



From the publisher:
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POINT OF VIEW

More air assets and initial attacks are key to improving fire response
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Quad City Herald

Serving Brewster, Bridgeport, Mansfield & Pateros area since 1901

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Community Foundation NCW helps local nonprofits flourish with legacy funds grant program

By: **WILL NILLES**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

WENATCHEE — Community Foundation NCW (CFNCW) introduced a new grant program aimed at putting money back into the hands of local nonprofits across North Central Washington. The Legacy Funds Grant Program accomplishes this major goal by centralizing locals within nonprofit funding decisions for their communities.

The program operates through locally contributed donations, giving members of each participating

community the autonomy to provide funding to the local nonprofit organizations that best confront community needs.

CFNCW Director of Community Grants Jennifer Short shared her optimism for the program.

“What excites me the most is that it’s an opportunity in any of these communities for local people to donate or leave funds and bequests to their local communities, and these dollars are then decided by local people, in turn, helping local organizations.”

She reinforced this excitement for the program with a simple yet

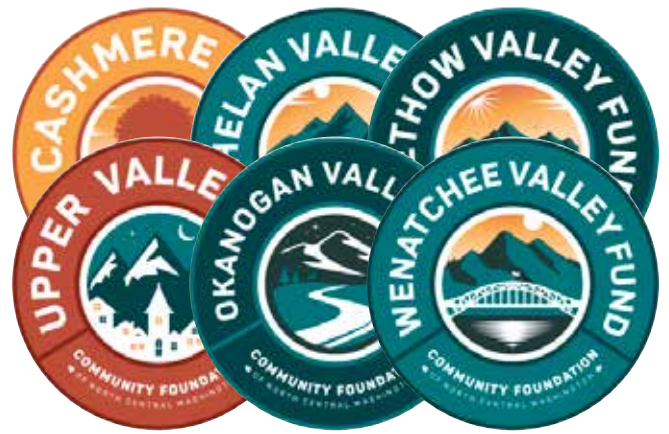
powerful statement about its focus,

“Community members get to make decisions for their own communities.”

As Short explains, the Legacy Funds Grant Program accomplishes this goal by forming local advisory boards (LABs) for each participating community, consisting of dedicated local residents.

“What the legacy funds program has done is add these local advisory boards that consist of local community members who get to make those decisions in each of their

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COURTESY OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATION NCW
The major regions involved in the first round of the Legacy Funds Grant Program’s application process.

Broadband Action Team pursues digital access for all county residents



By: **MIKE MALTAIS**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

OKANOGAN – The ongoing effort to bring digital access to all county residents, spearheaded by the Okanogan County and Colville Confederated Tribes Broadband Action Team (BAT), is completing installations city by city and negotiating agreements with utility companies to reach every household and business.

The federal Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD) program, established as part of the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), provided \$42.45 billion in state broadband grants. The goal is to provide all Americans with access to affordable, reliable, high-speed internet service by 2030.

Every state - plus Puerto Rico and

COURTESY OF ECONOMIC-ALLIANCE.COM
The Okanogan County BAT was formed in 2018.

Washington, D.C. - was awarded at least \$100 million, with outlying U.S. territories awarded at least \$25 million.

The highest allocation - \$3.3 billion - went to Texas, followed by California, \$1.9 billion, and Missouri, \$1.7 billion. Among the 19 states awarded more than \$1 billion is Washington with \$1.23 billion.

How was this distribution determined? In large part, the Federal Communications Commission broadband coverage map identified at least 8.5 million locations without access to high-speed internet.

The Okanogan BAT team was out of the starting blocks early.

“We were one of the first broadband action teams in the state,” said Economic Alliance Executive Director and BAT facilitator Roni Holder-Diefenbach, “We were here before the Washington State Broadband Office was in existence.”

Holder-Diefenbach explained the

See **BAT** Page **B4**

Fireworks and gunfire topics echo through Brewster City Council

By: **MIKE MALTAIS**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

BREWSTER – The city will take a second look at the allowance for the use of fireworks within the city limits at its September council meeting at the request of council member John Housden.

“Most cities and most places in the State of Washington are banning the use of them,” said Housden, “The safety of fireworks as for fire danger is ridiculous anymore. I think we need to give it a full review of where we are and where we would like to go.”

Council member Pedro de la Cerda requested more handicapped parking space on Main Street.

“I would like to see at each block at least,” De la Cerda said.

Mayor Art Smyth agreed and asked public works to report at the next meeting with its recommendations.

“We had a busy, busy month,” reported Brewster Police Chief Marcos Ruiz. “a lot of shootings going on but nothing with our city limits.”

Ruiz said he received intelligence from Snapchat posts about possible trouble at the Omak Stampede between Brewster and Bridgeport adversaries. Ruiz alerted the Washington State Patrol, Omak police chief, and Okanogan County Sheriff. The subsequent saturation by law enforcement at the Stampede discouraged any shooting incident there, but it did occur later Sunday night, August 11, on Bridgeport Bar where 45 shots were exchanged between a pair of handguns and an AR-15.

Ruiz said both shooters are in jail. The same individuals were involved in an earlier shooting one-half mile south of Brewster on Thursday, August 8. Brewster PD identified the vehicle, and possible suspects now being investigated by WSP.

“Monday (August 12), there was a shooting at the south packing shed,” said Ruiz. “Again, Brewster PD identified the people involved, located suspects, and felony stop. All the people and information was passed over to the Sheriff’s department because it’s their jurisdiction.”

Ruiz added that Brewster has been avoiding direct involvement because none of the shootings occurred within city limits, even though everybody considers Bridgeport Bar, Brewster Flats, and halfway to Pateros as being part of Brewster.

“Odd timing, but I sent all the officers to combat first aid, which covers gun wounds and blunt force trauma,” said Ruiz. “Ironically, we are dealing with that now.”

Some good news is that the Flock Safety cameras ordered by the Brewster PD will arrive on the week of August 26.

“Six will be installed, and we will have a full 100 percent system,” Ruiz said.

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

American Legion Golf Fundraiser hits the links August 25

By: **MIKE MALTAIS**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

PATEROS – There is still time to hit the links and support Columbia Post 97 of the Brewster American Legion by purchasing a foursome at its golf tournament this week.

The sixth annual American Legion Golf Tournament tees off at the Alta Lake Golf Course on Sunday, August 25. Signups remain open at \$60 per person and \$320 per four-man team.

“I think last year we had 16 teams,” said Commander Greg Wagg of the Legion’s biggest fundraiser event.

“I’ve been told by (owner) Parker Barth that it’s one of the best tournaments at Alta Lake all year,” Wagg added.

“We put American flags for the

designated T-bars that each golfer has to hit between before playing each hole,” Wagg said of the patriotic-themed course.

Plenty of prizes will be awarded, including closest-to-cup on every oar three, longest drive, longest marshmallow drive, and more. Enough sponsors have come forward that they are sharing holes with their business signs this year.

“We do a good job,” said Wagg, “Plus, we have lunch, this year pulled pork sandwiches, beans, potato salad, chips, and pasta. And we haven’t raised our price in three years.”

For more information or to sign up, call 509-923-2359.

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



MIKE MALTAIS/WARD MEDIA
Greg Wagg lines up a drive from a BTO sponsored hole at the 2019 first annual tournament.

STCU to acquire Community Bank, expanding footprint in Oregon and Washington

NCW News
Ward Media

SPOKANE — STCU announced it has entered into an agreement to acquire Community Bank, expanding its presence into northeastern Oregon and southeastern Washington.

The purchase and assumption agreement, which is subject to regulatory and shareholder approval, would see STCU acquire

substantially all assets and liabilities of Community Bank. The transaction is expected to close in early 2025.

Community Bank, headquartered in Joseph, Oregon, operates 10 branches across six counties in Oregon and Washington, with total assets of \$550 million. Following the acquisition, STCU would grow to approximately \$6.4 billion in total assets and 49 branch locations across Eastern Washington, the Columbia

Basin, Tri-Cities, North Idaho, and Eastern Oregon.

“Since our founding in 1955, Community Bank has been proud to support the communities of our region, and the many neighbors who are our customers,” said Tom Moran, Community Bank President and CEO. “As the banking and business environment of our region grows increasingly competitive, this transaction with STCU will ensure

expanded product offerings, more locations, and a continued high level of services.”

STCU President and CEO Ezra Eckhardt said the proposed transaction aligns with the credit union’s commitment to serving rural communities. “We are committed to making this transaction as seamless as possible for Community

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Inside The Quad City Herald this Week

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

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Get your event in the spotlight with Ward Media!

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



Ciders Around the World at Endless Orchard

Endless Orchard Hard Pressed Cider in Chelan will host Ciders Around the World on Friday, August 23, from 6 to 9 p.m.

"Ready for a cider adventure? Join us at Endless Orchard as we take you on a flavorful journey around the globe," the event page states. "We're bringing you hard ciders from France, the UK, Spain, and Canada—all in one place."

For more information, visit endlessorchardcider.com.

Mono Printing

The Chelan Library will host a Mono Printing workshop on Wednesday, August 28, from 2-3:30 p.m. Community Meeting Room

"Please join us to create a cover for your personal journal with monoprints using a gelli-plate," the event page states.

Registration is required, as space is limited. NCW Libraries and Friends of the Chelan Library will provide all supplies.

For more information and to register, visit ncwlibraries.org.

Movie Afternoon at the Library

The Omak Library will host a Movie Afternoon on Saturday, August 24, from 1 to 3 p.m.

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

For more information, visit ncwlibraries.org.

Arts and Crafts Group

The Omak Library will host an Arts and Crafts Group on Wednesday, August 28, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

"This program is run by the American Dream Employment Network-- Northwest Center in Omak," the event page states. "They will be doing adult coloring and keychain making as well as other crafts. This is open to the public and free to attend."

For more information, visit ncwlibraries.org.

Harvest Kick Off Party

Fielding Hills Winery in Chelan will host a Harvest

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THINGS TO DO THIS WEEK

Kickoff Party on Saturday, August 24, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

"In 2000, our first harvest, we humbly processed 5 tons of fruit...fast forward twenty-five years, we are expecting to pick nearly 80 tons of fruit in 2024," the event page states. "Before fruit arrives

at our facility, we are taking a moment with our team, members, and long-time supporters to say "Thank You" for the past twenty-five years."

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit fieldinghills.com.

The dilemma of civil discourse

In an era marked by polarization and heated rhetoric, the notion of civil discourse has become both a beacon of hope and a subject of intense scrutiny. As we reflect on the state of public conversation in our society, we find ourselves grappling with a subtle yet pervasive challenge: the bias toward civility itself.

At first glance, the pursuit of civil discourse seems an unequivocally noble goal. It conjures images of reasoned debate, mutual respect, and the free exchange of ideas – cornerstones of a healthy democracy. Indeed, many institutions and leaders have long advocated for such dialogue as the key to addressing our most pressing issues.

However, we must ask ourselves: Does our emphasis on civility sometimes come at



From the Publisher

TERRY WARD

the cost of necessary confrontation? Are there moments when the demand for polite discourse inadvertently silences voices that need to be heard?

The civil rights movement of the 1960s serves as a reminder that progress often requires disruption. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "Letter from Birmingham Jail" eloquently challenged the notion that the pursuit of justice should always prioritize social tranquility. Today, as we face urgent issues from climate change to systemic inequality, we must consider whether our societal preference for "civility" sometimes impedes meaningful action.

This is not to advocate for incivility or to dismiss the importance of respectful dialogue. Rather, it is a call

for nuance and self-reflection. As engaged citizens, we must strive to distinguish between unproductive hostility and the righteous indignation that often accompanies calls for change.

In our communities, workplaces, and public forums, we need to reevaluate our approach to discourse. While providing space for diverse viewpoints, we must also be mindful of the power dynamics at play in public conversations. It's crucial to amplify voices that challenge the status quo, even when their methods may not align with traditional notions of civility.

Our collective goal should be to foster a society that is not just polite, but just and equitable. Achieving this may sometimes require us to embrace discomfort and to question our own biases – even those that seem, on the surface, to be virtuous.

As we navigate these

complex social dynamics, each of us has a role to play in shaping the nature of our public discourse. We must strive for a balance that allows for passionate advocacy while maintaining the mutual respect necessary for productive dialogue. This might mean:

1. Listening actively to perspectives that challenge our own, even when they're expressed forcefully.
2. Recognizing that tone policing can be a form of silencing, especially for marginalized voices.
3. Distinguishing between civility as a tool for respectful exchange and civility as a shield against uncomfortable truths.
4. Creating spaces where difficult conversations can occur without the immediate demand for politeness trumping the need for honesty.

By critically examining our attachment to civil discourse,

we open the door to a more dynamic and inclusive public sphere. One where the substance of arguments isn't overshadowed by their presentation, and where the urgency of certain issues is given its due weight.

As we move forward, let us work toward a public discourse that is not just civil, but also just, inclusive, and truly transformative. It's a challenging balance, but one that's essential for addressing complex problems and building a society that can evolve through both reasoned debate and impassioned calls for change.

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

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

August 9

12:40:54 At/Atc, 929 Maple St
1544 Douglas Ave, Bridgeport
9:25:51 court Order Violation, 104
Bluebird Ln, Waterville

August 11

3:27:40 Domestic
Disturbance, 112 Sage St,
Bridgeport Bar
5:56:01 Stab/Gunshot
451 Rd 11 Ne, Mansfield
13:41:11 Accident Unk, 335 S
Chelan Ave, Waterville
23:16:49 Weapons Violation, 34
McCormack St, Bridgeport

August 12

8:32:22 Animal Problem, 106
Arden Ave, Bridgeport
9:09:20 Cps/Aps Refer, 303
Eash St, Waterville
14:33:23 Weapons Violation, 415
Sr 173, Bridgeport Bar

August 13

9:08:17 Assist Agency, Sr 17 Mp
132, Bridgeport
12:27:33 Property, 63 Washburn
Ave, Bridgeport
17:19:50 Scam, 2516 Monroe
Ave, Bridgeport
19:59:21 Littering, 515 Fairview
Ave, Bridgeport
20:23:30 Warrant, 16th St &
Foster Ave, Bridgeport
21:42:45 Animal Problem, 504 Sr
173, Bridgeport Bar

August 15

17:56:14 Burglary, 550 Rd 2 Nw,
Waterville
19:34:11 Missing Person, 214
Arden Ave, Bridgeport
135:31 Assist Agency, 203 Arden
Ave, Bridgeport

Brewster Police Department

August 10

00:32:09 Disabled Vehicle, Max
Goehry Rd & Highway 97,
Rp's Red Dodge P/U W/ A

Toyhauler Broke Down, Veh Is
Blocking Turn Off.

04:41:55 Alarm Burglary,
Highway 97, Atm Door, All
Doors Are Secured

04:41:53 Alarm B Urglary, N
7th St, Post Office, Zone
4 Retail Counter Trip All
Interior Doors Are Secure

05:30:19 Parking Problem, W
Cliff Ave & S 7th St, Veh
Parked Facing Wrong Way
Against Traffic Within 30
Feet Of Intersection, Trailer
Sticking About Halfway Into
Lane Of Travel

10:31:03 Civil, S 3rd St, "Kid"
At This Loc, Attempting To
Serve A Verbal Eviction
Notice.

August 11

04:04:21 Noise Complaint,
W Hanson Ave, Rp Advd
His Neighbors Are Gone
And Their Children Are At
Home Drinking While Under
Age, Yelling And Laughing
Music Is Up Really Loud,
232224 Agency Assist, Sr 173 Hwy,

August 12

14:28:55 Weapon Offense,
Brewster Grange Rd, Sedan
Shot 4 Shots Poss Into
The Cold Room, Subjs Ran
Out Of The Orchard And
Jumped Into A Blk Chev Rp
Is Following Them Veh Is Clr,
We Have All Subjs Out And
Detained

August 13

12:15:17 Loitering, Highway 97,
Ex Is At Loc Right Now, Subj
Is Trying To Get Info On
How To Contact Rp, Refusing
To Leave He Wants Contact
Info For Rp,
14:09:45 Runaway Juvnile, S 3rd St,

August 14

08:43:18 Animal Sick, W Hanson
Ave, Sick Dog Wandering In
The Area, Limping, Vomiting,
09:30:40 Agency Assist,

Highway 97 & Highway 17
Retrieved The Equipment
09:50:46 Alarm Fire, S 7th
St, Detector Fire Alarm,
Accidental Trip Of The Alarm,
All Units Can Disregard

16:20:07 Agency Assist, Hwy 97
Mp 259,
18:31:17 Agency Assist, S 3rd St,
Woman Is Worried Of The
Shooting That Happened,
She Would Like To Talk To A
Dcso Cause She Is Worried
For Her Son

18:31:17 Agency Assist, S 3rd St,
Woman Is Worried Of The
Shooting That Happened,
She Would Like To Talk To A
Dcso Cause She Is Worried
For Her Son

Okanogan County Sheriff

August 9

06:30:57 Noise Complaint,
Sunset Dr, Next Door, Large
Construction Project Next
Door Has Started Very Early,
Advd They Arrvd Rp Advd
That This Must Be Against
The Noise Ordinance, Rp
Advd He Would Like An
Officer To Come By
12:49:06 Assault, Monroe
Orchards Rd, Brewster

Assaulted By Coworkers
Broke Glass Bottles On Rp's
Hand And Struck Him In The
Head, Threatened To Kill Rp

August 10

00:32:09 Disabled Vehicle, Max
Goehry Rd & Highway 97,
Brewster, Rp's Red Dodge
P/U W/ A Toyhauler Broke
Down, Veh Is Blocking,
Trlr Blocking A Turn Off To
The Gebbers Camp,
21:56:02 Fireworks, North Star
Rd, Brewster, Rp Advd There
Is A Big Party They Have
Been Lighting Off 5-6 Aerial
Fireworks.

August 12

07:10:22 Noise Complaint
Sunset Dr, Brewster, Noise
Ordinance Violation For
Construction Company Next
Door

09:57:22 Fraud, Augusta St,
Pateros, Rp's Facebook Was
Hacked, Husband Found
Number Online To Call
Number Turned Out To Be

Scam And Subjs Asked For
Money In Order For Rp To Get
Facebook Back, Bank Req
Police Report

14:28:55 Weapon Offense,
Brewster Grange Rd,
Brewster, Sedan Shot 4
Shots Poss Into The Cold
Room, Subjs Ran Out Of The
Orchard And Jumped Into A
Blk Chev Rp Following Them
Veh Is Clr, We Have All Subjs
Out And Detained

20:38:40 Suspicious, Brewster
Grange Rd, Brewster,
Changing Tire On Slv Car
Involved In Shooting, That
Will Be The Victims Veh,
They Were Going To Return
To Replace The Tire, They
Successfully Changed The
Tire And Are No Longer On
Scene

August 13

12:19:51 Citizen Assist, Jack
Wells Rd, Bridgeport, Ipad
Was Taken Or Missing Pings

See SHERIFF Page A3

ADVANCED WOUND CARE

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Dr. Eric Ebaugh
General Surgeon

Pateros graduate sinks hole in one with PGA scholarship



COURTESY OF NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY
Aiden Hall

By **MIKE MALTAIS**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

PATEROS -- Aidan Hall, a 2021 graduate of Pateros High School and now attending New Mexico State University, shot the equivalent of a hole-in-one when he was selected as one among 25 students at 15 colleges awarded a prestigious \$8,000 scholarship from the PGA WORKS John and Tamara Lundgren Scholars Program.

Hall is pursuing a bachelor's degree in marketing with a concentration on PGA golf management.

"In our program, every summer, we do internships, so we can go pretty much anywhere," Hall told the Quad City Herald. "There are so many opportunities in the U.S. and internationally."

Hall is using his internship tour to explore both options and locations.

"There are three avenues in the PGA, the golf operations side, the teaching/coaching side, and the greens and maintenance side," said Hall. "Our program defaults to the golf operations side."

Golf operations appeal to Hall.

"I am really into golf clubs and the gear behind it, giving lessons and all of that," said Hall. "I want to learn more toward the equipment side of things. That requires me to do a little extra work on my internships and find places that may not traditionally have interns to get the specialized training I want."

Hall played tennis at Pateros. He said his family was very skeptical when he announced his career choice.

"When I pulled some data a few years ago, golf pros were not making a ton of money," said Hall. "And the job is kind of seasonal where we are."

Then, Hall's father accompanied him to the NMSU campus, where he got a firsthand look at the program.

"I recall him asking for his own application to go back to college to do that," Hall said.

Since its inception in 2018, a total of 93 individuals have earned PGA WORKS Golf Management University scholarships totaling \$744,000.

Scholarships were presented to talented and motivated students from diverse backgrounds who are working toward PGA of America membership through one of the 16 accredited PGA Golf Management University Programs across the nation.

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

Sheriff

Continued from page A2

At This Loc 14:59:04 Welfare Check, Sunset Dr, Brewster, 11 Yo Son Wouldnt Say Where He Was Hasnt Seen Or Heard From Juvs Since They Left Did Not Say Where They Were Going, Rp Worried About Son, Rp Advsd She Recieved A Phone Call From Her Son And Everything Was Fine.

August 14

06:07:51 Unconsciousness, Old Hwy 97 & Blossom Ln, Brewster, Blk 4d Sedan Poss Had Been In Coll, Male Appears Unconscious, Slumped Towards The Passenger Seat.

09:44:40 Agency Assist, Selkirk Pl, Brewster, Rp Req Civil Standby.

17:53:37 Violate Order, Selkirk Pl, Brewster, Rp Advd There Was A Civil Standby With Rp's Ex Bf And Found A Towel Over The Ring Camera. Rp Req A Call.

OBITUARY

Roberta Elouise (Bevier) Maas

Roberta Elouise (Bevier) Maas, affectionately known as "Grandma Birdie", passed away peacefully at home on August 7, 2024, just days prior to her 81st birthday, surrounded by her loving family. She was born to Irvin and Marjorie (Jones) Bevier when they lived in Loomis, Washington. After graduating from Okanogan High School, Roberta married Alfred Maas in 1961. Not long after, they welcomed their son Lynnard. In 1963 they moved to Los Angeles, California; returning home to Okanogan County in 1964 to be close to family. They welcomed their daughter Deanna "DeeDee" not long after returning home.

Roberta and Al lived in Malott, Washington since 1965. Around 1974, they began planning their dream house up on the hill. They built their home stick by stick as they could afford it, loving the view and the small-town atmosphere, allowing many to enjoy their house and providing a wonderful outlet and a

place of learning and growth.

Roberta's enthusiasm for teaching was contagious to any open mind, providing a creative outlet to inspire them to express themselves, with humility. She discovered her desire to teach during her employment with Okanogan High School as a teacher's aide for Study Hall. Students still reminisce about the days in her Study Hall class. During this time, Roberta attended night school, graduating with an AA in 1978 from Wenatchee Valley College North, in Omak, Washington. She then completed her degree in 1980 from Eastern Washington University, receiving her BA in Education with Cum Laude honors. Soon after, she was hired by the Bridgeport School District and taught Art, Math, and Photography, including yearbook, retiring in 2006 with 25 years of service.

Roberta loved to travel with close friends and

family. Visits to Lincoln City, Oregon with her loving husband Al and best friend Jan Fanning were a yearly occurrence. Reading books, going to the casino, walking the beach collecting things to incorporate into art, and taking lots of pictures were just some of the things she loved about the ocean. Watching storms that rolled in gave them great pleasure. She took great pride in her family history, and any family get-togethers, leaving quite the legacy. When family needed leadership, she was the one to jump in without hesitation. She looked forward to going to Lost Lake with her Aunt LaWanda Jones every year to quilt with all her artistic friends. The Art Building at the Okanogan County Fair was always pulling her in for various roles. Many adored her for her creative talents, including photography, quilting, piecing, embroidering, painting, drawing, flower arranging, pottery, leather tooling, fly tying, crocheting,

knitting... and the list goes on. She never passed up an opportunity to learn a new art medium. Roberta gracefully touched so many lives and was patient and kind to so many. Her family, friends, and students truly loved and respected her. Please know the items she gifted to so many people were made from her heart, and she put her all into it.

Cherish those items and know that she loved you very much.

Roberta was preceded in death by her loving husband Alfred Maas, parents Irvin and Marge Bevier, brother Ronald Bevier, sister Darlene (David) Gillespie, grandson's Zane Woodward, and Chamber Condon.

She leaves behind her son Lynnard Maas, daughter DeeDee (Richard) Epperson, granddaughter Monika (Damon) Woodward, granddaughter Lynzy (Jonathon) Turk, grandson Anthony "Tony" Epperson, great-grandson Bud Condon, brother Donald Bevier, sister Bonita



Ballinger, brother Roger (Judy) Bevier, sister-in-law Mariella (Robert) George, and many nieces and nephews, including great and great-great nieces and nephews.

A memorial will be announced later. In lieu of flowers, if you would like to donate, please choose your favorite art organization or Enhabit Home Health & Hospice, 800 S. Jasmine, Suite 3, Omak, WA 98841.

If you would like to share something with us about our mother, we encourage you to visit the River Valley Funeral & Cremation website (www.rivervalleyfuneral.com). Thank you and God Bless.

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

Meetings

Mondays

Okanogan County Fair Advisory Committee: Second Monday, 6 p.m. Meetings are open to the public. Okanogan County Commissioners' hearing room, 123 N. Fifth Ave., Okanogan.

Family and friends Support Group: Third Monday, 7-8:30 p.m., Grace Lutheran Church, 1408 Washington Street, Wenatchee. Contact: 509-860-3620, website at: tcfwenatcheevalley.org

Tuesday

Okanogan County PUD: The commission meets the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 3 p.m. Information: okanoganpud.org

Douglas County PUD meetings: The commission meets the first and third Tuesday of the month at 1:30 p.m. in the East Wenatchee office. Information: douglaspu.org

Survivors of Suicide Loss Support Group: Second Tuesday, 7-8:30 p.m., Grace Lutheran Church, 1408 Washington Street, Wenatchee. Contact: 509-860-3620, website at: tcfwenatcheevalley.org

Wednesday

American Legion Post #97: Current members meetings are on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the American Legion Post in Brewster. Information: Greg Wagg, 206-550-6474.

American Legion Auxiliary #97: Meets the first Wednesday of each month, at 5 p.m. at the American Legion Post in Brewster.

Brewster Chamber of Commerce: Meets the second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Senior Center, 109 Bridge Street. Information email: brewsterwachamber@gmail.com

Death Cafe Chelan: Third Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Chelan Public Library, 216 N. Emerson Street; and 5:30-6:30 p.m., Chelan Senior Center, 534 Trow Avenue. Contact: Concie Luna or Vita Monteleone at monte419@nwi.net

Thursdays

Family Caregivers/Support Group: Third Thursday, 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Lake Chelan Chamber of Commerce, Coldwell Banker Board Room, 216 E. Woodin Avenue.

Chelan.

Other Events

Brewster Senior Meals: The Senior Center serves meals at noon 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.

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

Brewster American Legion events: Bingo every Thursday night at 6 p.m. Open to the public. Friday Steak Dinner starts at 5 p.m.; Sunday 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., order from the full breakfast menu. Daily lunch specials except for Mondays and Saturday when they are closed.

Chelan Valley Hope: As the new school year approaches, Chelan Valley Hope is here to support you every step of the way. Whether you need assistance with school supplies, access to resources, or just a friendly face, we're ready to help. Visit Chelan Valley Hope at 417 S. Bradley Street Monday through Thursday 9 a.m.-3 p.m. (closed Noon to 1 p.m.). Hope provides services at no cost to individuals and families. Call 509-888-2114 for more information or to schedule an appointment. Or visit our website and follow us on Facebook and Instagram to get the latest Hope news and updates @ ChelanValleyHope.

Survivors of Suicide Loss Support Group

WENATCHEE - 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

Brewster bus trips

BREWSTER - OCTN takes Brewster area residents to Wenatchee, second Thursday of the month. 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, 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

Family and friends Support Group
WENATCHEE - 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

CHELAN: The Death Cafe is a national organization started

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

Rustic riverboat sign welcomes visitors



MIKE MALTAIS/WARD MEDIA

This eye-catching rendition of a riverboat with a machine gear representing the paddle wheel greets visitors as they enter the town of Riverside (pop. 329) on Highway 97 north of Omak.

Washington auto shops get state funds for safer degreasers

NCW News
Ward Media

OLYMPIA — Washington state's efforts to promote cleaner and safer automotive repair practices are gaining traction, with more than 150 auto shops transitioning to environmentally friendly degreasers since 2021.

The Washington Department of Ecology's product replacement program, which offers financial incentives for businesses to switch from solvent-based degreasers to safer alternatives, continues to accept applications. Eligible auto repair shops can receive up to \$10,000 in reimbursements.

Thatcher Montgomery, who leads the department's automotive degreaser replacement program, emphasized the importance of the initiative. "There's a variety of products

on the market, and it's hard to tell what's safer or not," Montgomery said. "That's why we encourage the switch to EPA Safer Choice certified products—someone else has already done the hard work of figuring out what's safer."

Traditional automotive degreasers often contain toxic chemicals such as methanol, toluene, or hexane, which pose risks to both human health and the environment. These substances can become hazardous waste after use. The reimbursement amounts are tiered based on the safety and environmental impact of the alternative products. Water-based cleaners are eligible for up to \$5,000 in reimbursements, while EPA Safer Choice certified products qualify for the maximum \$10,000.

Eligible applicants include shops, businesses, non-profits,

and local governments in Washington that service at least one of the following: cars, trucks, buses, semi-trucks, or motorcycles intended for use on public roads.

The Department of Ecology typically responds to applications within five business days. Officials advise businesses to wait for application approval and receipt of a voucher before purchasing new equipment.

The product replacement program, established by the Washington Legislature in 2019, aims to reduce the use of harmful chemicals in consumer products and services by directly compensating small businesses that adopt safer alternatives.

Interested parties can find more information on the agency's automotive degreaser replacement program webpage.

POINT OF VIEW

More air assets and initial attacks are key to improving fire response

Much attention and resources have been directed in recent weeks to Wenatchee's Balsam Root Fire in early July and the Pioneer Fire currently burning near Lake Chelan. These fires are just two of the many our state will endure during this unusually long fire season.



By Senator Brad Hawkins
State Senator, 12th Legislative District

Growing up in Wenatchee, wildland fires were once only an occasional summer issue. Now they are a common occurrence. This disappointing trend involves many factors, including land management practices, climate conditions, and fire suppression tactics as well as population growth and the unfortunate increases in human-caused fires. Despite the causes, the initial attack over the first several hours is the most influential to fire suppression.

In that regard, our region is grateful for the swift response to Wenatchee's Balsam Root Fire. It is another example of a superb job by our local and state firefighters to protect Wenatchee area homes. Unfortunately, information is mixed about the initial attack of the Pioneer Fire near Lake Chelan with firsthand accounts from people in the air and on the lake differing from federal agency leaders.

Regardless of the disputed accounts, we must get to the point where our government can put out fires soon after they start rather than just "managing" them as they

burn. If we can't knock down these fires quickly, they just grow and grow and the collateral damage accumulates. A swift attack is key to keeping us safe, preserving air quality, preventing large-scale damage, and sustaining tourism.

The state has enhanced its air resources and has increased its contract pilots, but our region needs more federal aircraft, especially on fires of federal jurisdiction. I have worked closely with Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Commissioner Hilary Franz and our area's legislators to increase state wildfire funding. I'm grateful to her for how she has transformed the agency.

But with federal lands representing vast amounts of Chelan County, more federal aircraft is needed to mitigate threats. Air resources are very expensive, of course, but so is "managing" a fire into the fall with hundreds of personnel and other assets deployed. I would not be surprised if the Pioneer Fire costs eventually exceed \$100 million.

Washington fires often compete with others in the western United States and British Columbia for air resources. Having more federal air resources pre-positioned in the region would improve the initial response and help ensure that our region has resources in times of need.

In addition to Commissioner Franz, I've been in communications with Congresswoman Kim Schrier, US Senator Patty Murray's office, Chelan County Commissioner Tiffany Gering, and others. I'm grateful for their prompt responses and good communication. If we can make it through these next several weeks, it would be helpful to convene officials for a "wildfire summit" this winter to consider improvements for next fire season.

Beyond responding to active fires, reducing our wildfire risks involves strategically improving our landscapes, removing small diameter trees, clearing underbrush, creating Firewise neighborhoods, prescribing fire, and other proactive efforts, including reducing accidental fires. All of these topics, including firefighting tactics and increased air resources, should be part of the discussion.

Protecting structures and communities is extremely important with active fires, which is where the current focus must be, but a full analysis is needed in the coming months. Figuring out what it will take to better attack these fires in the first few hours will be critical to keeping us safe, maintaining healthy air quality, and preserving our county's tourism opportunities.

Brad Hawkins is State Senator for the 12th Legislative District.

Are You Taking Too Much Medicine

Mary showed me a list of 15 prescription medications that her 75-year-old mother, Patty, was taking.

"Mom is acting tired and confused. Could she be taking too much medicine?" Looking over the list, I answered, "Yes, it is possible. The more medicines someone takes, the higher the risk of their medications interacting with each other to cause harmful side effects like fatigue, confusion, and falls."

Over 40% of older American adults take 5 or more prescription medicines.

Over 70% of emergency department (ED), urgent care, and doctor's office visits result in the doctor prescribing at least one medication. Doctors feel pressure to provide tangible "care," and medications are the most common medical treatment in the United States.

Some people end up taking multiple drugs for the same thing or new medicines to treat the side effects of their current medications. Taking too many medicines is called polypharmacy.

How did Patty end up taking 15 prescription medications? One common reason could be her doctor not having complete information on the medicines she was already taking.

The American medical care system is fragmented. It's not unusual to see a primary care doctor and several specialists. Unfortunately, many medical care systems don't communicate or update your records promptly. This can create dangerous gaps in knowledge of what has already happened to you.

Mary's mother may have been prescribed a second drug almost identical to one she was already taking because her specialist was not aware of all of her current medications.

Being admitted to the hospital for a new or worsening condition also increases the chance of polypharmacy. One or more of her medicines or doses could have been changed

during her hospital stay. Patty may also have been given medications in the hospital that won't be necessary once her condition improves.

One of the most dangerous yet preventable causes of polypharmacy is taking two similar medicines at the same time. This could have happened to Patty after a hospital stay or doctor's appointment. Doctors don't have much time to talk to you, which can create confusion about whether they are ADDING a new medicine to the others you already are taking or REPLACING one of your medicines. Sometimes, it isn't clear which drug you need to stop when starting a new one.

Patty could have been given a new medicine or a different dose. Then, when the new prescription arrived in the mail, she may not have remembered exactly what her doctor said about it. Was it replacing another medication she already took? If so, which drug did Patty need to stop?

Adults over 65 years old are more likely to get dizziness, fatigue, and confusion from their medicines than younger people. As we age, we gradually lose our ability to tolerate medications without experiencing side effects. Doses that we have taken safely for years can begin to cause problems. This can set you up for getting prescribed even more drugs to address these symptoms, which are actually just side effects of your medication.

We're working with Patty's doctor to eliminate any unnecessary medications. How can you avoid the polypharmacy trap? The best way is to consider any new symptom you experience as a possible side effect of medicine until proven otherwise.

Here are 6 Ways to Avoid Taking Too Much Medicine:

- 1. Be vigilant.** After starting any new medication or after a dose adjustment, report any



problems to your doctor right away. It's better to decrease or change that medicine than end up on an additional one to address the side effects.

- 2. Keep a complete list.** Include all the non-prescription medicines and supplements you currently take, plus any allergies or adverse experiences you have had with any medicine.
- 3. Bring your medication list to EVERY medical visit.** Whenever and wherever you receive medical care, give your medication list to your regular doctor, the Emergency Department, any specialist, even your dentist and chiropractor.
- 4. Keep your medication list updated.** After any hospital stay or doctor's appointment, update your medication list and any bad reactions to drugs.

- 5. Clarify any new medicine as either an addition OR a replacement.** Whenever you receive a new prescription medication, make sure you understand whether it is in addition to what you are already taking, if it is a replacement for one of your current medicines, and which medicine to stop.
- 6. Ask questions.** If you have questions about whether medicines belong together or could be duplications, your pharmacist can help. Then, contact your primary care doctor to clarify what you should be taking.

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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CONNECTING COMMUNITIES ACROSS NORTH CENTRAL WASHINGTON

Getting to know the residents of Cashmere's local animal sanctuary



Little Squidward soaks up the mud behind his big friend, Beni, snorting with deep satisfaction.

By: Will Nilles
Ward Media Staff Reporter

CASHMERE— A compassionate home for rejected and abused animals resides in the Cashmere area, providing nine different species of critters with their natural habitats while educating locals on the most ethical ways to raise them. Run by nature loving Anna and Eric Gullickson, Ridge 2 River Animal Haven aims to counteract the unethical practices of the agriculture industry by spreading awareness about the direct effects that overconsumption has on animals.

Anna Gullickson acts as president of Ridge 2 River, overseeing the care of each animal resident, training volunteers, and organizing educational programs. With such a detailed understanding of every animal and their individual needs, Gullickson takes all her visitors on a thorough tour of the sanctuary, making sure to introduce each unique resident in the hopes of teaching people something new.

Gullickson likes to start with their goats and sheep who, like all their animal residents, present a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. The two goats, Sage and Woody, are twin brothers, rejected from the dairy where they were born. They now chomp away on their cud with a sense of zen nonchalance.

"Sage is super friendly and wants to headbutt and play," Gullickson described with a smile. "And Woody's just also a big lover and just wants to cuddle."

Though they continue to live happy and comfortable lives, their upbringing within the dairy industry continues to scar them. As is general practice in dairies, both Sage and Woody's horns were seared off at the skull when still extremely young. This causes their skulls to remain somewhat fragile, leaving them highly sensitive and vulnerable to injury.

Regardless, Sage and Woody enjoy healthy lives at

Ridge 2 River alongside their Blackbelly Sheep neighbor, Basil, who locals had found tied to a tree in the wilderness. After surviving with no food and water for three days, Basil now accentuates a bold and independent personality, taking her time to trust new faces.

"Basil is really sassy," Gullickson shared, "but she also is super affectionate at the same time."

Across the lawn from the goats, a little barn rests, full of 14 bunnies taking refuge from the summer sun. With their cuddly appearance and pet store availability, Gullickson says that bunnies are often some of the most misunderstood animals. Commonly bought as gifts for young children, many people don't understand that bunnies are often territorial, require socialization with other bunnies, and don't appreciate being picked up.

Bunnies are also burrowing animals, and they will easily become anxious or depressed if they are unable to dig new shelters and pathways. Hence, the many secret passages leading in and out of the bunny barn.

If given the right conditions, however, even territorial bunnies show their fluffy personalities.

"The bunnies, over time, they love getting their medicine as a treat every morning," Gullickson said. "The ones that get meds run up to me, and they get so excited to eat their piece of banana with medicine in it."

Nearby, a covered area full of small trees provides a tiny green oasis for a ragtag flock of chickens, peahens, and ducks. Each feathered resident has their own story and personality, like Roo, the gentleman rooster who protects his hen neighbors and always ensures they eat first. Ridge 2 River rescued Roo after a local advertised him as having one hour before being put into a freezer.

"He'll guard the hens when they're laying their eggs..." Gullickson described Roo's

dedication. "When it's time for bed he guides them inside. He takes his duty very seriously."

Farther up the hillside, an unlikely trio naps amongst the dried shrubs and sagebrush. The two resident pigs, Squidward and Beni, share their enclosure with their cat friend, Pearl. Squidward, with malformed back legs and a history of starvation, is extra small for his age. Gullickson believes he may have been raised to be a 'teacup' pig, a fake breed of miniature pig created by starving a piglet of nutrition and preventing its growth by physically restraining it.

Now, Squidward has little to complain about. He is lazing in his personally designed mud puddle and sharing meals with his two close friends.

"Seeing Squidward come from where he was, so grumpy and just unhappy, to the pig you see today has been amazing," Gullickson said as she used a back scratcher to pet him on his upturned belly.

As Gullickson wrapped up her tour with the Cashmere Record, she touched on what inspires her passion for caring for and learning about so many different creatures.

"Overall, my favorite part of taking care of them is seeing their transition and seeing how they are when they come in," she shared. "And then, after time, when they know that this is their home and they're respected and loved and getting all their needs met, how you see their full personality. Some take a long time, some take less time, but I've been able to gain everyone's trust, and it's incredibly rewarding."

Moving forward with their goal to confront the negative effects of animal exploitation at the hands of massive industries, Ridge 2 River is pursuing the further education of local youth and adults. The Ridge 2 River team believes that real impacts can be made only through the spread of awareness and a more intimate understanding of animals and their needs.

In this educational direction, Gullickson and her team



WILL NILLES/WARD MEDIA
Anna and Eric Gullickson stand proudly in front of their mission statement, dedicated to their mission of helping the entire planet through sustainable living.

plan to spread their voices, teaching the next generation of Washingtonians the importance of respecting and caring for their fellow creatures through a variety of different avenues.

"We're super excited about the LEAP program and having that this year, and hopefully doing presentations in more classrooms, just getting more field trips up here," Gullickson

said, listing off a few of the many ways they seek to educate locals. "We would love more interest in field trips and visitors to the sanctuary where they can meet the residents."

As the sun sets on Cashmere's dusty hills, each of Ridge 2 River's many unique residents rest easy, knowing they have a comfortable and healthy home. While they enjoy their well-deserved

sanctuary, the mission to help the millions of other animals neglected and abused by the agriculture industry continues well underway.

For more information on Ridge 2 River Animal Haven and its many residents, visit their official website at ridge2river.org.

Will Nilles: (509) 731-3211 or will@ward.media



Sage lazes in the sun in front of his sheep friend, Basil, chewing his cud with the utmost relaxation.



Bunnies, Sophie and Mopsy, wait peacefully in the shadow of their barn for the summer sun to go down.

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Country Star Easton Corbin to headline Chelan County Fair, bringing traditional sound to rural Washington

By: WILL NILLES
Ward Media Staff Reporter

CASHMERE— With preparations for the Chelan County Fair ramping up, award-winning country icon Easton Corbin looks forward to making an appearance as the event's headline performance.

Corbin hails from Trenton, Florida, and is famous for his multiple top-10 Billboard hits, including All Over the Road and A Little More Country Than That.

Traveling all across the nation, Corbin loves getting to play small town shows regardless of the venue.

"Every venue has its own personality," Corbin shared. "whether it be a county fair, a club, a theater, it's just all a little different. The commonality of [every venue] is, people are there to have a good time and hear some country music, and that's what we're gonna do."

This deep connection and joy for playing in rural communities stems from Corbin's own upbringing on his grandparents' farm. Growing up in a classic agricultural American community, he sees many of the fond elements of his hometown reflected in places like North Central

Washington.

"You know, I grew up on a cattle farm, I showed cattle for 4H and FFA, and I take pride in my music being authentic for who I am and where I'm from and how I was raised, so that very much influences my music," he explained, mentioning that he often sees important rural communities being overlooked. "And when we play around big cities, some people don't think much about the surrounding area, especially in Washington. So much of that is agriculturally related, there's a lot of farming and outdoor stuff that goes on in Washington State."

Corbin looks to bring his best show to Chelan County, providing fans and newcomers alike with a diversified setlist of his top songs, newest releases, and classic covers.

"We're gonna do all the hits we have. We're gonna throw some new songs in there from our latest project. We might do a cover or two, and I don't know, maybe there's not a song that we do in the set but it's a fan favorite. We've had people hold up signs or yell out a song. And it's like, 'you want to hear it? We'll do it!'"

This type of fan-centered performance is common for Corbin, as he loves giving the

fans what they want. In fact, he has a few highly requested fan favorites in his repertoire.

"One song that I love that's a fan favorite, it never was a radio single, is a song called Tulsa Texas. And we get requests for that song every night."

With a knack for classic country, Corbin plans to stick by his traditional roots, calling on influence from old-school stars like Merle Haggard and George Jones. Although Corbin sees the industry around him as constantly changing, he hopes to stay with his traditional style and continue paying homage to his authentic rural upbringing.

"You know, the industry is ever evolving, it never stays the same. And for me, I like to set my flag on the traditional side of things. No matter what direction the genre goes in, I'll always be that as an artist," Corbin said with pride. "I think the key to longevity and success is staying true to who you are and being that constant to your fans, they can always depend on you."

In that same sense of appreciation for American tradition, Corbin loves playing at county fairs across the country, standing by his belief that small town communities

are crucial to his fanbase and the nation as a whole.

"I think that's the backbone of our country," he mentioned, "that's really the backbone of our audience. So, doing those county fairs and events like that, I think that's how you stay connected to those smaller communities."

Corbin reinforces this belief through his own childhood memories of county fair performances, remembering the massive impact that one night of good country music can have on a small community.

"Every year, I remember going to a festival or two around my area as a kid, you know, that's the biggest thing that happens in your area all year long," He shared, remembering the importance of performing for rural towns similar to his home. "You always got to remember that, you know, even though we play every night, for a particular group of people, you might be the highlight of their year."

While he continues to prepare for his September 6 performance at the Chelan County Fairgrounds, Corbin is working on an upcoming project that he has yet to announce. Details on the project remain confidential. However, Corbin wants fans



COURTESY OF DUSTY BARKER

Award-winning country star, Easton Corbin, is set to play as the Chelan County Fair's headliner performance on September 6, shedding the spotlight on small-town Cashmere.

to know that something is in the works.

"I can't give up too much [information] yet, but we definitely got something cooking in the book," he revealed.

With the days to the Chelan County Fair counting down, Corbin can't wait to get back over to Washington State and perform for his local fans while introducing new listeners to his music. Though Washington State is about as far away from Florida as it gets, he explains that his West Coast fans can be just as big.

"I'm looking forward to it. We have a lot of great fans

on the West Coast. And unfortunately, it being such a long ways away, we don't get to get out there as often as we'd like," Corbin admitted. "So when we do get out there, man, it's a great time, and it's a special time to be able to hang out with our fans and share our music with those who are a little farther away but just as big of fans."

To learn more about the Chelan County Fair and its upcoming featured performances, visit chelancountyfair.com.

Will Nilles: (509) 731-3211 or will@ward.media

Fairy tale scavenger hunt brings magic to downtown Leavenworth

By TAYLOR CALDWELL
Ward Media Staff Reporter

LEAVENWORTH – Hidden amongst the Bavarian shops and tourists, Enchanted Leavenworth founder Lisa Barrett recently created a tiny world of magical creatures for people to discover, and save, through a self-guided scavenger quest.

Inspired by German fairy tales, scavenger quest players are tasked with solving a puzzle that will restore the missing magic that protects the creatures of Fairy Tale Trail.

"There is a little bit of a nod to the history of fairy tales in Germany in the guide," said

Barrett.

The scavenger hunt works through a mobile-friendly digital guide and map, taking players to physical locations across downtown to find clues, earn small prizes, and receive discounts. Because it's self-guided, the scavenger hunt can be started at any time and at any point of the trail.

"It's supposed to be just kind of simple and joyful in its nature," said Barrett.

Barrett, who has a background in e-learning, came up with the idea after hosting a scavenger hunt in Enchantment Park for her five-year-old's birthday party.

"I just got this thought in

my head, like, the town needs a scavenger hunt. It's such a magical town and it's so walkable, and it doesn't have anything like that. It was one of those ideas that didn't go away, and then finding myself having the creative ideas around it," said Barrett.

The scavenger hunt is designed to bring players to seven walkable locations throughout downtown. Each stop has a tiny, magical world of creatures hidden in everyday life, such as unicorns or fairy homes, that players get to discover. In those worlds, players must look for a letter of a word needed to restore magic back to Fairy Tale Trail and earn

their wand.

When Barrett came up with the idea, she wanted to create more family friendly activities, but she also wanted to bring awareness to those that already exist. As players discover magical creatures, they also get to discover more activities in town.

"I tried to target places that I enjoy going with my family and thinking through, like, how you would kind of recommend family friendly stops throughout town," said Barrett.

Barrett recommends the scavenger hunt for players ages four to 14, but it can be enjoyed by everyone.

"Maybe one day, [we'll

have] a kid version and an adult version, because there's the dark side of fairy tales, you know?" said Barrett.

The scavenger hunt takes about an hour to play, and can be found at enchantedleavenworth.com. As the scavenger hunt gets more traction, Barrett hopes to make changes according to the seasons, and add bonus stops.

"I just want to keep adding to it over time and just make it more magical, more magical, and more magical. You know, it's magic. It doesn't really have a roof," said Barrett.

Taylor Caldwell: 509-433-7276 or taylor@ward.media



TAYLOR CALDWELL / WARD MEDIA

Lisa Barrett created Enchanted Leavenworth, a fairy tale themed scavenger hunt in the heart of Leavenworth.

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Legals

Public Notices

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL NONSIGNIFICANCE
The Public Utility District No.1 of Douglas County has entered a determination of environmental non-significance, (DNS), for the proposed action under the State Environmental Policy Act, (RCW 43.21C), as amended. The lead agency for this proposal has determined that the subject action does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under 43.21C.030(2)c. This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency shall not act on this proposal for 15 days from the date below. Written comments must be submitted by September 5, 2024. Written comments should be submitted to John M. Brown, SEPA Official, Public Utility District No.1 of Douglas County, 1151 Valley Mall Parkway, East Wenatchee, WA 98802. Copies of the DNS, and Environmental Checklist can be obtained from the Public Utility District No.1 of Douglas County, 1151 Valley Mall Parkway, East Wenatchee, WA 98802 and on Douglas PUD's website; www.douglaspubd.org. The issuance of the determination of environmental non-significance, for which notice is hereby given, is for the following action: Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County proposes to expand the existing swimming beach at the designated swimming area at Marina Park located in Bridgeport, Washington. The subject property is located at the east end of Riverside Drive in the City of Pateros, WA. The subject property is found in Section 35, Township 30N, Range 23 EWM, situated in Okanogan County. Dated this 12th day of August, 2024. Public Utility District No.1 of Douglas County, WA John M. Brown SEPA Official
Published in the Quad City Herald on August 21, 28, 2024. #8312

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR OKANOGAN COUNTY
In the Matter of the Estate of **GEORGE WILSON, Deceased.**
No. 24-4-00097-24
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
RCW 11.40.030

The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the Court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and RCW 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.
Date of First Publication: August 14, 2024
Personal Representative: Jean Wilson
Attorney for the Personal Representative: David J. Bentsen
Address for Mailing or Service: Speidel Bentsen LLP
7 North Wenatchee Avenue, Suite 600 P.O. Box 881 Wenatchee, WA 98807-0881
Court of Probate Proceedings and Cause Number: Okanogan County Superior Court Cause No. 24-4-00097-24
JEAN WILSON
Personal Representative
Attorneys for Personal Representative: **SPEIDEL BENTSEN LLP**
By: **DAVID J. BENTSEN**
WSBA No. 42107
7 North Wenatchee Avenue, Suite 600 P.O. Box 881 Wenatchee, WA 98807
Published in the Quad City Herald on August 14, 21, 28, 2024. #8275

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR CHELAN COUNTY
In the Matter of the Estate of **RODNEY L. DODGE, Deceased.**
No. 24-4-00307-04
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
RCW 11.40.030

The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the Court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and RCW 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.
Date of First Publication: August 21, 2024
Personal Representative: Pamela R. Stonecypther
Attorney for the Personal Representative: David J. Bentsen
Address for Mailing or Service: Speidel Bentsen LLP
7 North Wenatchee Avenue, Suite 600 P.O. Box 881 Wenatchee, WA 98807-0881
Court of Probate Proceedings and Cause Number: Chelan County Superior Court Cause No. 24-4-00307-04
PAMELA R. STONECYPHER
Personal Representative
Attorneys for Personal Representative: **SPEIDEL BENTSEN LLP**
By: **DAVID J. BENTSEN**
WSBA No. 42107
7 North Wenatchee Avenue, Suite 600 P.O. Box 881 Wenatchee, WA 98807
Published in the Quad City Herald on August 21, 28, September 4, 2024. #8314

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL NONSIGNIFICANCE

The Public Utility District No.1 of Douglas County has entered a determination of environmental non-significance, (DNS), for the proposed action under the State Environmental Policy Act, (RCW 43.21C), as amended. The lead agency for this proposal has determined that the subject action does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under 43.21C.030(2)c. This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency shall not act on this proposal for 15 days from the date below. Written comments must be submitted by September 5, 2024. Written comments should be submitted to John M. Brown, SEPA Official, Public Utility District No.1 of Douglas County, 1151 Valley Mall Parkway, East Wenatchee, WA 98802. Copies of the DNS, and Environmental Checklist can be obtained from the Public Utility District No.1 of Douglas County, 1151 Valley Mall Parkway, East Wenatchee, WA 98802 and on Douglas PUD's website; www.douglaspubd.org. The issuance of the determination of environmental non-significance, for which notice is hereby given, is for the following action: Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County proposes to construct a new swimming beach at the designated swimming area at Marina Park located in Bridgeport, Washington. The subject property is located at 811 Jefferson Ave. in the City of Bridgeport, WA. The subject property is found in Section 15, Township 29N, Range 25 EWM, situated in Douglas County. Dated this 8th day of August, 2024. Public Utility District No.1 of Douglas County, WA John M. Brown SEPA Official
Published in the Quad City Herald on August 14, 21, 2024. #8270



NCW NEWS
Discover the heart of North Central Washington with NCW News – your premier source for local stories, insights, and community updates. Stay informed, stay connected. <https://ncw.news/>

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Guess Who?

I am a singer born in Australia on August 23, 1949. I grew up between Australia and London due to my father's military career. I learned to play guitar at age 13, and achieved rock stardom in the early 1980s with several top 10 hits. I also played a doctor on a popular soap opera for some time.

Answer: Rick Springfield

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Wenatchee Library's 3D Printing Workshops spark creativity and tech skills for all ages

By: **WILL NILLES**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

WENATCHEE— For those looking to expand their horizons into the world of computer science, or just trying to escape the summer heat, the Wenatchee Public Library offers a monthly 3D printing workshop for participants of all skill levels. The workshop's central goal is to introduce locals to 3D design in a fun, welcoming, and creative environment.

Leading the workshop is librarian Nik Penny, a local 3D-printing hobbyist with years of computer science experience. He leads his workshops in crafting simple, highly customizable designs like labeled containers, allowing participants to create and learn at their own pace.

Penny enjoys being able to share such a useful yet daunting skill with community members from all walks of life.

"It's really cool to give people access to something like this that is maybe a little bit intimidating or expensive to get into," Penny shared.

As well as the adult workshop, Penny instructs a teen 3D-printing workshop each month. Though the adults certainly bring an eager attitude, he's always impressed by the passion and creativity of

some of the teen participants.

"The teen one's really fun because some of the people who come are interested in engineering," Penny said with a smile. "So that's pretty cool to see people who are wanting to get exposure to this, and we're able to provide it, you know? Then they go on to become professionals who know more than me," he chuckled.

Occasionally, participants take their ideas from the workshop and continue to build on them at home, letting the versatile nature of 3D printing inspire them.

"After coming here and using this software, they made replacement parts for their aero garden. Someone else made a replacement part for an artificial Christmas tree," Penny commented, mentioning a couple of projects that stood out to him. "They did the workshop and learned to use the software, and then went home and made it."

Other participants simply want to learn about something new while enjoying the company of friends and neighbors. Local sisters Manoah and Lenae Winter attended the event with no prior experience in 3D printing.

"My sister invited me, and I thought I should do things in the community and utilize what we spend our property taxes

on," Manoah said, happy to take advantage of the local library's many engaging resources.

"I'm not really interested in 3D printing, but I'd try another workshop after that." Lenae shared.

"Yeah," Manoah agreed. "I feel like I got just enough of the basics that I could actually maybe do something [on my own] now."

After finishing their projects and choosing

from a selection of vibrant 3D filament colors, each participant waits for two to three weeks while librarian Penny prints out every design. Leaving Wenatchee Public Library with useful knowledge and a smile on their faces, workshop participants receive the full benefits of the NCW Libraries experience.

Will Nilles: (509) 731-3211 or will@ward.media



WILL NILLES/WARD MEDIA
Wenatchee Librarian Nik Penny helps workshop participants orient themselves within 3D design software.

Chelan Valley's 'Summer of Love' supports elderly care

By: **QUINN PROPST**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

CHELAN - The spirit of Woodstock is set to come alive once again as Chelan Valley gears up for this year's "Summer of Love" event, commemorating the 55th anniversary of the iconic Woodstock Festival.

The event is a fundraiser for the Chelan Valley Community Nurse program. CVCN is a nonprofit organization that provides free care to elderly and vulnerable people in Chelan Valley to help them stay in their homes longer.

CVCN provides in-home care, including blood pressure checks, medication, and treatment education, particularly after hospital

discharge, and management of chronic conditions. The program also offers referrals to physicians, community resources, and support services for both clients and their families.

The Summer of Love event is the nonprofit organization's only fundraiser during the year. The program relies on donations, grants, and this fundraiser to offer free care to elderly people in the community.

Norm Manly will once again emcee the Summer of Love event.

"We've been doing it for several years, and it's a fun event, and we're, you know, raising money for a good organization," Manly said.

The event is scheduled for

Saturday, August 24, from 3:30 to 9 p.m. at Watson's Alpenhorn Cafe, located at 7600 South Lakeshore Road.

There will be silent auction items, door prizes, and a costume contest with several categories. At the end of the night, judges will announce the winners.

Hamburgers, hot dogs, wine, and beer will be available for purchase. Crowd favorites Brittany Jean, The B-Side, and Waterdog will provide music.

Manly said people should come to the event not only to support CVCN but also because it is a fun event.

"We've had some really fun times," Manly said. "Usually, it starts off, everybody's just sitting down. You know, you can either bring a chair or you

can have a blanket and have your wine or beer, enjoy the music. And then as the evening goes along, then people start dancing, and towards the end of the event. Man, the whole place is just dancing, having a great time."

Tickets for the event are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the gate, with free entry for children under 12. Attendees are encouraged to bring a chair or blanket for festival seating, but coolers are not allowed inside the park.

Tickets can be purchased at the Lake Chelan Chamber of Commerce in Chelan or by contacting Norm Manly directly at 509-293-0225.

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

Wenatchee Valley DRC unveils nominees for first-ever Peacebuilder Award

NCW News
Ward Media

WENATCHEE — The Wenatchee Valley Dispute Resolution Center (WVDRC) has announced eight nominees for its inaugural Community Peacebuilder Award, recognizing individuals and organizations committed to fostering peace in Chelan and Douglas counties.

The nominees, submitted by community members, represent a diverse cross-section of local leadership and

institutions. They include:

- Bob Mark - Upper Valley MEND
- Brad Hawkins - 12th Legislative District Senator
- Claudia Bovee - NCW Libraries
- Dalia Hernandez - Pinnacles Prep Charter School
- Deb Miller - Action Health Partners
- Debbie Sperry - First United Methodist Church
- Indigenous Roots and Reparation Foundation
- Laurie Peek - Upper Valley MEND

The WVDRC, a nonprofit organization dedicated to peaceful conflict resolution, will announce the award recipient at its Annual Celebration on September 3. The event, to be held at the Wenatchee Valley Museum & Cultural Center, will also honor Lynn Yialelis, the center's founding director.

The Community Peacebuilder Award aims to recognize efforts that align with WVDRC's mission of promoting peaceful conflict resolution in the Wenatchee Valley area.

WVDRC officials encourage

community members to attend the celebration. Ticket information is available on the organization's website at <https://www.wvdr.org/events>.

The center, which serves Chelan and Douglas counties, provides mediation services, conflict resolution training, and community education through a team of volunteer mediators.

For more information, contact: Wenatchee Valley Dispute Resolution Center, (509) 888-0957.

Program's potential to impact local communities.

"First of all, by having local individuals working together to prioritize the greatest need and greatest impact, the community itself will benefit from the funding."

This overall focus of placing community members in charge of their own funds, as Tod puts it, will ideally impart each participating region with a continual cycle of straightforward, unrestricted local donation.

"I'm really optimistic that people will increase their giving, and that the giving then increases the annual gift, and then the gifts increase the annual impact, and all of a sudden, you have a system of community improvement that's really exciting."

To make a donation or to learn more about the Community Foundation of NCW's Legacy Funds Grant Program as well as their many other locally focused efforts, visit cfncw.org.

Will Nilles: (509) 731-3211 or will@ward.media

STCU

Continued from page A1

Bank customers," Eckhardt stated. "We look forward to continuing Community Bank's long tradition of supporting the communities it serves."

STCU plans to retain all current Community Bank branches and has committed to offering positions to all Community Bank employees. The credit union emphasized that the acquisition would provide Community Bank customers with an expanded suite of products and services while maintaining local access.

The transaction requires approval from multiple regulatory agencies, including the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation, the Washington Department of Financial Institutions,

the National Credit Union Administration, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Both institutions' boards of directors have unanimously approved the agreement. Upon completion of the transaction, Community Bank and its holding company, Community Bancshares, Inc., will dissolve, with remaining assets distributed to Community Bancshares, Inc. shareholders.

Founded in 1934, STCU currently serves more than 280,000 members across Eastern Washington, Tri-Cities, the Columbia Basin, and North Idaho. Community Bank, established in 1955, has been serving local communities in Oregon and Washington for nearly seven decades.

BAT

Continued from page A1

complexities involved in bringing high-speed broadband service to a large, rural county like Okanogan. Not only does BAT need to establish partnerships to get service to more remote areas, but it must also meet mandatory compliance demands before proceeding with installation projects.

"Construction has not yet started in many of these areas because there are studies required like NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act), SEPA (State Environmental Policy Act), archeological reviews, and cultural reviews even before infrastructure is deployed," Holder-Diefenbach said.

"In 2019 our first feasibility study identified 26 projects costing roughly \$160 million to complete," Holder-Diefenbach said.

Since then, delays and inflation have more than halved the number of projects that amount will cover from 26 to 10. The challenge now is to stretch the dollars.

"We have been really lucky," said Holder-Diefenbach. "We have seen quite an influx of money coming into the county."

To date, the county has been awarded more than \$80 million.

Okanogan PUD (OCPUD) was awarded \$4.3 million by the Washington State Public Works Board (WSPWB) for the Conconully middle mile project, a 26-mile deployment bringing fiber to the curb for 370 Conconully residents. Middle-mile infrastructure means any broadband infrastructure that does not connect directly to an end-user location.

"We cannot get to Conconully without extending that middle mile," said Holder-Diefenbach. "That's where a lot of the cost is on those stretches of road where there may not be many houses, but you must have that infrastructure to get to where density areas are. It's a huge, huge win."

OCPUD received a \$30 million USDA Reconnect Grant to deploy 232 miles and bring fiber to the curb for 780 homes in the northeast county.

Okanogan County Electric Cooperative (OCEC) received WSPWB funding to serve the Chewuch drainage all the way to the Smoke-jumper base, 42 miles, and 250 homes or businesses.

OCEC awarded Washington State Broadband Office (WSBO) ARPA dollars for 200 miles of Highway 20 from Winthrop to Lost River in Mazama, serving 2,600 billable service locations.

OCPUD received a \$30 million USDA Reconnect Grant to deploy 232 miles bringing fiber to the curb for 780 homes in the northeast county.

Ziply Fiber received a WSBO grant to install services for Brewster, Tonasket, Loomis, and Danville (Ferry County) all of which are completed.

CCT Broadband

The Colville Confederated Tribes received an initial grant of \$48 million.

"The current amount of funding is about one-third of what is needed," said Ernie Rasmussen, Execu-

tive Director of Bigfoot Telecommunications, the CCT business created to handle its broadband installation. "We have requested another \$95 million. The first round will allow about 2,200 homes to be served. We have a total of 3,300 broadband serviceable locations."

To bring service to its far-flung areas, CCT must work with five utilities:

- Nespelem Valley Electric Cooperative
- Okanogan County PUD
- Ferry County PUD
- Coulee Dam Municipal Utility
- Avista Utilities

Rasmussen said CCT, using a hub-and-spoke model, is beginning with Inchelium, its least-served community.

"The CCT is well versed in understanding and negotiating these types of projects to meet the needs of their community with the long-term goal of being impactful over generations," said Rasmussen. "We have plenty of tools in the toolbox."

One of those is teamwork.

"We found out quickly through the pandemic that we cannot rely on just one person," said Rasmussen. "If something happens to that person, what happens to that work? We have adjusted and started to create teams that are capable of carrying forward should one teammate need to step away for a period of time."

Several parts of the reservation are extremely high-cost areas to serve.

"This is why the free market never showed up on the reservation or much of Okanogan County," said Rasmussen. "The challenge is how do we sustain such a vast network footprint with few connections on a per-mile basis. Putting it all together to create a sustainable model is going to be one of the biggest challenges that we have."

Then there is the education side of the digital equity equation.

Holder-Diefenbach said there are two sides to digital equity: access and training.

"It's one thing to provide access and get the infrastructure out, but the other part is teaching people how to utilize the technology," Holder-Diefenbach said.

BAT is teaming up with the North Central Washington Tech Alliance to provide the classes, training, and one-on-one sessions.

As Rasmussen defines it: "Are you actually achieving the goal of a household being digitally literate?"

His answer comes in three parts:

1. Is it accessible?
2. Is it affordable?
3. Do users have the support to adopt it as a tool beyond social media and shopping?

"We have actually achieved digital literacy in 100 percent of our homes," Rasmussen said.

"We are really happy as a group obtaining funding to bring broadband to Okanogan County in order to get to some of these hard-to-serve areas," said Holder-Diefenbach. "There is still a lot of work to do."

To learn more about BAT, visit the Economic Alliance website, economic-alliance.com, and select the OK CCT BAT tab.

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

Foundation

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communities," She mentioned.

The CFNCW selected these LAB members through an application process that ensured the inclusion of advisors with a wide range of local backgrounds and a shared dedication to community involvement. By organizing local boards based on important factors like length of local residency, the process allowed CFNCW to create diverse LABs that understand their complex regions' unique needs.

"We were also wanting to make sure that we were trying to have representation of underserved populations like our BIPOC and LGBTQ [communities]," Short added. "So that everyone is at the table when it comes to making those decisions."

CFNCW carefully tailors these LABs, training each member in the best ways to review and perform site visits of non-profit organizations in their region. The ultimate goal

is to provide legacy funds to those who most adequately address community issues. This includes an in-person regional training program for all LAB members.

"There were about 65 to 70 people that came, and they did a mandatory regional training, then over the last few months, I've been working with them to learn how we evaluate the grants, what site visits entail, and guidelines and procedures with the Community Foundation, so that they've got the tools they need to make informed decisions."

Though they feel optimistic about the program's structure, Short explained that CFNCW plans to actively rework it to best suit the needs of organizations in each region.

"Yeah, and this is our first year," she commented. "We'll learn every year, we'll evaluate, and we'll really lean in on that feedback from the local advisory boards and the nonprofits that we serve in our communities."

The first round of legacy fund applications within the Wenatchee Valley, Upper

Valley, Chelan Valley, and Cashmere regions closed on August 15. This made way for a round of applications within the Methow Valley starting December 1, finishing with the Okanogan Valley applications set for February 1. Then, the process starts all over again with Cashmere.

With so many communities and organizations involved, CFNCW seeks to streamline its application process to ensure that local nonprofits aren't dissuaded from accessing these crucial funds.

"We've heard a lot of great reflection back from the nonprofits that sure is helpful," Short mentioned optimistically, expanding on the program's transparency. "You can preview the application questions ahead of time without having to get logged into our system. We just really want it to be an easy process for our nonprofits and community groups."

Cashmere region LAB member and Vice President of Instruction at WVC Tod Treat expressed his excitement about the Legacy Funds Grant

Have an idea for a story?

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