cancer: Routine mammograms and other

breast cancer screenings can help women detect breast cancer at its earliest stage when it is most treatable.

- Cervical and ovarian cancer: Cervical cancer originates in the cervix, which is part of the lower uterus, while ovarian cancer begins in the fallopian tubes and ovaries. Pap smears can detect cervical cancer, but currently there is no screening test for ovarian cancer. A pelvic exam and ultrasound or other imaging may be recommended if doctors suspect the presence of ovarian cancer.
- Reproductive health issues: The Orlando Clinical Research Center says that reproductive issues can have a major affect on women's

quality of life and overall health. Some common issues include uterine gynecological fibroids. interstitial cancers, cystitis, endometriosis, and polycystic ovary syndrome. Pain, heavy or irregular periods and other discharge may be symptoms of these types of conditions.

• Mental health concerns:
Rates of anxiety and depression are higher among women than men.
The Anxiety Disorders Association of America reports that, from the time a girl reaches puberty until about the age of 50, she is twice as likely to have an anxiety disorder as a man.
Recognition of the most

common health issues to affect women can help them get the care they need to live long, healthy lives.



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Empowering Women Through Literacy Health

Unlock the power of knowledge with Ward Media, your trusted source for enriching and insightful content.

In today's world, literacy health is not just about reading and writing—it's about understanding, empowerment, and making informed decisions that impact our lives and well-being.

At Ward Media, we believe in the strength and potential of every woman. That's why our community newspapers and the Wenatchee Business Journal are dedicated to delivering content that informs, inspires, and ignites change. From the latest in health trends and wellness tips to empowering stories of women making a difference, our publications are crafted to support your journey towards a healthier, more informed life.

Whether you're looking to enhance your knowledge, stay abreast of the latest health news, or find inspiration in the stories of others, Ward Media is here for you. Our commitment to promoting literacy health among women is unwavering because we know that when women are informed, they are unstoppable.

Join us at Ward Media as we champion the cause of literacy health. Together, let's build a community where every woman has the information she needs to thrive. Ward Media: Where literacy meets health, and women meet their potential.

Explore our publications today and take the first step towards a more informed and empowered you.



Women's HEALTH

Millions neglect hearing loss signs, risking safety and well-being

"What's that?" My friend Americans experiencing leans over the table. I try to keep a smile on my face and to not sound as frustrated as I feel. I repeat myself again. "I said 'Maybe we should go camping at Beebe this summer, last year was fun" and mutter under my breath "Why do I always have to repeat myself?" My friend smiles at me and nods, but I know she still didn't understand what I said. I sigh and stand up, move closer and tell her earnestly "Have you noticed that you don't hear me very well?" She blushes and shakes her head at me, "I'm fine, it's just that you've got to speak up a bit."

My friend is not alone. There

some degree of hearing loss. On average, people wait seven years from the time they first notice trouble hearing to getting their hearing tested. Many people feel like they're getting by with their hearing loss, or that having it is a natural part of aging. But ignoring hearing loss can have

substantial consequences. These consequences include negative impacts on academic and career success, social relationships, physical safety (e.g., increasing the risk of falls and/or not heeding warning signals such as smoke alarms), and even



MEGAN CARTER Doctor of **AUDIOLOGY** OWNER, BETTER **HEARING**

crucial role in alerting us to potential dangers in our environment, such as approaching vehicles, alarms, or emergency sirens. Protecting vour ensures hearing that you can remain

of dementia).

(including earlier onset

Hearing plays a

vigilant and react appropriately to potential safety hazards. Have you ever noticed how noisy our world is? Loud noises like power tools, heavy equipment, fireworks, and live music can be hazardous to our hearing. Exposure to loud noise is the

cognition as one ages most common cause of hearing loss, and it is preventable with some simple steps.

> Protect yourself from excessive noise. Wear hearing protection (wellfitting earmuffs for young children and earplugs for older children and adults) when you're in noisy environments. Take a listening break and leave noisy areas at least once per hour to give your ears a rest and be mindful of the volume on your personal devices such as smartphones and tablets. This is especially important when you use earbuds and headphones. Keep the device volume to

Hearing loss can often be

overlooked or dismissed as a temporary inconvenience. Understanding and recognizing the signs of hearing loss is crucial for early intervention and effective management.

· Learn the signs of hearing loss. Signs include ringing, buzzing, or pain in the ear; having difficulty following a conversation when more than one person is talking; having trouble hearing in noisy places like a restaurant or on the phone; and frequently perceiving that sounds seem muffled or people seem to be mumbling. In children, signs of hearing loss can also include pulling or tugging at their ears, displaying delays in speech and language development, or seeming unhappy or socially isolated. Learn more at http://IdentifytheSigns.org.

If you suspect you have a hearing loss, it's important to take proactive steps to address the issue. Schedule a hearing test with an audiologist, a

professional who specializes in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of hearing loss. Not sure where to start? Talk to your primary care provider about your concerns and they can lead you in the right direction.

It took my friend a while, but she eventually heeded my advice and got her hearing checked. Her hearing loss was treatable through the use of hearing aids. She is amazed at the things she can hear now, even things she didn't know she was missing. She often tells me she wished she didn't wait so long to do something about her hearing. As for me, I'm glad I don't have to repeat myself as much as I used to.

For more information about hearing loss, visit the American Speech Language Hearing Association's website at www.asha.org/public and the Hearing Loss Association of America website at www. hearingloss.org.

Megan Carter, AuD, is an audiologist and the owner of Better Hearing in Wenatchee and Omak.

Warning signs of developing mental health issues

Various mental illnesses are more common among women than men, including depression and anxiety. The Mayo Clinic says it's common to have mental health concerns from time to time, but when one of those concerns becomes frequent or affects one's ability to function, it becomes an

According to Clearview Treatment Programs, women often live with mental illness for months, even years before seeking treatment. Individuals may not realize the severity of their conditions, or they may mistake mental illness for stress or feeling overwhelmed. Even though the stigma surrounding mental health issues has decreased considerably in recent years, women still face societal barriers, says McLean Mass General Brigham Hospital. Women may not be inclined to discuss their issues and, in turn, fail to receive prompt



Signs of mental illness vary, depending on the disorder and additional variables. A condition may affect a person's emotions, behaviors and thoughts. Some signs of a burgeoning mental illness include:

- Significant changes in sleep habits, which may include sleeping more or not at all.
- Changes eating behaviors, which may

include binge eating or going without food.

- Women tend to internalize mental illness, and symptoms can include ruminating, withdrawal from activities and generally retreating from
- · Physical conditions that cannot be explained, such as headaches, stomach aches, chronic pain, and even high blood pressure.

from happiness to anger and sadness. Confused thinking or

means rapid mood swings

- a reduced ability concentrate.
- Excessive fears or worries. · Detachment from reality,
- resulting in delusions. relating Trouble
- situations and people.
- Changes to sex drive.
- Excessive anger hostility.
- Suicidal thoughts attempts.

Mental illness can affect anyone. According to research, women may have a higher propensity to develop certain mental health conditions and thus need to be aware of the symptoms of those disorders. Anyone in crisis should call 911 or their local emergency number immediately. In the United States and Canada,

women can call or text 988

to reach suicide and crisis



Women should pay careful attention to their physical health, but it's worth noting the importance of tending to one's mental well-being as well. Data concerning women and mental health highlights some eye-opening disparities between women and men. The American Psychiatric Association says each year one in five women in the

United States experiences a mental health problem. Twice as many women as men experiences depression. In addition, compared with men, women are twice as likely to experience post traumatic stress disorder or anxiety (both generalized anxiety disorder or panic disorder). Women also are more likely to attempt suicide than men, but men are four times more likely to die by suicide. Women exhibit higher rates of various mental health disorders than men (rates of impulse control disorders and substance abuse disorders are higher among men than women). It is important to note that many mental health issues can be successfully treated and women should seek the assistance of a mental health professional if they need help.









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Leavenworth Echo Cashmere Valley Record Lake Chelan Mirror Quad City Herald

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Announcements

General Interest

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

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Employment

Help Wanted



Douglas PUD has an opening for:

Student Trainee -Natural Resources

Details at www.douglaspud.org<htt p://www.douglaspud.org

Help Wanted

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

PUD No. 1 of Okanogan County is seeking to fill a public information officer position.

Please see www.okanoganpud.org for job description and requirements; and submit application with resume. Okanogan PUD is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



The City of Chelan's **Public Works** Department is accepting applications for the position of Sanitation Truck Driver.

The monthly income range for this position is between \$4,911 and \$5,970. (\$28.33-\$34.44 per hour) Benefits include PERS retirement, medical, dental, vision insurance, paid vacation, holidays, and sick leave.

Application materials are located on the City's website:

https://citvofchelan.us/Jo bs. First review of applications will be Monday March 25th, 2024. Position is open until filled.

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Utility Maintenance Worker (Full-Time, Weekends

an equal opportunity employer, is now accepting applications for the position of **Utility Maintenance**

This position is Salary range is \$5,073 -\$5,713 per month. Requirements: Minimum 18 years of age and Washington State driver's license with

Position will require a pre employment and physical

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

sidewalks, ROW maintenance, buildings and structures, municipal water distribution system, sewer and stormwater collection system,

and which includes but is not limited to the scope of functions and duties listed. The typical schedule is five days per week; although, support be required to demands of the City in order to

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

Help Wanted

Required)

The City of Leavenworth,

Worker. full-time/permanent, union covered, and requires weekends.

record acceptable to the City. drug/alcohol screening evaluation. This position requires a CDL which means individuals will be subject to applicable

not limited to, garbage cardboard collection, streets and roadways,

cemetery grounds. headstones, restrooms, schedules may vary to requested needs of the City. Weekend work will

accommodate the work and service requirements ensure safety, cleanliness, and aesthetic

open until filled.



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Rentals

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

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

Call (509) 881-7075

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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

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

PATEROS IRRIGATION DIST Meeting @ 9:00 am March 28, 2024 @ 149 Pateros Mall Published in the Quad City Herald on March 13, 2024. #7400

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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.



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A B C D E F G H i J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

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)

11 7 19 19 A.

Clue: Toss ball

11 1 21 12 20 19

Clue: Score

4 1 24 14 20

Clue: Playing area

2 7 19 15 9 20

2 9 6 5 9 6 9 5 8 3 2

Numbers

Fun By The

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!

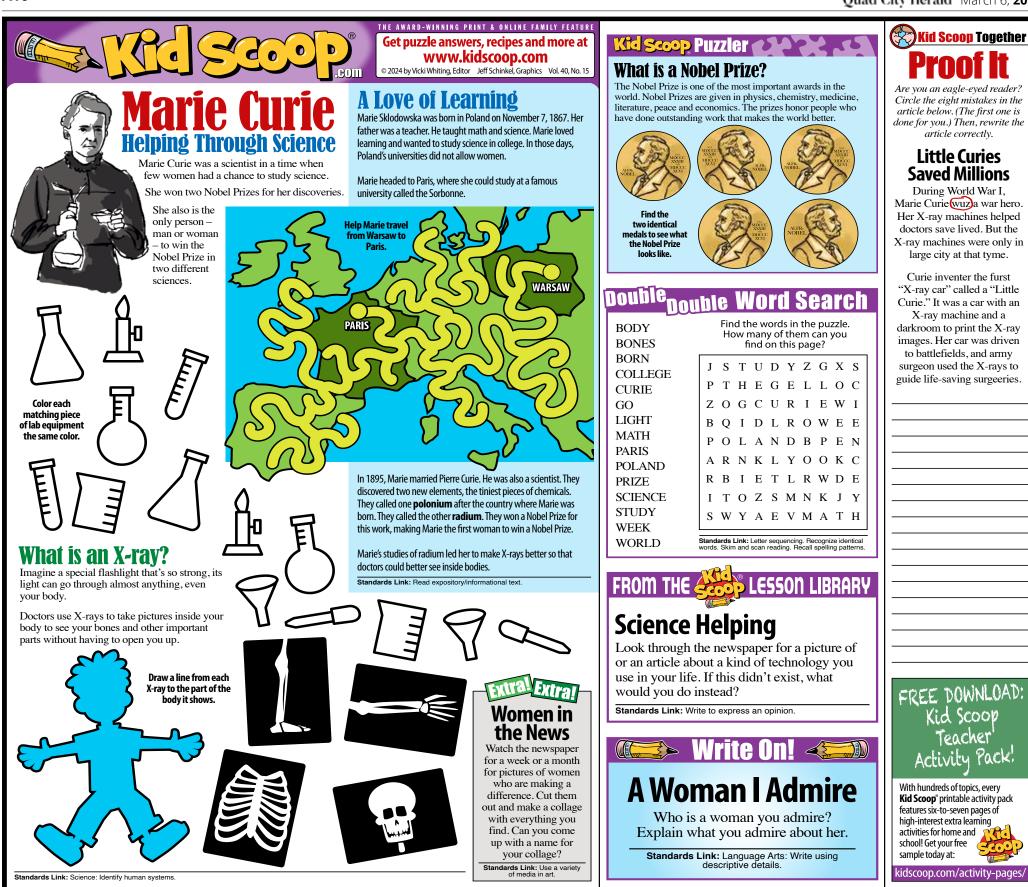
Here's How It Works:

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!

6	8	£	L		7	9	2	S
	2	7	9	G	3	6	4	8
4	93	Ç	8	2	6	lb	ယ	L
8	www	2	3	ħ	L	Ĝ	6	9
9	9	t	2	6	name.	8	L	ε
L	3	6	G	8	9	Þ		2
G	6	8	work	ε	2	L	9	7
2	Þ	9	6	L	ç	ε	8	ageore
3	L	ques	ħ	9	8	2	ç	6

ANSWER:

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- Free homework help
- Britannica Library
- Stream books, comics, movies, & more



Continued from page A5

Liias said if the CCA is repealed, the biggest hit will be transit programs, with \$3 billion allocated to them, including the kid's ride-free program. The second hit, he says, will be ferries. If those budget dollars go away, the Legislature still has to run the ferry system and would have to reallocate money to buy the hybrid diesel boats. An additional \$261 million to build new ferries with CCA dollars was proposed by Senate Transportation.

"I think if you look at studies nationally about what you can do in transportation to reduce our emissions, it is: get more people to ride transit, walk and bike and electrify everything you can," Liias said.

But do these projects mentioned by Sardinas and Liias directly reduce carbon? Braun and Walsh say no.

Liias thinks arguments that the CCA does not go toward carbon reduction are "rhetorical" and not "factbased," pointing to the fact that some people in the Legislature believe that the earth is cooling and deny climate change.

"It's clear this is not the policy approach they would take, and I respect that, but there are some facts in the discussion, and the fact is that we are investing it in things that will make emissions in the state go down," Liias said.

how legislators could think the CCA money is not spent on reducing carbon because "the law requires" it to be spent on carbon-reducing activities.

Rep. Jake Fey, D-Tacoma and Chair of the House Transportation Committee has similar concerns, especially with ferries, given that 25% of the money comes from CCA.

"If the initiative passes, we would have to review everything we had planned to spend," Fey said. "It creates just a huge problem."

In Inslee's proposed 2024 CCA spending plan, some argue that key elements that do not directly reduce carbon include allocating 41% of the budget to "overburdened communities" and providing

Liias does not understand \$23 million directly to tribes.

Overburdened communities are defined as places that are vulnerable to air quality issues, are low-income, minority, tribal, indigenous, or bear the brunt of environmental issues. Projects include funding public assemblies to come up with climate policy solutions, piloting Health Equity Zones, creating a work group to address the impact of communities near airports, installing air filtration enhancements, and more.

For Tribes, of the allotted \$23 million, Inslee proposes \$10 million should go to capacity funding to "support them as they mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change." This includes grants to purchase electric boats

and motors, funds to begin Climate Commitment Act in designing a microgrid system, \$2 million for a "Tribal clean energy innovation and training center," and grants for salmon recovery, stormwater drains that will improve aquatic life,

and more. Michael Mann, executive director of Clean and Washington, Prosperous a nonprofit advocating for climate policies, has spent over a decade promoting the CCA as the "gold standard" of climate policy. He warns that if the repeal passes, the state will

lose decades of climate efforts. Mann emphasizes that the CCA needs time to yield results

and urges patience. "There may be a few cases where the Legislature has not been true to the

their expenditures across the board ...but 95% of the expenditures from the CCA are tied to carbon reduction," Mann said.

Mann does not deny that the CCA has increased gas prices, but he says his nonprofit's reporting puts the increase at about 25 cents per gallon.

"Fossil fuel emissions have been able to be made for free for a century in Washington State, and last year, we finally put a price on polluting our skies and our waters," Mann

The Washington State Journal is a non-profit news website *funded by the Washington* Newspaper Publishers Association Foundation.

Choosing an Antihistamine for Allergies

March is National Sleep Awareness Month, with Spring and allergy season fast approaching. While getting enough restful sleep is good, feeling sleepy when you need to be awake is not.

If you suffer from allergy symptoms and need to drive a vehicle, operate machinery, or stay awake at your desk, it's important that your medication doesn't encourage

When you come in contact something you're with allergic to, your body releases histamine. Histamine triggers a cascade of symptoms we associate with an allergic reaction: nasal congestion, runny nose, itchy and watery eyes, and sinus pressure.

Antihistamines work by blocking the path histamine uses when provoking an allergic reaction, preventing and relieving those symptoms.

There are 2 main categories of antihistamine medicines: sedating and nonsedating agents. Sedating antihistamines are

drugs that often cause both drowsiness and a drying action. That drying action helps relieve a runny nose and watery eyes.

Antihistamines don't work the same in everyone. Some will relieve your allergy symptoms better than others. Many people have to try more than one before finding one that works well while causing less drowsiness.

Older antihistamines like Benadryl® (diphenhydramine), doxylamine, chlorpheniramine, and triprolidine cause drowsiness in most people.

Newer antihistamines like Claritin® (loratadine) and Allegra® (fexophenadine) rarely cause drowsiness. Unfortunately, these allergy medicines are less effective at drying runny noses or watery eyes than older agents like diphenhydramine and triprolidine.

Two non-sedating options are loratadine (Claritin®, Alavert®) and fexofenadine (Allegra®). Loratadine is taken once daily, while Allegra® is available in 2 formulas, once daily and twice daily.

Cetirizine (Zyrtec®) is another once-daily allergy medicine. Closely related to the prescription drug hydroxyzine, cetirizine may cause some drowsiness in some people, along with some drying action. If you suffer from a runny nose, Zyrtec® often relieves it better than non-sedating antihistamines.

If Claritin®, Allegra®, or Zyrtec® aren't relieving your runny nose or itchy, watery eyes, try one of the older antihistamines. The most powerful is Benadryl® (diphenhydramine). It is more potent against severe allergy symptoms but can cause significant drowsiness in many people.

Diphenhydramine is found the non-prescription sleeping medicines Tylenol PM® and Sominex II. Unlike newer drugs for allergies, Benadryl® needs to be taken 3 to 4 times daily for best results. If your allergies wake you with a stuffy nose and

sinus pressure, consider taking diphenhydramine just at bedtime and take a less sedative agent during the day.

Other older antihistamines

besides diphenhydramine chlorpheniramine, include brompheniramine, and triprolidine. Triprolidine causes less drowsiness than those other older antihistamines. It helps dry up my runny nose better than anything else.

Triprolidine was previously available in combination with a decongestant, as Actifed®. My favorite allergy medication is the formulation of Actifed® which (AprodineTM), contains triprolidine plus the original form of Sudafed®, pseudoephedrine.

In the past, triprolidine has been challenging to find. You can find it in Flonase Night Time Allergy Relief®, along with the Mucinex® Night Shift Cold and Flu. Night Shift Severe Cold and Flu, and Night Shift Sinus.

I do not recommend Mucinex® Night Shift Severe Cold and Flu or Night Shift Sinus because they contain phenylephrine. Phenylephrine increases your blood pressure

without relieving nasal congestion.

Astepro® is a newer, nonprescription nasal spray containing azelastine. Azelastine is both an antihistamine and mast cell stabilizer. Azelastine can prevent the release of histamine and also block its action. Astepro® can be used with other nose sprays for allergic rhinitis, including steroid nasal sprays.

Here Are 5 Tips on Choosing an Antihistamine:

1. Don't delay. Antihistamines work best if you take them as soon as you are exposed to an allergy trigger. They are less effective after your nose stuffs up and your eyes start itching.

2. Choose not to snooze. Non-sedating antihistamines like loratidine (Claritin®) or fexofenadine (Allegra®) are safest if you have to drive or use machinery.

3. Don't give up. If your first antihistamine choice doesn't help, try another one. It's not unusual to get little relief from one antihistamine but good results with a different one.

4. Consider a combo. You can combine a steroid





5. Try triprolidine. As an older antihistamine, triprolidine can drowsiness, but it is effective at relieving runny eyes and nose symptoms. Try it at home before driving to determine if you are affected, or take it only at night. Some, like me, notice no drowsiness at all.

have a stuffy nose.

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, The Medication Insider.com.©2024 Louise Achey