



Marketing Matters
Omnichannel marketing: The key to reaching customers everywhere
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Pateros student wins Governor's Choice Award for artwork
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Quad City Herald

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Bridgeport city council selects Berryman Park contractor

By **MIKE MALTAIS**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

BRIDGEPORT – Bid openings for the Berryman Park Renovation Project contractor – part of the Community Revitalization SR-173 Corridor Plan – were opened on May 21. While all the bids submitted exceeded the city engineer's project estimate of \$404,638, the lowest

among those came from JM Pacific Construction, Inc., in Moses Lake. A special city council meeting on May 22 awarded the bid to JM. The next step is for city engineer Gray & Osborne, the city attorney, and the state Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), which provided the grant funds for the renovation, to review elements of the actual contract.

Generally, when a contract of this type is awarded, the contractor purchases all necessary equipment, installs it, and handles all details, said clerk/treasurer Judy Brown. In this instance, the city purchased all the equipment – the bathrooms and playground equipment – via a state bid to make the project affordable for the city to cover. Then, all bids came in higher than expected. The park

project estimates were calculated three years ago, and costs since have risen sharply, more than estimates allowed. One of the dilemmas now facing the city is how it is going to cover the shortfall?" Brown recalled that the city faced a similar challenge when it decided to build the Conklin Landing RV Park in conjunction with Douglas PUD in 2017. The city was awarded an RCO

grant to cover its portion of the costs but came up short. "When it came toward the end, and we knew exactly how much money we needed, we went back to RCO and asked if they had any money they could help us with," said Brown. "So, it's a possibility."
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Columbia Post 97 Honor Guard remembers veterans on Memorial Day



ALL PHOTOS MIKE MALTAIS/WARD MEDIA

The American Legion Honor Guard fires a volley of salute.

By **MIKE MALTAIS**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

BREWSTER—The Columbia Post 97 American Legion Honor Day made a day of it on Memorial Day, May 27, when the contingent held ceremonies at seven memorial sites and Legion headquarters from Pateros to Mansfield. A schedule that started at 9 a.m. at Pateros Memorial Cemetery concluded at Mansfield in mid-afternoon with stops at the Bridge Street Bridge, Packwood Memorial Cemetery on Dyer Hill, Fort Okanogan Memorial Cemetery near Monse, Locust Grove Cemetery in Brewster, Legion headquarters, and

Bridgeport Cemetery. At each site the Honor Guard posted the colors, a wreath was placed as a token of remembrance, a three-round volley fired, and taps played. A few among the many veterans remembered include:

Pateros Cemetery

Donald Boston Stivers, April 5, 1920 - April 29, 1984, a veteran of World War II, the Korean Conflict, and the Vietnam War.

Packwood Memorial Cemetery



A wreath emerges from beneath the Bridge Street Bridge.

Fort Okanogan Memorial Cemetery

Army PFC John Glen Cook, Feb. 17, 1936 – Oct. 19, 2007, who served in Korea.

See **MEMORIAL DAY** Page **B2**



MIKE MALTAIS/WARD MEDIA
Columbia Post 97 Commander Greg Wagg drops a wreath into the Columbia River during a ceremony on the Bridge Street Bridge on Memorial Day, May 27.

Bridging Community Needs continues matching needs with resources

By **MIKE MALTAIS**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

BREWSTER – Bridging Community Needs, a grassroots forum for local religious and community leaders, met for the second time at American Legion Columbia Post 97 on May 2 to continue what it started last January. At that debut gathering last Jan. 30, more than two dozen came together to address food banks and related groups in the Bridgeport, Brewster, and Pateros areas. The primary aim is to create a community list directing individuals, school counselors, and veterans requesting help to the right resources. Discovering areas where existing services overlap can prevent those needing help from falling through the cracks. Bridging Community Needs was organized by the Legion's Public Outreach Coordinator and Financial Officer, Edward Gossett, a 22-year retired Navy submarine missile specialist. Gossett now works with the Very Long Baseline Array (VLBA) site in Brewster, one in a network of 10 National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO) sites spread across nearly 5,500 miles and controlled remotely from the Array Operations Center in Socorro, NM.

Gossett said he volunteered for many years, including with Catholic Community Services, fixing veterans' homes in Bremerton, "I aspire to create a veterans group focused on outdoor adventures and assisting with home projects," Gossett said. He also volunteered with a group called Colorado Community Food Share. "Food Share offers a reduced price on a box of food if you helped in fields or warehouses," Gossett said. Post Commander Greg Wagg opened the meeting with a brief overview of the Legion Hall as a hub for members who join for community service, camaraderie, and helping other vets. Good examples of that are the Legion Riders motorcycle group and the Honor Guard, which attends many local veteran memorial services, parades, and related functions. The hall's bar and restaurant also provide part-time employment for several individuals. It features a community dinner from 4-6 p.m. every Tuesday. The Legion is always looking for volunteers to prepare home-cooked meals, with the Legion covering food costs. Wagg said the Legion struggles with its outreach to younger vets "including those needing those needing support with upgrading bad conduct discharges or navigating VA benefits." Bev Weddie, Relief Society President for the Church of Jesus

See **BRIDGING COMMUNITY** Page **B2**

Brewster School Board hears grievances, reverses vote for Middle School Principal/AD

By **MIKE MALTAIS**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

BREWSTER—Disagreement with the Brewster School Board's choice to fill the positions of Middle School Principal and MS athletic director sparked a special meeting that drew nearly 275 community and staff members to the high school commons room on Wednesday, May 29. At the previous week's regular meeting, the board chose a candidate over the recommended choice of its interview committee, a decision viewed by many school staff and community members as contrary to the institution's best interests. The committee recommended Middle School Counselor Miranda Solorio and the board chose Middle School teacher and sports coach Dan Vassar. "Despite the interview committee's recommendation, the board did not accept their proposed candidate, leading to widespread concern and disappointment among staff," wrote Superintendent Lynnette Blackburn later. "This led to schoolwide turmoil amongst students, staff, and leaders." For three and a half hours, community members and school



MIKE MALTAIS/WARD MEDIA
From left, Brewster School Board Directors Mario Camacho and Emmanuel Rubio, Chairperson Hector Aparicio, Peggy Rice, and Erik Rios, join Brewster School Superintendent Lynnette Blackburn and Secretary to the Board Estella Martinez at the table for the special meeting on May 29.

staff addressed the board with opinions ranging from praise for the board's dedication, appeals for more public attendance at meetings, and better communications to criticism for rejecting a committee recommendation, calls for better representation and demands for a major overhaul of board policies. In Blackburn's words, the majority

"gathered in overwhelming support of the interview committee's original candidate. Attendees were given the opportunity to voice their opinions, each allocated two minutes to share their thoughts, resulting in a passionate and heated discussion." Seventh-grade teacher Kyle Woelber endorsed both individuals but said the board's actions resulted

in one of the most difficult weeks of his professional career. "We are very lucky to have two capable candidates applying for this position," said Woelber. "I believe either one of them could do a fantastic job in the position that they're hired."

See **SCHOOL BOARD** Page **B4**

Inside The Quad City Herald this Week

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Obituaries/Deaths:	4 p.m., Friday

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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!

Summer library program

The Omak Library will kick off its Summer Library Program on Friday, June 7, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

"Join us the first and third Friday for SLP," the event page states. "If you would like to know what we are doing, follow us on Facebook. Each program will be centered around our theme of Read, Renew, Repeat."

For more information, visit ncwlibraries.org.

Live music with Carly Klein Schoening

Vin du Lac Winery in Chelan will host live music by Carly Klein Schoening on

Friday, June 7, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

"Enjoy live music from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Fridays, all while savoring gorgeous lake views and fabulous wines," the event page states.

For more information, visit vindulac.com.

Second Saturday book club

The Okanogan Library will host the Second Saturday book club on Saturday, June 8, from 1 to 2 p.m.

"Calling all adult readers," the event page states. "Members meet monthly (on the second Saturday of each month) to discuss the current book club pick, visit, and share book recommendations. We hope to see you soon."

For more information, visit ncwlibraries.org.

Movie at the library

The Omak Library will host a movie afternoon at the library on Saturday, June 8, from 1-3 p.m.

"Join us for a family fun movie at the library," the event page states. "To find out what movie we are watching, stop by the library or call."

For more information, visit ncwlibraries.org.

Culpepper & Merriweather circus

The Culpepper & Merriweather circus will come to



5 THINGS TO DO THIS WEEK

Brewster on Sunday, June 9 with shows at 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. at N. Bridge St and Hwy 97.

"Come see the Big Top raising and get your swag and enjoy the show," the event

page states. "See animals, aerialists, daredevils, and much more."

For more information, visit cmcircus.com.

Omnichannel marketing: The key to reaching customers everywhere

Nowadays, customers jump between devices like phones, tablets, and computers and different platforms like websites, apps, print, and in-person stores. They interact with businesses in lots of different ways. This constant switching by customers demands that businesses market themselves consistently no matter where or how the customer engages with them. Whether online, on mobile, in print, on air, or in a physical store, the business needs to provide a unified experience. In the marketing world, this is called an omnichannel approach.

While providing that unified experience across channels has clear benefits, such as increased customer satisfaction, improved brand

loyalty, and valuable insights into customer preferences and behavior for small to medium-sized businesses without extensive marketing resources, implementing a consistent marketing strategy across all channels can seem challenging.

At the core of an omnichannel approach lies a deep understanding of the customer journey. Understanding how customers interact with your business enables you to identify the different ways customers engage with your brand, pinpointing frustrations or challenges customers face, preferred channels, and opportunities for engagement. This insight allows for the improvement of marketing efforts across different channels.

Integrating channels is crucial for delivering a seamless experience. Key components include consistent branding, such as using the same logos and colors, tailoring your marketing message based on what you know about your customer, and technologies that enable smooth transitions between online and offline interactions. Coordinating promotions and campaigns across channels further reinforce a cohesive brand experience.

While large corporations may have dedicated teams to manage omnichannel marketing, small to medium-sized businesses often lack the resources to handle such complex strategies. This is where partnering with a reputable marketing agency



By **AMY YALEY**
COO of Ward Media

can be invaluable.

A skilled marketing partner can help you understand how customers interact with your business, identify the most effective channels for your target audience, and develop a consistent marketing plan tailored to your business goals and budget. With their expertise, you can use effective tools and proven strategies to maintain a consistent brand experience without overspending.

Moreover, a marketing partner can provide ongoing support, monitoring, and improve your omnichannel campaigns based on customer feedback and data insights. This ensures that your marketing efforts remain relevant and effective, adapting to the ever-changing landscape of consumer behavior.

Embracing an omnichannel approach is no longer a luxury; it's a necessity for businesses of all sizes to meet the evolving

expectations of modern customers. By partnering with a reputable marketing agency, small to medium-sized businesses can leverage the power of omnichannel marketing without the need for a large in-house team or exorbitant budgets.

Take the first step towards providing a seamless and memorable customer experience by exploring a consistent marketing strategy tailored to your business needs across all channels. Your customers are engaging with your brand in a variety of ways; it's time to meet them where they are, consistently and in a coordinated way, to foster lasting relationships and drive growth for your business.

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.

NCW Tech Alliance announces Summer of Innovation events

NCW News
Ward Media

WENATCHEE — The NCW Tech Alliance has announced a series of Summer Tech Events aimed at fostering innovation and community engagement in North Central Washington. Since 1999, the organization has been connecting people with technology while supporting entrepreneurs, STEM education, and technology adoption in the region.

The summer lineup begins with the Summer Scholarship Fundraiser - Golf Tournament, presented by Sabey Data Centers, on Thursday, August 1, at the Highlander Golf Course. The event combines friendly competition and fundraising to support STEM scholarships for local students

and educators, which will be awarded at the Annual Innovator Awards Luncheon in the fall of 2024.

In collaboration with the North Central Educational Service District (NCESD) and the Apple STEM Network, NCW Tech Alliance will host the fourth annual AI Expo on Wednesday, August 21. The expo will feature keynote and breakout sessions on topics such as AI use policies, economic impacts, prompt engineering, multimedia creation, entrepreneurship, open-source utilization, and data analysis.

From August 22 to 25, the NCW Tech & STEM Showcase, presented by the Apple STEM Network, Microsoft, and Yahoo, will take place at the NCW Fair in Waterville. The

showcase will provide hands-on opportunities for students, teachers, and businesses to engage in science, technology, engineering, and math.

Concluding the summer's events is the Tech Trailblazers Unite - Digital Equity & Entrepreneurship, sponsored by Thriving Together NCW and Microsoft, on Thursday, September 10, at Pybus Public Market. The event will recognize organizations across Chelan, Douglas, Grant, and Okanogan counties that have committed to enhancing digital equity in the region and feature an Entrepreneurial Panel highlighting visionary cross-sector entrepreneurs.

For more information and to register for these events, visit NCWTech.org.



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Bears state track team trophies make school history



COURTESY OF ROY BAKER/PATEROS ATHLETICS

The combination of speed and clean baton exchanges gave Alivia Smith, Isabella Tolen, Ava Mitchell, and Emma Gamble the winning edge on both the 4x100 and 4x200 relays.

Womens 2B			Mens 2B		
1	St George's	95	1	St George's	75
2	Davenport	67.5	2	Goldendale	44
3	Brewster	56.5	3	Brewster	42
4	Rainier (WA)	55	4	Liberty Bell	39

State Champions

Cort Gebbers in Shot Put	58'3.5" (new school record and new 2B State record).
Cort Gebbers in Discus	194'6" (new school record).
Pepper Boesel in Javelin	136'0" (new school record).
Ava Mitchell, Isabella Tolen, Emma Gamble, Alivia Smith in 4x100 relay	51.33 (new school record).
Ava Mitchell, Isabella Tolen, Emma Gamble, Alivia Smith in 4x200 relay	1:49.67 (new school record).

Other State Placers

Alivia Smith	13th in Long Jump.
Pepper Boesel	13th in High Jump.
Kray Hampe	12th in 300 Hurdles
Kaydence Carrington	8th in 1600, 10th in 800, 7th in 3200.
Uriah Marcille	9th in 100, 6th in 4x100 relay, 4th in 200, 12th in 1600 relay.
Grant Baker	2nd in Javelin, 8th in Triple Jump, 4th in Long Jump and 6th in 4x100 relay.
Cayden Milton	13th in Pole Vault, 12th in 800 and 6th in 4x100 relay, 12th in 1600 relay.
Tajanai Huff	3rd in Shot Put.
Gimena Hurtado	5th in Shot Put.
Dane Hampe	and 6th in 4x100 relay, 12th in 400, 12th in 1600 relay.
Ava Mitchell	6th in Pole Vault.
Maribel Perez	8th in Discus
Isabella Tolen	3rd in 100, 4th in 200
Nicholas Thompson	12th in 1600 relay



COURTESY OF ROY BAKER/PATEROS ATHLETICS

Cort Gebbers won both the discus and shot put events, the latter setting a new state record of 58'3.5".

By MIKE MALTAIS
Ward Media Staff Reporter

BREWSTER – The Bears' state varsity track and field teams accomplished a feat not easily achieved in Brewster's already storied sports history. Both the boys' and girls' teams won third-place trophies on

May 23-25, at the WIAA 1B, 2B, 1A State Championships in Yakima.

Led by five individual championship performances in shot put, discus, javelin, 4x100 relay, and 4x200 relay the Bears also set five school records and one state record along the way to the podium.



COURTESY OF ROY BAKER/PATEROS ATHLETICS

Pepper Boesel's winning throw of 136 feet was almost 13 feet beyond the 123'7" effort that won her the District 6 title.

The Brewster girls captured 56.5 points and the boys 42 points in their third-place finishes.

"I am so proud of the Brewster athletes for the way they competed throughout the season and especially at the State meet," said head coach Greg Austin. "I am also

grateful for the coaching staff I was able to work with and the contribution that they put into this season. Thank you, Jason Brown, Mason Elms, Megan Muller, and Ryland Weythman."

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

Pateros Track and Field shines at WIAA State Championship Meet

By MIKE MALTAIS
Ward Media Staff Reporter

PATEROS—The Pateros varsity track and field teams had a great weekend at the WIAA 1B, 2B, and 1A State Championship Meet in Yakima on May 23-25.

"We had eight athletes compete at state this year," said coach Edgar Guzman, who summarized school results.

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



COURTESY OF ROY BAKER/PATEROS ATHLETICS

Top left, Janette Hernandez, Giselle Cenicerros, Stevie Simmons, and Coco Cronin placed sixth in the 4x400 relay 4:33.11

Giselle Cenicerros	
100M	1st place
200M	4th place
High Jump	9th overall

Stevie Simmons	
400M	12th overall

Coco Cronin, Giselle Cenicerros, Stevie Simmons, Janette Hernandez

4x400 Relay	6th place
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Ishmael Mireles

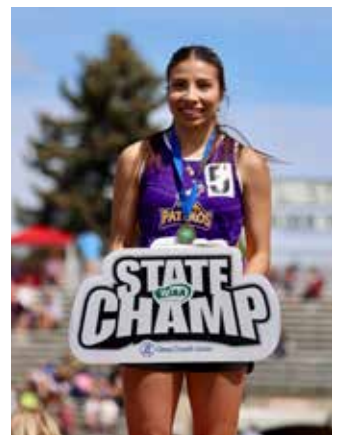
200M	8th place
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Long Jump	7th place
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High Jump	6th place
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Elpidio Pamatz, Ishmael Mireles, Diego Mota, Alexander Ruiz

4x100 Relay	13th overall
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COURTESY OF ROY BAKER/PATEROS ATHLETICS

Pateros junior Giselle Cenicerros won the state 1B 100 meters with a personal record time of 12.66 seconds, placed fourth in the 200M, and sixth in the high jump.



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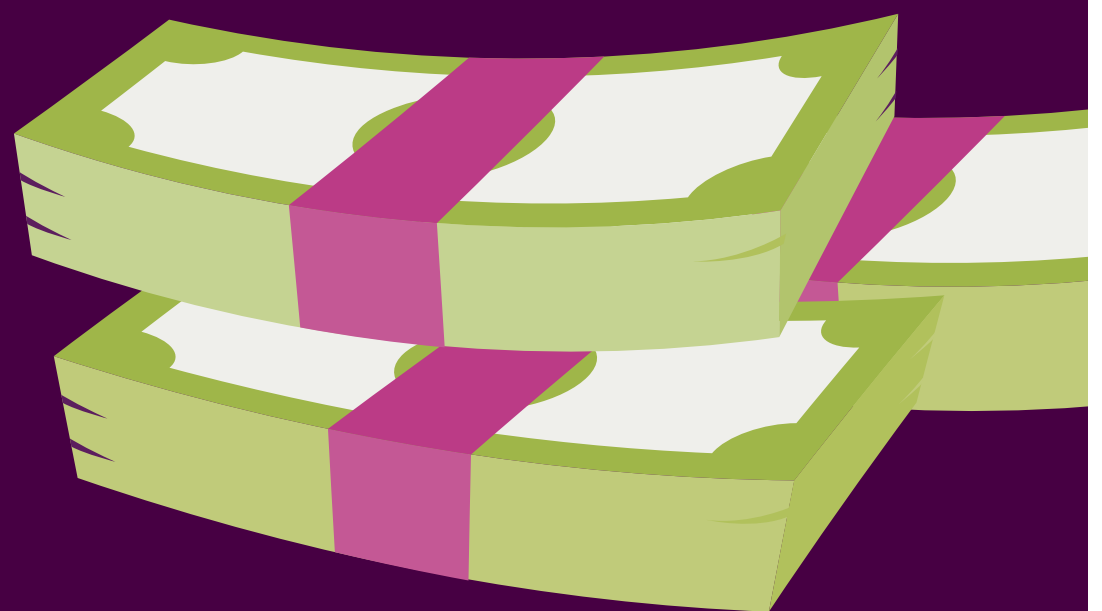
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Wenatchee River Bluegrass Festival set to delight music fans

By QUINN PROPST
Ward Media Staff Reporter

CASHMERE – The Wenatchee River Bluegrass Festival 2024 will kick off next weekend at the Chelan County Expo Center.

The festival's executive director, Marie Vecchio, said the schedule will be similar to previous years, but this year will feature three Northwest bands as well as award-winning bands from back east.

The Northwest bands are Friends of Larry, Slipshod, and Heartbreak Pass. Vecchio said they are well-loved Washington state bands that they have featured in the past.

Bands coming from outside of Washington are Carley Arrowood, Seth Mulder and Midnight Run, and Appalachian Roadshow.

"All of these bands, Carley Arrowood, Seth Mulder and Midnight Run, Appalachian Roadshow, all these are people that you hear on Sirius music if you listen to Bluegrass Junction," Vecchio said.

"Carly is a newcomer, as far as she's been performing for a few years now," Vecchio said. "Her band is tight. She's an amazing fiddle player. And she has amazing vocals. So that band is fun to watch."

"Seth Mulder, I've never seen him in person, but I hear him all the time on Sirius music on Bluegrass Junction, and they're more of a traditional hard-driving bluegrass band," she said. "So you're gonna get some great entertainment out of them."

"Appalachian Roadshow, my all-time favorite, just for their stage presence," she said. "Their representation of Appalachian music, we're talking traditional bluegrass that just grabs your heart, it is so sincere."

"Each one of those performers are talent, from they're Grammy Award winners, they are IBMA award winners. IBMA is the International Bluegrass Music Association," she said. "So we're talking tons of talent on this stage at one time, and they're just so sincere."

"We had them back in 2022, and the crowd loved them and we're so honored to have them return," she said. "They loved our crowds. They love the Northwest. So they were excited when we asked them back."

The campground opens on Monday, June 10, at noon. The festival will kick off with a jam session on Thursday, June 13, at 2:15 on the Back Porch Stage, followed by a Meet and Greet Luau and Potluck at 5 p.m. at the campground picnic shelter.

Friday, June 14, Saturday, June 15 and Sunday the 16th each have a full schedule of performances.

There will be food vendors, kettle corn, roasted nuts, and merchandise. The event is alcohol-free.

Tickets are \$45 for the weekend or \$35 for the day. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit WenatcheeRiverBluegrassFestival.com.

"I encourage people, even if they're local, to come and camp; it is music," she said. "About 90% of those people out there are musicians, so their wristbands will get them into the campground, and they can see extra entertainment out there and people will start rolling in on Monday. Things get to hopin' pretty good through evening Wednesday. And then from there, it's just an amazing wave of music you can hear. It's perfect."

She said that throughout the campground, groups will camp next to each other, form a common circle, and gather to play music.

"Come nighttime, it's magic," she said. "You walk through there, and there is so much music coming from everybody's camps. It is amazing, really."

On Saturday there will be Taylor's Camp, which is a workshop for youth to learn to play bluegrass music. At the end of the workshop, the children will perform on stage.

There are also instrument workshops for adults to learn more about playing traditional bluegrass instruments.

The festival started in 2003 and has continued to grow.

"We started with as far as our bands go, we were excited to get some Washington bands," Vecchio said. "That was a big highlight for us. And every year, we keep getting a little bit bigger and a little bit bigger, and we have gotten to the status of where we're able to hire award-winning bands from back east or wherever. And it's very exciting that we got to this point."

"We offer good family fun, decent price, and that's what kept us going is just everybody believing in what we do," she said.

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



PHOTOS COURTESY OF WENATCHEE RIVER BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

The popular bluegrass band Appalachian Roadshow will perform at the Wenatchee River Bluegrass Festival next weekend.

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	Brewster Police Department	Okanogan County Sheriff
May 24 16:26:09 Assist Agency, 2026 Tacoma Ave, Bridgeport	Arden Ave, Bridgeport 09:06:46 Civil, 217 S Jefferson St, Waterville 16:47:24 Malicious Misch, 1255 Fairview Ave# 5, Bridgeport	May 30 06:24:07 Suspicious, E Main Av, Brewster 11:02:14 Civil, S 7th St, Brewster 15:49:52 Traffic Stop, S 4th St, Brewster
May 25 12:28:44 Traffic Offense, 800blk Columbia Ave, Bridgeport	May 24 08:03:43 Agency Referral, 501 W Bruce Ave, Brewster 14:36:14 Rape, W Bruce Ave, Brewster	May 24 11:36:51 Animal Missing Beach St, Pateros 13:50:27 Burglary, Monse River Rd, Brewster
May 27 8:13:08 Assist Agency, Bridgeport Bridge, Bridgeport 14:13:21 Noise, 510 Columbia Ave, Bridgeport 17:10:10 Civil, 1911 Tacoma Ave, Bridgeport 17:55:44 Traffic Offense, 88 Washburn Ave, Bridgeport	May 25 03:15:55 Weapon Offense, S Bridge St, Brewster 12:30:18 Agency Assist, Columbia Ave, Bridgeport 20:20:48 Trespassing, Hospital Way	May 25 12:49:58 Animal Missing, Beach St, Pateros 14:59:06 Wanted Person, Monse Bridge Rd, Brewster
May 28 05:28/24 Juvenile Problem, 400 E Locust St, Waterville 22:18:25 Harass/Threat, 200 E Birch St, Waterville	May 26 04:23:51 Weapon Offense Hospital Way, Brewster	May 26 00:01:08 Accident Unknown, Old Hwy 97, Brewster
May 29 13:42:46 Theft, 2400 Tacoma Ave# 43, Bridgeport 19:01:48 Domestic Disturbance, 415 N Greene St, Waterville 21:52:34 Trespass, 1206 Douglas Ave, Bridgeport	May 27 12:46:22 Juvenile Prob, Highway 97, Brewster	May 27 12:46:22 Juvenile Problem, Highway 97, Brewster
May 30 09:18:28 Parking/Abandon, 19	May 28 15:28:36 Mal Mischief, Highway 97, Brewster	May 30 09:25:53 Vin Inspection, Beach St, Pateros 11:02:14 Civil, S 7th St, Brewster
	May 29 13:18:39 Citizen Assist Hospital	



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My Favorite Motion Sickness Remedies 2024

I just returned from visiting my husband's cousin and his wife, Patricia, in Alaska. We stayed with them at their cabin on the Kenai River, between the towns of Soldotna and Kenai. 5 years ago, we were to join them on day cruise viewing Aialik Glacier, the largest tidewater glacier in Kenai Fjords National Park. Lunch was on board the ship, and dinner was at Fox Island on the way back.

Arriving at the boat terminal in Seward at 9am, it was 49 degrees, pouring rain with wind gusts that nearly knocked us over as we crossed the parking lot. Luckily, the captain canceled the cruise due to the weather. Patricia and I wouldn't have enjoyed it because we get seasick.

We are not alone. Acupressure helps ease motion sickness for some people. Wearing an elastic band around your wrist activates a particular pressure point, relieving nausea and discomfort. To give this medication-free approach a

try, look for Sea Bands®. Ginger is also effective for motion sickness. For best results, take 500mg to 1000mg of powdered root every 4-6 hours. Fresh ginger root, capsules of ground ginger, or small chunks of sweetened, crystallized ginger also work.

My favorite ginger is the crystallized form, which weighs twice as much as powdered ginger. I weighed pieces of crystallized ginger with my little apothecary scale left over from pharmacy school. I got the best results with chunks about the size of a full-strength aspirin tablet. Ginger ale, ginger tea, and gum don't have enough ginger to provide me reliable relief.

Dramamine® for motion sickness is a popular non-prescription remedy but watch out: it has two different formulations, the original one and a "less drowsy" formula.

The original version of Dramamine® contains dimenhydrinate, a close cousin of diphenhydramine or Benadryl®. Both

and diphenhydramine can prevent motion sickness. Unfortunately, they also cause drowsiness and need to be taken every 4-6 hours.

The last time I took Dramamine® was on a flight home from Orlando to Seattle. After crossing 3 time zones going westbound, I lost track of time, and it wore off right when I needed it!

Meclizine is my go-to motion sickness remedy. I never leave home without it, and take it every day while traveling. It's inexpensive, available as chewable flavored tablets, and rarely causes drowsiness. Best of all, one dose lasts 24 hours! Meclizine is available as Bonine®, Dramamine® Less Drowsy Formula, and generic meclizine tablets.

For more relief, try adding ginger or acupressure to meclizine. Avoid adding dimenhydrinate (the original Dramamine®) to meclizine or Benadryl® (diphenhydramine). Their combination can cause

drowsiness, dry mouth, and constipation.

If taking meclizine or dimenhydrinate with ginger doesn't help your motion sickness, ask your doctor about a prescription for scopolamine patches.

Scopolamine is a patch (Transderm-Scop®) you wear behind your ear, lasting 2-3 days. Scopolamine patches are more potent at relieving motion sickness than non-prescription medicines, but they also cause more side effects.

Scopolamine can cause fatigue, blurred vision, dry mouth, constipation, and urinary retention. Talk to your medical provider about whether scopolamine would be a safe choice for you, especially if you have constipation.

Here are 5 Tips for Mastering Motion Sickness:

- 1. Be prepared.** Motion sickness medicine

takes time to work and is most effective when taken before your trip. You should take or apply motion-sickness remedies at least 30 minutes before experiencing the motion of a boat, car, or plane.

If you take a short-acting nausea medicine like ginger or dimenhydrinate (Dramamine® Original Formula), remember to bring another dose with you. If your outing is delayed, you'll be able to take another dose before the first one wears off.

2. Face forward. If possible, sit facing forward on cars, trains, boats, and roller coasters.

3. Keep cool. Seek out areas where you can get fresh air or a cool breeze on your face. Getting too warm always makes my motion sickness worse, so I wear layers to avoid getting overheated.

4. Choose meclizine over dimenhydrinate.

There are two formulas of Dramamine®: Original Formula and Less Drowsy



Formula. They sit side by side on the pharmacy shelf, and it's easy to confuse one with the other.

I recommend meclizine, the generic version of Bonine® and Dramamine® Less Drowsy Formula. Meclizine is just as effective and costs less than the brand-name products.

5. Meclizine works for dogs, too.

For most dogs, the dose of meclizine is 25mg once daily. If your dog is smaller than 25 pounds or already takes medication, check with your veterinarian first.

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

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2024 APPLESOX HOME SCHEDULE

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JUNE	SAT WWW.APPLESOX.COM	2 PAL 5:35	3 RED 6:35	4 PAL 6:35	5 PAL 6:35	6 PAL 6:35
	7 VIC 1:05	8 VIC 6:35	9 VIC 6:35	10 BEL 6:35	11 BEL 6:35	12 BEL 6:35
	13 KAM 6:35	14 DSF 6:35	15 YVP 6:35	16 YVP 6:35	17 YVP 6:35	18 WWS 6:35
	19 WWS 5:35	20 KEL 6:35	21 KEL 6:35	22 KEL 6:35	23 BEL 6:35	24 BEL 6:35
	25 BEL 1:35	FIREWORKS - JULY 3RD				
JULY	SAT 1:05	2 VIC 6:35	3 VIC 7:05	4 VIC 6:35	5 NAN 6:35	6 NAN 6:35
	7 CCL 5:35	8 CCL 5:35	9 EDM 6:35	10 EDM 6:35	11 EDM 6:35	12 CCL 6:35
	13 YVP 5:35	14 KAM 6:35	15 KAM 6:35	16 KAM 6:35	17 KAM 6:35	18 EDM 6:05
	19 EDM 12:05	20 KEL 6:35	21 KEL 6:35	22 KEL 6:35	23 KEL 6:35	24 BEL 6:35
AUGUST	SUN SAT	1	2 NAN 6:35	3 NAN 6:35	4 NAN 5:35	5 BEN 6:35
	6 BEN 6:35	7 BEN 6:35	8 BEN 6:35	9 WCL PLAYOFFS	10 WCL PLAYOFFS	11 WCL PLAYOFFS
	12 WCL PLAYOFFS	13	14 WCL PLAYOFFS	15	16 WCL PLAYOFFS	17
	NON-LEAGUE	SOUTH DIVISION		NORTH DIVISION		
	CCL: Cascade Collegiate League Showcase	BEN: Bend Elks	COR: Corvallis Knights	BEL: Bellingham Bells	EDM: Edmonton RiverHawks	KAM: Kamloops NorthPaws
	DUB: Dub Sea Fish Sticks	COW: Cowlitz Black Bears	POR: Portland Pickles	KEL: Kelowna Falcons	NAN: Nanaimo NightOwls	PAL: Port Angeles Lefties
	RED: Redmond Dudes	RID: Ridgefield Drifters	SPR: Springfield Sweets	WWS: Walla Walla Sweets	VIC: Victoria HarbourCats	YVP: Yakima Valley Pippins
	\$2 OFF TUESDAYS WIN ATCHEE WEDNESDAYS THIRSTY THURSDAYS					
	HOME GAME	AWAY GAME	WCL PLAYOFFS			

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Community Bulletin Board

Local, Regional Community News & Events

Brewster

June 5

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.

June 5, 19

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.

June 5, 7, 11-12

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

The Senior Center is serving meals at noon at the center on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Home delivered meals are delivered those same days. Call 509-689-2815 to reserve meals. For those over age 60 \$5. For those 60 and under \$12. June 5: Chicken Cordon Bleu, Rice Pilaf, Green Beans, Spinach Salad, Chilled Pears, WW Roll, Dessert; June 7: Pulled Pork Sandwich, Potato Salad, Coleslaw, Watermelon, Dessert; June 11: Chicken Enchiladas, Spanish Rice, Baja Veggie Blend, Cuke & Tomato Salad, Pears, Dessert; June 12: Tater Tot Casserole, Tossed, Green Salad, Tropical Fruit, WW Roll, Rice Krispies Treats.

June 5-8, 10-15

Senior Center Thrift Store

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

June 6, 7, 9

American Legion events

Brewster American Legion Bingo holds 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.

June 12

Brewster Chamber to meet

The next general meeting of the Brewster Chamber of Commerce will be held Wednesday, June 12, 6 p.m. at the Senior Center, 109 Bridge Street. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. For information email them: brewsterwachamber@gmail.com

June 13, 20

Brewster bus trips

OCTN takes Brewster area

residents to Wenatchee, second Thursday of the month. That next trip is June 13. 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, June 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.

Chelan

June 5-6, 10-13

Chelan Valley Hope: Serving Bridgeport, Mansfield, Waterville, Orondo, Chelan, Manson, Chelan Falls

Did you know, Chelan Valley Hope offers free long-sleeve shirts for farmworkers? If you are a farmworker in need of long-sleeve shirts, hats, sunscreen, and any other protective wear in order to work outside safely this summer, please contact us. Protecting the skin from the sun and pesticides is essential for farmworkers' health and well-being. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call us at 509-888-2114. Or visit our website and follow us on Facebook and Instagram for more details: chelanvalleyhope.org, @ChelanValleyHope.

The market will run through October 31, every Thursday at Riverwalk Park, corner of Wapato Avenue and Emerson Street. Enjoy 25-60 local vendors carrying fresh fruit, veggies, flowers, crafts. There will also be food trucks, live music and much more. One of the many remarkable aspects of shopping at farmers' markets is getting to know the farmers and vendors working hard to bring their beautiful offerings to market. To become a member or sign up for their newsletter chelanfarmersmarket.org.

June 19

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.; and 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Chelan Senior Center on Trow Avenue. All are welcome. Please join them for coffee and cake. For more information: Contact Concie Luna or Vita Monteleone at monte419@nwi.net.

Okanogan

June 10

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.

June 11, 25

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

June 11 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

DEATH NOTICE

Irene Naydene Brock

Irene Naydene Brock, 75, of Brewster, Washington, passed away on May 28, 2024. Barnes Chapel is handling the arrangements for the family.

Joan Lynn Trovillo

Joan Lynn Trovillo, 77, of Brewster, Washington, passed away in Spokane, Washington on May 25, 2024. Celebration of Life – Graveside, June 15, 2024, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Locust Grove Cemetery, Brewster, Wa. Barnes Chapel is handling the arrangements for the family.

Georgia B. Barrutia

Georgia B. Barrutia, 92, of Brewster, Washington, passed away in Bremerton, Washington on May 24, 2024. Mass of Christian Burial, June 18, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Brewster, Washington. Internment – June 18, 2024, 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. at Locust Grove Cemetery. Barnes Chapel is handling the arrangements for the family.

Memorial Day

Continued from page A1

Christ of Latter-Day Saints, updated the group about a family from Ecuador who recently arrived from Seattle and needs legal assistance regarding the challenges and long wait times involved with residency status. It takes at least two years to secure a court appearance and only that after a local legal group accepts them. None are currently accepting new clients.

Staci Pippitt of Okanogan County Transportation and Nutrition (OCTN) and the Brewster-Bridgeport-Pateros Senior Center discussed those groups and the need for more volunteers.

Board members of Columbia Post 97 shared where they help. Bob Lewis is hauling cardboard from the Brewster Food Bank to the recycling center at Pateros. He was asked to lend a hand once several months ago. Since then, he has been doing the job weekly and would welcome some help.

American Legion Sons Commander Brandon Caswell spoke about his group's ongoing work for local veterans who can no longer perform yard work

and other tasks.

Economic Alliance Development Specialist Mason Duke reminded the meeting that the EA can help profits and religious groups create business plans, apply for grants, and explore strategies to raise and save money.

Pateros council member and Pateros Fire volunteer Bruce Henne spoke about the department's fundraising efforts. Henne's Christian men's study group was setting up a church food bank when they learned about the Brewster Food Bank from the first Bridging Communities meeting and are now helping support it.

In anticipation of the next meeting in August, Gossett and Brewster Chamber of Commerce Director Anna Marie Dalbey are creating a community calendar of local events to improve visibility across organizations.

"Outstanding community needs include a community garden, a volunteer group to make air filters during fire season, and more legal assistance for immigration issues," Gossett said.

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

June 6

Chelan Evening Farmers Market

Chelan Farmers Market is held on Thursdays, 2-6 p.m.

Bridging Community

Continued from page A1

Locust Grove Cemetery U.S. Air Force veteran Jerry Lynn Hively, July 19, 1944 – May 21, 1997, who served in Vietnam.

Bridgeport Cemetery

Woodrow Wilson "Woody: Looper, Sept. 12, 1918 – Jan. 7, 2001, a Navy veteran of WWII, involved in many battles and recipient of numerous medals and citations.

Mansfield Cemetery

Marine Lance Corporal Caleb John Powers, Oct. 31, 1982 – August 17, 2004, killed by a sniper's bullet in Al Anbar, Iraq.

A few, among countless others across the nation, remembered for their military service.

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

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~ Matthew 19:26

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Greater Good Charities and TOAR host state's largest spay and neuter event

PHOTOS COURTESY OF GREATER GOOD CHARITIES

By MIKE MALTAIS
Ward Media Staff Reporter

OKANOGAN - Greater Good Charities Good, a global nonprofit organization that works to help people, pets, and the planet by mobilizing in response to need and amplifying the good, joined forces with Team Okanogan Animal Rescue (TOAR), a nonprofit focused on raising awareness and resources to address the severe overpopulation of cats and dogs in Okanogan County. Together, they proudly announce the results of their effort to provide free spay and neuter surgeries, vaccinations, and microchipping for dogs and cats in the area.

microchipped, vaccinated, and received parasite treatment and pet ID tags.

Greater Good Charities deploys specially trained high-quality, high-volume spay/neuter surgical teams to humanely control pet overpopulation in communities that need it most. The Good Fix clinics that were held are expected to curb unwanted litters and help effectively manage the population of free-roaming dogs and cats in the region.

"Nearly two years ago, we began discussions with Greater Good Charities to address the overpopulation problem in this county and to see this impactful event finally come to life was incredible," says Jill Servais, founding member of TOAR. "We were grateful to work alongside this remarkable group, and efforts

are underway to establish further low-cost clinics and support vaccination programs. Okanogan County is like many other places where resources are non-existent, and dogs and cats pay the price. Providing access to free or low-cost spay/neuter must become part of every lifesaving conversation."

Greater Good Charities upholds the highest standards of safety, veterinary medicine, and professionalism, utilizing expert high-volume spay/neuter veterinary surgical teams, high-quality veterinary equipment, and compliance with the Association of Shelter

Veterinarians (ASV) spay/neuter guidelines.

"Greater Good Charities was thrilled to be able to provide free spay/neuter services to the pets of the Okanogan Valley," said Dr. Ruth Parkin, Medical Director at Great Good Charities.

"The need in this area was very clear and we were received with open arms by the community. We'd like to thank Team Okanogan Animal Rescue, Okanogan Regional Humane and The Valley's veterinary community for supporting our efforts and helping to make this clinic a

success. We are hoping to be able to come back to continue this work to further help the families of the Okanogan Valley."

The need is also great in Chelan as it is in just about every other city across the nation: too many homeless, untreated cats and/or dogs, too few veterinarians and shelters to meet the need, and costs too high for many to afford to pay for services.

About a year ago, Chelan volunteers recently formed the Chelan Valley Feral Cat Project (CVFCP), and new 501(c)(3) nonprofit to address its growing feral cat problem.

"We had an explosion this spring," said volunteer Wendy Isenhart. "We heard of one place where there are 75 cats. It wasn't like this last year."

Isenhart said that between Village Veterinarian Barb Fehr, the Wenatchee Humane Society, and the Brewster Veterinary Clinic, CVFCP is finding spay and neuter centers, but the needs are outpacing available services.

For more information, please contact goodfix@greatergood.org.

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

American Legion thanks volunteers for Memorial Day help



MIKE MALTAIS/WARD MEDIA

Seven-year-old Zanda Caswell pulls a wagonload of crosses and flags.

By MIKE MALTAIS
Ward Media Staff Reporter

BREWSTER - As American Legion Columbia Post 97 members prepared for their annual pilgrimage to Locust Grove Cemetery on May 24 to install the flags that greet visitors on Memorial Day, concern grew over a possible shortage of volunteers who help. It's a big job to not only put up the large memorial flags that line the drive but also place the small white crosses and flags at every veteran's headstone.

Post Commander Greg Wagg issued a call on Facebook for help. The response was beyond what was anticipated. Four days later, the Legion compiled a list of all those who turned out for both the site setup and the removal of all items.

"We would like to thank the following persons and organizations," the release said. "Please forgive us for any person who has been left out or a name misspelled."

The American Legion Post 97 would like to thank all of our volunteers who helped us with the Memorial Day crosses and flags at the Locust grove cemetery. Every one of these people helped make this job go so much faster and simpler. The Pateros kids went above and beyond helping us fold all the big flags after we took them down. Thank you one and all.

We are hoping for a better turnout from the Brewster residents next year.

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

FRIDAY, MAY 24, 2024

Flag and veterans grave decorating Memorial Day Weekend
PATEROS SCHOOL

Holly Weston (Pateros School Psychologist)	Ray Sloss (Bus Driver)
Hector Espino	Alondra Marquez
Austin Simpson	Pablo Gonzalez Rivera
Lilyann Dial	Wesly Scott
Lexi Ann Vargas	

BREWSTER SCHOOL

Jake Johanson (Principal)	Alicia Cruzman
Liz Bohorquez	Davian Ramirez
Yaya Fregozo	Sestella Matus
Carlos Monroy	Thomas Rios
Alexis Cortez	Brian Solano
Julian Ruiz	Edwardo Arrez
Daniel Ortega	Isabella Benson
Karyne Arevalo	Alexis Lugo

OTHER VOLUNTEERS FROM OUR COMMUNITIES 5/24/24

Alana Caswell	Alyivia Caswell
Zanza Caswell	Alana Caswell
Brandon Caswell	Amanda Anderson
Bob & Kathy Lewis	Chris & Stephany Lewis
Cody Lewis	Steve Varrelman
Steve Hampshaw	Barry Maitland
Glenn Ferrington	Tom Miller
Greg Wagg	Emanuel (Manny) Hurtado

TUESDAY, MAY 28

Taking down the crosses and flags and folding the big flags
COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

Steve Varrelman	Steve Hampshaw
Lewis Miller Jr.	Bob Lewis
Glenn Ferrington	Greg Wagg
Brandon Casswell	Ilana Casswell

PATEROS SCHOOL

Roy Sloss (Bus Driver)	Holly Weston (Pateros School Psychologist)
Hector Espino	Lilyann Dial
Alondra Marquez	Wesly Scott
Austin Simpson	Lexi Ann Vargas
Pablo Gonzalez Rivera	Addison Henton
Ish Mireles	Steve Simmons



Bobbie and companion Chesaw



Dr. Ruth Parkin and kittens



Food volunteers

Pateros student wins Governor's Choice Award for artwork

By QUINN PROPST
Ward Media Staff Reporter

PATEROS - Pateros High School art student Lexi Ann Vargas won the Governor's Choice Award with her mixed media painting "Recycled Ocean" at the Superintendent's High School Art Show in Olympia.

"Lexi worked very hard bringing this piece to life," said Todd Steenhard, Pateros School District art teacher. "It was a joy watching it happen."

"It captures an issue she cares strongly about and is a testament to her skill, creativity, and dedication," he said. "I am very proud of her accomplishments and look forward to what she does next."

The artwork is a mixed media painting. Vargas arranged and glued bottle caps to a plexiglass base. Then, she painted her image with acrylic

paint. "She had to do a lot of research in order to design her original composition," he said.

After winning an award at the Regional High School Art Show in March, Vargas qualified to send her painting

to the state show.

The regional juried show, which had over 200 entries, was open to all High Schools in the North Central Educational Service District.

The show is made possible each year through the

sponsorship of the North Central Educational Service District and partnership with the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

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COURTESY OF PATEROS HIGH SCHOOL

Pateros High School art student Lexi Ann Vargas won the Governor's Choice Award with her mixed media painting "Recycled Ocean" at the Superintendent's High School Art Show.



MIKE MALTAIS/WARD MEDIA

Dan Vassar's appointment as Middle School Principal and Athletic Director was reversed following a school board executive session.



MIKE MALTAIS/WARD MEDIA

Interim High School Principal Jake Johanson announced his resignation to the school board.



MIKE MALTAIS/WARD MEDIA

Miranda Solorio was named Middle School Principal and MS Athletic Director following a school board executive session.

School Board

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Woelber urged the board to restructure its process to allow the best decision for the students and community.

Manny Hurtado, a parent of two girls entering middle school, appealed for more clarity between the board and the community.

"Look at all these people here," said Hurtado. "They all want to know what is going to happen."

Interim High School Principal Jake Johanson delivered perhaps the most definitive address of the meeting - and it took him less than the two minutes allotted for each speaker.

"I will not be part of or work in a system that does not work for all of our students," said Johanson. "My resignation is necessary because, as it stands, I cannot support a system that does not support all our students, staff, and all our kids."

Solorio, who was offered the principal/AD position on May 14, spoke about how, as a first-generation graduate, her faith and trust soon turned to concern and fear when she learned that the board had other ideas.

"I witnessed community members speak highly of their friend who was not offered the position," said Solorio. "Their interests appeared heavily on the athletic side of the position...all the while I was spoken of as if I wasn't even in the room."

Solorio also questioned why their focus was not on her professional abilities, her education, training, and work ethic.

"This decision was made against the recommendation provided by the hiring

committee and Superintendent Blackburn," said Solorio, "who combined have nearly a hundred years of being educators."

Vassar told the audience that as a teacher for 16 years, he is foremost an educator but defended his role as a sports coach, citing the rewards of spending time with students outside the classroom.

"My classroom numbers speak for themselves," said Vassar. "I assure you I am not underqualified to be chosen as Principal of the Middle School."

Solorio inquired why the board made the choice they did.

"The reason we decided on Mr. Vassar is because he has more educational experience," said Chairperson Hector Aparicio.

Aparicio then added that Vassar's name came up during earlier discussions with the previous administration as the replacement for AD Greg Austin when he retired.

"So, yes, that was in the works to make him the principal," said Aparicio. "We had already discussed that."

Aparicio's forthrightness did not go over well with Solorio or many in the audience.

"I wanted this job," said Solorio, "I went through a one-hour interview, another hour interview, another hour interview, and then I had a dinner with a board member."

She objected to the abuse of her time and trust.

"If this is not a legitimate process, don't waste my time," said Solorio. "I don't want to go through it if the decision has already been made."

Blackburn clarified that she had no knowledge of the board's earlier consideration of Vassar for the post.

"In those three years I have already had three principals and I will be starting my fourth year with a fourth principal," said Hemmer. "You have lost the trust of many of your high school teachers and left us once again wondering what our future, our students' futures, look like."

Following more than two hours of testimony, the board adjourned to executive session to revisit the previous week's actions. Many in the audience remained to hear the results. When the meeting reconvened, the board held a new vote for the Middle School Principal and MS AD position.

Directors Erik Rios and Aparicio voted for Vassar. Directors Mario Camacho, Emmanuel Rubio, and Peggy Rice voted against.

Camacho moved, and Rice seconded the nomination of Solorio. With only one dissenting vote, Solorio was awarded the position.

Aparicio pledged his and the board's support to Solorio.

"We will move forward and stronger as a community because of this," Aparicio said and urged more community involvement in future monthly meetings.

"The board's decision reflects a collective effort to ensure that the best interests of the students, staff, and community are prioritized," said Blackburn. "Moving forward, the district remains dedicated to fostering a supportive environment where all voices are heard and respected."

The Brewster School Board meets at 6 p.m. every fourth Monday of the month in the Elementary Community Room at 502 S. Seventh St. Phone: 509-689-3418 ext. 2301.

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