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# Quad City Herald

Serving Brewster, Bridgeport,  
Mansfield & Pateros area since 1901

A Ward Media Publication  
November 20, 2024

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## Brewster Chamber selects Best of the Best, 2025 board nominees

**By MIKE MALTAIS**  
Ward Media Staff Reporter

BREWSTER – Old business – Dia de los Muertos – and new business – Best of the Best and board officer nominations – were topics on the agenda of the monthly meeting of the Chamber of Commerce last Wednesday, Nov. 13.

Board members conducted a post-mortem on their Day of the Dead tamale cooking competition held at the American Legion on Saturday, Nov. 2, with plans to make the popular attraction an annual event.

“We made \$500 on ticket sales and \$60 off the face painting, and face painting was by donation,” reported member Elizabeth Shepard.

The board agreed that a few tweaks in next year’s repeat of the tamale cookoff might be in order, but for a first-time event, it was well-received.

The board also discussed potential advertising revenue from the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC), popularly known as the “Heads-in-Beds” tax. Shepard said the Chamber must partner with an overnight event like the annual King Salmon Derby or the AAU basketball tournament to

become LTAC eligible.

### Best of the Best

Nominees for Best of the Best in categories of Small Business (under 10 employees), Large Business (more than 10 employees), and Person of the Year were voted on. The winners:

### Person of the Year

Dave Burdick,  
Brewster Food Bank

### Small Business

GARE Panaderia

### Large Business

Mi Pueblo  
The awards will be presented at 5 p.m., Nov. 30, at the Christmas Tree lighting ceremony.

Nominations of 2025 officers will be put to a vote at the general board meeting at 10 a.m., Dec. 11, in Mi Pueblo.

### Adopt A Sock

“We are running Adopt a Sock,” said Shepard, director of the Brewster Boys and Girls Club. “I currently have 127 kids enrolled, with about 80 more coming.”

Anyone can stop by the BBGC and

pick up a Christmas stocking. Each stocking has a green tag with a child’s name, age, and three things they like.

Kids Christmas Shop  
This year, the shop, now in its third year, will be held on Dec. 14. It used to be a chamber event held in conjunction with the police and fire departments.

“I am seeking donations of small gifts less than \$10 or \$15 so kids can shop free for their parents,” said Shepard. “It’s our way of teaching kids the joys of giving.”

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

# Local veterans honored in Quilts of Valor ceremonies



COURTESY OF NORTH CENTRAL QUILTS OF VALOR  
Pam Von Pressentin, left, and Lyn Hruska award Stephen Edwards his quilt.

**By MIKE MALTAIS**  
Ward Media Staff Reporter

TONASKET – Military veterans are in the spotlight in recognition of Veterans Day, Nov. 11, as more than a dozen have been honored at Quilts of Valor ceremonies leading up to and including Veterans Day week in presentations at Tonasket, Omak, Okanogan, and Twisp.

The North Central Quilts of Valor (NCQOV) group honored four veterans on Nov. 8 in a veterans’ assembly at Tonasket High School. They are Richard J. (Marines), 1965-1969, Ronald L. (Navy), 1971-1992, Linda F. (Air Force), 1971-1973, and James M. (Navy), 1959-1965.

NCQOV presented quilts to five Elks members at a special Nov. 11 Omak Elks dinner in their honor.

### Stephen Edwards

The NC group also honored Marine Corporal E-4 Stephen Edwards at the Omak PAC on Nov. 8. Edwards served

from 1965 to 1971. While stationed in Quang Tri, Vietnam, Edwards carried an M72 rocket launcher called LAW, a light anti-armor weapon. He was part of the 1st Battalion 9th Marines (1/9) “Walking Dead,” the battalion that endured the longest sustained combat and suffered the highest killed-in-action (KIA) rate in Marine Corps history.

NCQOV has “Welcome Home” lapel pins for Vietnam veterans who served from 1955 to 1975, regardless of where that duty was completed.

### OKQOV

The Okanogan Valley QOV honored five military veterans at Okanogan High School on Nov. 6. All are current or former school district staff members.

- Army Private First Class (E-3) Marty Staggs.
- Marine Lance Corporal (E-3) Roy Johnson.
- Navy Petty Officer Second Class (E-5) Greg Edelman.



COURTESY OF NORTH CENTRAL QUILTS OF VALOR  
The North Central Quilts of Valor group presented quilts on Nov. 8, to four area veterans at Tonasket High School. They are from left, Richard J. (Marines), 1965-1969, Ronald L. (Navy), 1971-1992, Linda F. (Air Force), 1971-1973, and James M. (Navy), 1959-1965.

- Navy Petty Officer Third Class (E-4) Shannon Landtrip.
- AirForceSeniorNoncommissioned Officer (E-7) Nancy Bishop.

OKQOV honored two Twisp veterans - Tucker Barksdale and Dave Schulz - in a ceremony at Liberty Bell High School on Tuesday, Nov. 12. Their service histories read:

### Julian “Tucker” Barksdale

Tucker Barksdale enlisted in the U.S. Army during his senior year of college and served from 1968 to 1971. He trained at the Military Intelligence School in Baltimore, Maryland. He spoke French and figured he would be sent to Europe, but he forgot that Vietnam had been a French colony, and his French fit in perfectly in Vietnam. He was assigned to a Special Forces unit in Song Be, on the southern edge of the Vietnam highlands.

Barksdale received parachute training in Cam Ranh Bay and worked with an interpreter to recruit

Montagnards and Cambodians to provide intelligence about North Vietnamese and Vietcong troop movements.

Upon returning to the U.S., Barksdale was stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington, where he finished his military duty and was discharged as a Staff Sergeant E-6. He lives in the Methow Valley and taught eighth-grade math and science at Liberty Bell High School for 13 years.

Barksdale is also a part of the Quilts of Valor Foundation. He has made 16 quilts that have been presented to other veterans.

### Dave Schulz

Dave Schulz served in the U.S. Air Force from 1957-1960. He enlisted with a group of about 20 young men from North Central Washington and served in the Second Air Force on bases in five different states: Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Arkansas. He worked in the 96th Installation Squad orderly room,

where was responsible for getting orders to more than 300 men. While at Altus Air Force Base in Oklahoma, he handled all the paperwork and the court martial procedures.

Schulz was an accomplished volleyball, tennis, basketball, and football athlete and competed on the base sports teams, particularly basketball.

He was awarded 1959 Outstanding Airman of the Year from the five states where he served and received an honorable discharge as an Airman Second Class.

Many in the Methow Valley, where Schulz still lives, know his family, his apples, and his long career as a tennis coach at Liberty Bell High School.

Veterans may be nominated by visiting govf.org/nominations-awards. Any veteran in any state may be nominated and awarded a quilt by the QOV group in their area.

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

## Timm, Agnew lead Commissioner races

**By MIKE MALTAIS**  
Ward Media Staff Reporter

OKANOGAN – With the majority of votes counted in both Okanogan and Douglas counties, the contenders for county commissioner in both jurisdictions continue to hold a wide margin as they did at the conclusion of the first unofficial vote counts.

Nick Timm is riding an insurmountable lead over challenger Marc Doney in the race for Okanogan County Commissioner District 1. Timm has 63.24 percent of the vote, while Doney is at 36.76 percent, with approximately 421 ballots left to count.

In the contest for Douglas County Commissioner, Rock Island Mayor Randy Agnew is sitting on a 67.69 percent lead over challenger Paula

Lamanna with 32.02 percent. There are 540 ballots remaining to count in that race.

### Hospital levy winning

The winning margin is thin among Douglas County voters for the renewal of the one-year special levy for Three Rivers Hospital. The levy is squeaking by on 21 votes, 411 to 390. The needed 60 percent supermajority needed to pass is coming from Okanogan County ballots where 64.45 percent are in favor to 35.55 percent opposed.

“Our communities have approved this levy every year since 2020, and we’re thankful for that,” TRH Public Relations Officer Jennifer Best said of early results.

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

## NC Quilts of Valor honors five veterans



COURTESY OF NORTH VALLEY QUILTS OF VALOR  
From left Sargent Otto Y, U.S. Air Force, (1966-1969), Specialist John L., U.S. Army, (1966-1969), Specialist Rudy Gates, U.S. Army, (1955-1957), E-3 Coy Middleton, U. S. Navy, (1981-1983), First Sargeant Richard Shull, U.S. Army, (1955-1995).

**By MIKE MALTAIS**  
Ward Media Staff Reporter

OMAK -- The North Central Quilts of Valor group awarded five quilts at the Omak Elks Veterans Day dinner on Nov. 11. Quilts were presented to:

Sargent Otto Y, United States Air Force, 1966-1969.

Specialist John L., United States Army, 1966-1969.

Specialist Rudy Gates, United States Army, 1955-1957.

E-3 Coy Middleton, United States Navy, 1981-1983.

First Sargeant Richard Shull, United States Army, 1955-1995.

Many Elks, family members, and veterans attended the occasion. After the quilts were wrapped, the five

See NC QUILTS Page A2

## Inside The Quad City Herald this Week

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# Bears XC team places eighth at state



COURTESY OF BREWSTER SPORTSFACEBOOK  
Angel Rendon placed 68<sup>th</sup>.



COURTESY OF BREWSTER SPORTSFACEBOOK  
Cayden Milton came in 52<sup>nd</sup>.



Gerardo Rodriguez was 38<sup>th</sup> to cross the line.



COURTESY OF BREWSTER SPORTSFACEBOOK

Kevin Silva finished 77<sup>th</sup>.

**By MIKE MALTAIS**  
Ward Media Staff Reporter

PASCO – The Brewster High School varsity cross country team finished in eighth place at the WIAA State Championships at Sun Willows Golf Course in Pasco last Saturday, Nov. 9. The team qualified for

state after placing fourth at the District 5 1B/2B Championships the previous week. Bears' state qualifiers were Gerardo Rodriguez, Cayden Milton, Anthony Sanchez, Angel Rendon, Kevin Silva, Diego Arevalo, and Brayan Flores.

Running for the Brewster girls Camila Maldonado

placed fourth overall and also qualified for State.

Seniors Rodriguez, Milton, Rendon, and Silva were honored during halftime at the Senior Night football game against Cle Elum on Friday night, Nov. 8.

Mike Maltais: 360-33-8483 or michael@ward.media

## 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](mailto:classifieds@ward.media). To submit info call 509-548-5286 or email: [ruth@ward.media](mailto: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](http://tcfwenatcheevalley.org)

##### Tuesday

**Okanogan County PUD:** The commission meets the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 3 p.m. Information: [okanoganpud.org](http://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](http://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](http://tcfwenatcheevalley.org)

###### 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](http://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 third Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Senior Center, 109 Bridge Street. Information email: [brewsterwachamber@gmail.com](mailto: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, Chelan. Contact: Concie Luna at 509-630-2972 or Vita Monteleone at [monte419@nwi.net](mailto:monte419@nwi.net).

###### TOPS® Chapter Paves the Way to Healthy Lifestyle:

Weekly on Wednesdays, 10-11 a.m. TOPS® chapter (weight loss support group) meetings at Lake Chelan United Methodist Church, located at 206 N. Emerson St. in Chelan. Attendees should use the side entrance of the church between the Lake Chelan Health Express Care Clinic and the church. TOPS empowers people to stop dieting and start creating healthy, enjoyable lifestyle habits that will work for them over the long haul.

##### Thursdays

**Brewster bus trips:** 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 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/meetings

###### 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:** November is Native American Heritage Month and at Chelan Valley Hope they acknowledge the resilience and contributions of Indigenous communities who aim towards a more equal society for all. At Hope, they strive to maintain a safe, supportive, equal space for everyone. They also recognize that Chelan Valley Hope sits on the original homelands of the ščalám̓x (Chelan) people. We raise our hands to honor the Indigenous people who have inhabited this land before us. Call Hope at 509-888-2114 for more information or to schedule an appointment. Hope is open Monday through Thursday 9 a.m.-3 p.m. (Closed Noon to 1 p.m.).

#### Sheriff

Continued from page A2

##### Nov 9

12:52:01 11/09/24 Fraud, N Independence St, Pateros, Wa Officer: Lunn C Comments: Saw On Facebook That Fem Was Selling Puppy W/ Papers For \$300, Fem Asked That Rp Buy \$100 Apple Gift Card So Rp Did Would Meet Rp At Target To Give Rp The Puppy, Rp Advd No One Showed Up, Rp Called Advd Rp To Buy A \$300 Gift Card, Then Rp Tried To Buy Card Bank

##### Nov 10

14:25:42 Found Property Lakeshore Dr, Pat Officer: Lunn C Comments: Found Blk Wallet, The Wallet Has Been Returned

##### Nov 11

08:27:44 Found Property Pit Rd, Brewster, Wa Officer: Schmid Scott Comments Rp Found .22 Revolver Gun In A Motorhome On His Property  
13:05:41 Mal Mischief, Highway 97, Brewster, Officer: Hampson J Comments: Rp Has 2 Loose Panels On His Fence. Susp Had To Undo

The Screws To Get The Panels Off. Rp Also Advd A Veh That Was Impounded Released To The Owner Was Gone Through Over The Weekend. Took Tools, Propane And Other Items.

##### Nov 13

20:39:14 Accident Noninj Lakeshore Dr, Across, Pateros, W Officer: Gonzalez G Comments: Rp Was Rear Ended, Doesnt Remember Much. Male Opening Door Asking If Rp Was Okay, Rp Drove Veh Home After Hitting Her Head.

#### DISTRICT TOP TEN TEAMS:

1.	Cle Elum-Roslyn	53
2.	Okanogan	58
3.	Liberty Bell	77
4.	Brewster	117
5.	Goldendale	157
6.	Tonasket	165
7.	LaSalle	204
8.	Bridgeport	212
9.	Tri-Cities Prep	231
10.	Lake Roosevelt	239

#### BEARS STATE FINISHERS

30	Anthony Sanchez	(10)
38	Gerardo Rodriguez	(12)
52	Cayden Milton	(12)
68	Angel Rendon	(12)
77	Kevin Silva	(12)
90	Brayan Flores	(9)
98	Diego Arevalo	(11)

Freshman Maldonado finished 33rd out of 144 runners in the girls' 5K.

#### TOP 10 1B/2B STATE TEAMS

1.	Cle Elum-Roslyn	90
2.	Saint George's	95
3.	Chewelah	96
4.	Okanogan	139
5.	Freeman	148
6.	Liberty Bell	169
7.	Mt. Vernon Christian	187
8.	Brewster	207
9.	Coupeville	207
10.	Morton-White Pass	213

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## Quad City Church Guide

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**BREWSTER**

**CALVARY**  
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Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

To place your Church information in the Guide call Ruth at 509-682-2213; email: [ruth@ward.media](mailto:ruth@ward.media)

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# Brewster cheerleaders honored at Senior Night Nov. 8



COURTESY OF BREWSTER SPORTSFACBOOK  
**Kimberly Tinoco**



COURTESY OF BREWSTER SPORTSFACBOOK  
**Lynnette Apolar**



COURTESY OF BREWSTER SPORTSFACBOOK  
**Maddie Sandoval**



COURTESY OF BREWSTER SPORTSFACBOOK  
**Rebeca Ornelas**

# Crusaders, here we come!



MIKE MALTAIS/WARD MEDIA  
**Senior Grace Becker**



MIKE MALTAIS/WARD MEDIA  
**Senior Kenya Pineda**



MIKE MALTAIS/WARD MEDIA  
The Brewster High School varsity girls' soccer team gathers for a Wednesday noon Nov. 13 sendoff to the first round of state soccer competition at 6:30 p.m. later that day against Northwest Christian (Colbert) at Central Valley High School in Spokane. In the District 5 1B/2 B championships the Lady Bears defeated LaSalle, 3-2, in overtime on Nov. 6, followed by a 5-0 win over Pateros on Nov. 9 to advance to state.



MIKE MALTAIS/WARD MEDIA  
Rainy weather did not dampen the sendoff for the state-bound girls soccer team from students lining both side of Seventh Avenue Wednesday noon, Nov. 13.

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# NCW NEWS

www.ncw.news

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## CONNECTING COMMUNITIES ACROSS NORTH CENTRAL WASHINGTON

### Amazon opens new delivery station in NCW

NCW News  
Ward Media

**EAST WENATCHEE** — Amazon has opened a new delivery station in the Wenatchee area, expanding the e-commerce company's logistics network in North Central Washington. The facility, designated WWG5, is located at 3485 NE Trident Way in East Wenatchee and will serve customers throughout the Wenatchee Valley and surrounding areas. The delivery station is expected to create hundreds of local jobs offering competitive wages and comprehensive benefits packages, including health,

vision, and dental insurance. "We are thrilled to open this new delivery station in Wenatchee, which will enhance the speed and reliability of our services for customers across the region while creating valuable job opportunities," said Easton Craft, Manager of Economic Development Policy at Amazon. "Our team is committed to being an engaged partner in the Wenatchee Valley, working with local organizations to ensure that the benefits of this facility extend well beyond delivery efficiency and into long-term economic growth for the community." Local legislators have

welcomed the development's impact on regional employment and economic growth. State Senator Brad Hawkins (District 12) helped facilitate Amazon's expansion into the area. "I'm very excited that Amazon selected the Wenatchee Valley for its next delivery station," Hawkins said. "This facility will put a lot of people to work, improve deliveries to local businesses and families, and help grow and diversify our regional economy. As our State Senator, I was excited to connect with the Amazon team early on about this opportunity, and I thank the Regional Port, Douglas County

Commissioners, and others for helping to make this happen. This is an awesome step forward for our region." Senator Shelly Short of the 7th Legislative District spoke about the facility's workforce development plans. "Amazon's delivery station in Wenatchee is more than an economic boost; it's an investment in our local talent," Short said. "I commend Amazon for offering job opportunities that come with educational benefits, which provide a sustainable way for employees to grow and thrive. This facility will support not only Wenatchee but also nearby communities by fostering career advancement and strengthening our regional



COURTESY OF AMAZON  
**An Amazon Prime delivery van outside a home reflects the company's expansion into the Wenatchee Valley with its new delivery station, which aims to enhance service across North Central Washington.**

workforce." The opening adds to Amazon's investment in Washington state's economic infrastructure, with the company stating the facility will enhance delivery speeds while creating economic opportunities for the Wenatchee Valley region.

### East Wenatchee deploys nation's first hydrogen-powered patrol vehicle



COURTESY OF CITY OF EAST WENATCHEE  
**Officials gather with East Wenatchee's new hydrogen-powered Toyota Mirai police vehicle, believed to be the first hydrogen fuel cell police car in the nation.**

NCW News  
Ward Media

**EAST WENATCHEE** — The East Wenatchee Police Department has become what officials believe is the first law enforcement agency in the nation to deploy a hydrogen-powered police vehicle, following an interlocal agreement with Douglas County Public Utility District. The partnership, which includes collaboration with the Bonneville Environmental Foundation and Toyota, introduces a 2019 Toyota Mirai hydrogen fuel cell vehicle into the department's fleet under a four-year lease agreement. The initiative emerged after Douglas County PUD received four used Toyota Mirai vehicles through a Toyota grant program designed to demonstrate renewable hydrogen's potential as a clean fuel

alternative. "We're excited to explore the viability of hydrogen fuel cells in our community and encourage other agencies with fleet vehicles to consider adding hydrogen-powered cars to their operations," said Gary Ivory, General Manager of Douglas PUD. "The East Wenatchee Police Department's use of the Mirai will provide valuable real-world data to help us understand the practical benefits and challenges of hydrogen technology as we continue to expand its use." The agreement ensures that hydrogen fuel costs will not exceed current fuel prices, with an automatic renewal option following the initial four-year term. The arrangement builds upon previous collaborative efforts between the two agencies, including a 2023 electric fleet

vehicle infrastructure pilot project. "Our department drives more miles than the PUD, so this is an ideal chance to learn from our experience. We're eager to see how hydrogen-powered vehicles perform in a law enforcement setting and help refine the integration of hydrogen fuel cells into our operations," Chief Johnson said. The department has already experienced success with alternative fuel vehicles. "We've already seen significant success with the Ford Lightning EV truck," Chief Johnson said. "It costs about \$3 per shift to charge, compared to \$50-\$70 per shift for traditional fuel. These types of opportunities help us explore new options that are both cost-effective and environmentally sustainable." "We value our relationship with Douglas County PUD

and together we're making important strides that will help improve efficiency and reduce our environmental impact, paving the way for a brighter future for our community," said Mayor Crawford. The initiative coincides with ongoing construction of a renewable hydrogen production facility near Baker Flats, scheduled to begin commercial production in the first quarter of 2025. The facility is expected to produce hydrogen from renewable resources, contributing to maintenance cost reduction at the Wells Hydroelectric Project. *The City of East Wenatchee, incorporated in 1935, stands as Douglas County's largest municipality and is historically significant as the landing site of Miss Veedol, the first nonstop trans-Pacific flight.*

### WA Supreme Court weighs controversial step to solve public defense crisis

By **JERRY CORNFIELD**  
Washington State Standard

**OLYMPIA** - Supporters and opponents of a proposal to slash public defender caseloads in Washington made their closing arguments to the state Supreme Court on Wednesday, November 14. For two hours, justices listened to speakers weigh in on a request to amend the Supreme Court's standards for indigent defense by trimming the number of cases public defense attorneys handle each year by up to two-thirds. This was the second and final public hearing on changes first put forth by the Washington State Bar Association. Justices will consider the testimony and trove of public comments submitted in recent weeks

before deciding what, if any action to take. They next meet Dec. 4. "I don't know if we'll be taking action or not in that time frame," Chief Justice Steven Gonzalez said at the close of the hearing. "But you'll hear more from us as we decide on the process from here." There's a shortage of public defenders in Washington. Supporters contend that large caseloads and low pay are driving people out of public defense and deterring new lawyers from entering the profession. The proposed standards address one part of the equation. "When we issued standards last time, it helped us retain people. These standards will help us recruit," said Jason Schwarz, director of the

Snohomish County Office of Public Defense and chair of the Washington State Bar Association's Council on Public Defense. In counties where the lack of public defenders is most pronounced, those accused of crimes, but unable to afford a lawyer, wait long periods before receiving counsel they are constitutionally guaranteed. In October, the ACLU filed a class-action lawsuit against Yakima County and other parties on behalf of individuals who had waited weeks before getting an attorney assigned to their case. "People's rights should not be violated. There is anxiety. The people are being traumatized by sitting in jail for long times," said Dominique Davis, founder

and chief executive officer of Community Passageways, a Seattle nonprofit focused on felony diversion and prevention. Prosecutors have been concerned that reducing defenders' workloads will lead to the filing of fewer cases to ensure no one's rights to counsel are violated. That will result in less justice for crime victims and could spark an increase in vigilantism by those who feel the system isn't working for them, they said. Okanogan County Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Teddy Chow implored the justices to discard the proposal which he called an "unnecessary, short-sighted, unreasonable and corrosive rule."



JERRY CORNFIELD / WASHINGTON STATE STANDARD  
**Ryan Mello, chair of the Pierce County Council, addresses the Washington State Supreme Court on a proposal to revise the caseload standards for public defenders on Nov. 13, 2024.**

See **WA COURT** Page B2

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CONNECTING COMMUNITIES ACROSS NORTH CENTRAL WASHINGTON

With WA courts' online systems down, thousands of firearm sales on hold

By JERRY CORNFIELD

Washington State Standard

OLYMPIA - Washington state courts' computer systems have been down for nearly two weeks, disrupting the operation of local courts and preventing the completion of thousands of firearm sales.

The Administrative Office of the Courts announced Nov. 4 that the state's Judicial Information Systems, Washington courts website and associated networks, and databases were taken offline after detecting "unauthorized activity." Service is not expected to be fully restored until next week at the earliest.

"Good progress is being made, but it is extremely time consuming to bring our systems back up in a

secure environment due to the complexity and interconnectivity of the networks," Wendy Ferrell, associate director for the state Administrative Office of the Courts, said Tuesday.

On Facebook, court officials said Tuesday that so far "there is no evidence that any court or personal data has been accessed, altered or removed during the unauthorized activity that was detected." They noted that reconnecting trial and appellate courts "safely to the services they need is our number one priority."

Last Friday, the state Supreme Court issued an emergency order empowering local courts to adjust timelines for filing of cases, trials and sentencing. It also permits them to delay arraignments

and first appearances of those facing charges but out of custody if the courts are unable to connect to the network and databases.

Meanwhile, since Nov. 1, completion of gun purchases has been held up because the Washington State Patrol cannot access the Secure Automated Firearms E-Check system to conduct mandatory background checks. Typically, the patrol's Firearms Background Division does between 400 and 1,000 checks a day.

Chris Loftis, State Patrol's director of communications, said the cybersecurity issues have significant ramifications for buyers and dealers.

"We know they have a right to get their background check. We know they have a right to get their firearms," he said.

"But the bridge is out. That's the reality. It's frustrating for the customers, for the dealers and for us."

A gun rights group threatened Tuesday to sue if the problem isn't remedied soon.

"This is simply unacceptable, and we will not tolerate it," said Alan Gottlieb, founder and executive vice president of the Second Amendment Foundation in Bellevue.

"As the saying goes, 'A right delayed is a right denied,' and the state has denied untold numbers of citizens their right to obtain firearms for almost two weeks," he said in a press release. "When the system is restored, we expect the WSP to work day and night to expedite background checks already on hold."

The state patrol isn't the only agency affected.

On Tuesday, the state Department of Children, Youth and Families issued a statement that the system outage "has been impacting our ability to complete background checks and likely will impact the hiring process for DCYF employees, providers, and foster parent applications."

In its statement, the department said the system had been down since Nov. 1 and was expected to be restored by Tuesday. The court network and databases are needed for carrying out background checks. However, the agency can still access the National Crime Information Center for Child Welfare placements and child protective service investigations.

And the Washington State Gambling Commission is

dealing with a similar challenge.

"The agency mission is to protect the public by ensuring gambling is legal and honest. Part of this is our review of applicants for licenses to ensure they qualify for licensure and there is no disqualifying information that may affect the approval of that license," Troy Kirby, commission public information officer, wrote in an email. "That review is accomplished with access to information on the [Washington] court site."

Washington State Standard (www.washingtonstatestandard.com) is part of States Newsroom, a nonprofit news network supported by grants and a coalition of donors as a 501c(3) public charity.

With \$10B deficit looming, WA governor calls on state agencies to make cuts

By JERRY CORNFIELD

Washington State Standard

OLYMPIA - Washington Gov. Jay Inslee is warning of a budget deficit in excess of \$10 billion and calling on state agencies to pare spending now to deal with it.

A Nov. 8 memo from Inslee's budget director cited rising costs, increasing demand for public services and lower-than-expected tax collections for a projected operating budget shortfall between \$10 billion and \$12 billion over the next four years.

Cuts are needed to balance the spending plan Inslee will release next month for the 2025-27 biennium.

"The Governor's operating budget will prioritize continuing essential programs and addressing caseload increases, while not expanding existing programs and services," Pat Sullivan, director of the Office of Financial Management, wrote in the memo.

Transportation budget projections also have trended down for several forecasts creating a situation where revenues are not covering

current commitments, Sullivan said.

Sullivan directed cabinet agencies to submit cost-saving options, like hiring freezes and pausing or delaying programs, by Friday, Nov. 15. And he urged presidents of higher education institutions and separately elected officials to undertake a similar exercise.

At least two agencies — Department of Social and Health Services and Department of Transportation — imposed hiring freezes, with exceptions for some essential posts.

Sullivan warned of "tough fiscal choices ahead" following release of the September revenue forecast but declined then to quantify the amount of the projected deficit.

Another forecast is coming out next week. That will give Inslee a final piece of information for the budget proposal he will release in December. It will serve as a template for lawmakers and Gov.-elect Bob Ferguson when they write spending plans in the 2025 session.

It's going to be a challenge, said Sen. June Robinson, D-Everett, chair of the Senate

Ways and Means Committee and the chamber's lead budget writer.

"They are not overstating it," she said of the projected deficit amount. "Because of the magnitude, we're going to need to look at a range of options."

Asked if the "options" included spending cuts and new revenue, she said yes.

The current two-year operating budget is about \$72 billion.

The deficit spans the next two budget cycles. It represents the difference between the anticipated costs of current and promised services and programs and the projected amount of revenue that will come in to pay for them. Put another way, state agencies need \$10 billion to \$12 billion in additional funding to maintain current programs and services.

Senate Minority Leader John Braun, R-Centralia, estimated the cost of maintaining the current level of services in the 2025-27 budget will drive base spending for the biennium to roughly \$76 billion.

While the deficit "is a big number, it is not an unmanageable number,"

he said. "I have absolute confidence we can deal with this without new taxes and can live within our means."

Ferguson and his team are aware of the letter and the governor's staff will be briefing them in the coming weeks, according to an Inslee spokesperson.

The state Department of Social and Health Services implemented a hiring freeze with exemptions for staff in essential and direct care positions. They also put a hold on new equipment purchases, as well as contracts and travel not already approved.

The state Department of Transportation also froze hiring. There are exceptions for jobs like Washington State Ferries crews and winter maintenance.

"While we have not been directed to do this, it is one logical step we can take to slow our spending while the transportation budget is contemplated during the legislative session," said Kris Abrudan, acting senior director of external relations for the transportation department.

Education is the single largest component of the

budget and Superintendent of Public Instruction Chris Reykdal requested an increase of nearly \$3 billion for public schools in the next budget. A third of that is to fully fund special education.

"These types of exercises from OFM are not uncommon," Katy Payne, OSPI chief communications officer, wrote in an email. "While there are always competing priorities and limited resources, the state has both federal and

state level obligations it must meet in order to ensure all Washington students receive the high-quality public education that they are constitutionally owed."

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BILL LUCIA/WASHINGTON STATE STANDARD  
Gov. Jay Inslee speaks to members of the press on Jan. 4, ahead of the 2024 Washington state legislative session.

Boeing strike drives WA job losses in October

NCW News  
Ward Media

OLYMPIA — Washington state's economy shed 35,900 jobs in October, primarily due to a major strike by Boeing machinists, while the unemployment rate slightly decreased to 4.7%, state officials reported Wednesday.

The substantial job losses were largely attributed to the aerospace sector, which saw a reduction of 31,000 jobs during the month. The drop marked an unusual shift from recent trends of minimal employment changes.

"October shows an unusually high drop in jobs, unlike the relatively small changes over

the past several months," said Anneliese Vance-Sherman, chief labor economist for the Employment Security Department. "This is largely a reflection of the now-resolved strike by Boeing machinists."

Despite the significant job losses, several sectors showed growth. Government employment increased by 2,400

positions, while education and health services added 1,800 jobs, with notable gains in ambulatory health care services.

The leisure and hospitality sector experienced the second-largest decline, losing 5,400 jobs. Other services (-1,500), transportation and warehousing (-1,200), and construction (-800) also reported losses.

The state's labor force contracted by 6,924 workers to 3,995,931 in October. The

number of unemployed individuals decreased from 190,150 to 187,951.

Year-over-year data showed mixed results, with Washington gaining a net 9,100 jobs since October 2023. While public sector employment grew by 4.1% (24,300 jobs), private sector employment declined by 0.51% (15,200 jobs).

The national unemployment rate remained steady at 4.1% in October, compared

to Washington's 4.7%. Both figures represent increases from October 2023, when unemployment rates stood at 3.8% for both the state and nation.

Employment Security paid unemployment benefits to 57,057 people in October, an increase of 3,143 from September, with manufacturing and construction sectors contributing significantly to the rise in claims.

WA Court

Continued from page B1

And if the public defender ranks grow, cities and counties will need to amp up hiring of staff and prosecutors to keep pace and that will be exorbitantly expensive.

To cover the tab, local government leaders said Wednesday that they will be forced to divert dollars from other important programs.

Ryan Mello, chair of the

Pierce County Council, addresses the Washington State Supreme Court on a proposal to revise the caseload standards for public defenders on Nov. 13, 2024. (Jerry Cornfield / Washington State Standard)

Ryan Mello, Pierce County Council chair and the county executive-elect, warned imposing the standard will cause "real harm" to the criminal justice services and other critical services.

He urged the justices to

help lobby lawmakers and the governor for funding to stabilize the public defense system and to adopt a "realistic phased implementation" of the standards.

Under standards adopted by the state Supreme Court in 2012, a full-time public defense attorney or assigned counsel should have no more than 150 felony cases a year.

Last year, the American Bar Association, the National Center for State Courts and the RAND Justice Policy Program

released the National Public Defense Workload Study that concluded public defenders should handle far fewer.

Washington's high court asked the Washington State Bar Association to weigh in on whether the cap needs adjusting. The association responded in March with the recommendation now under public review for new maximums of 47 felony or 120 misdemeanor cases in a year, depending on the severity. The reduction would be

phased in over three years.

Judge Kristin Ferrera of Chelan County, president of the Superior Court Judges Association, said the crisis is real but the timeline for caseload changes is too short and will create hardships in some counties. The association recommends carrying out the first phase of reduction but delaying the later phases to assess if the situation changes.

Justices can accept, reject or modify any or all of

the proposals. There is no deadline to act. Any decision will be handled similar to a court case where they confer behind closed doors then issue a decision and explanation.

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**Real Estate**

**Home Wanted**

**Greetings, fellow Chelan County residents and beyond!**  
This is a search to purchase a first-time home in a place that has nurtured me since childhood, with generational roots extending deep into this valley's rich history. I want to invest in a place of my own and continue contributing to the community I cherish. I am simply taking "a leap of faith" by posting this ad to open doors that otherwise might remain closed. Maybe for the best intentions, this will catch someone's eye, maybe someone who's starting a new chapter in life and would like to pass on an opportunity or foster a connection beyond the mere exchange of finances. I'm searching for a "unicorn," ideally a place outside the city proper (Wenatchee, Cashmere, Leavenworth, Peshastin/Dryden, Plain), surrounded by nature. A space offering at least 1-2 acres of land to cultivate a more sustainable living with a single-family home, minimum of one bathroom and two bedrooms. Additional space is a plus that provides an environment for a creative space or business practice. Ultimately, I am patient in waiting for the right time, fit, and price, as the purpose of this venture is to acquire a long-term home. In financial and purchasing preparedness, I have already established relationships with a local loan lender (approved for a 30-year conventional loan) and a real estate agent. An excellent credit score, low debt-to-income ratio, and funds for a down deposit. I understand the value of honoring and building upon the legacy that encompasses a beloved home or property. If a space you know of sounds like a possible match, please reach out to further connect. For privacy & protection from scams/misplaced intentions, I can be contacted via email at [pnwholisticsoul@gmail.com](mailto:pnwholisticsoul@gmail.com). Thank you & warmest regards. A hopeful first-time home buyer

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**Public Notices**

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE METHOW-OKANOGAN RECLAMATION DISTRICT**  
WILL HOLD THEIR ANNUAL EQUALIZATION MEETING ON DECEMBER 10, AT 5:00 P.M. THE MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE GEBBERS FARMS FIELD OFFICE AT 716 MAIN AVE. BREWSTER, WA, 98812. Published in the Quad City Herald on November 20, 27, 2024. #8872

**Public Notices**

**NOTICE OF EQUALIZATION**  
Notice is hereby given that the assessment book of Brewster Flat Irrigation District, in Okanogan County, Washington for the year 2025, has been completed and delivered to the Board of Directors. Assessment book will remain for the inspection of all parties interested and that the Board of Directors will meet as a Board of Equalization Monday, December 9, 2024 at the hour of 5:15 p.m. of said day at the office of said District, which is at 94A Mountain View Dr. Brewster, at which time and place all persons objecting to said assessments may be heard. Published in the Quad City Herald on November 20, 27, 2024. #8896

**Public Notices**

**SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR DOUGLAS COUNTY BRIDGEPORT BETHEL ASSEMBLY GOD OF WASHINGTON, a Washington nonprofit corporation, Plaintiff, vs. BETHEL CHURCH OF BRIDGEPORT, a Washington nonprofit corporation, Defendant. NO. 24-2-00450-09 AMENDED**  
**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION**  
TO: Defendants, BETHEL CHURCH OF BRIDGEPORT, a Washington nonprofit corporation, occupants of the premises and any parties or persons claiming to have any right, title, estate lien, or interest in the real property described in the Complaint: You are hereby summoned to appear within sixty (60) days after the date of the first publication of this Summons, to it, within sixty (60) days after the 30th day of October, 2024 and defend the real property foreclosure in Douglas County, Washington and answer the Complaint of BRIDGEPORT BETHEL ASSEMBLY GOD OF WASHINGTON, a Washington nonprofit corporation ("Plaintiff"). You are asked to serve a copy of your Answer or responsive pleading upon the undersigned attorneys for the Plaintiff at its office stated below. In case of your failure to do so judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the Complaint which has been filed with the Clerk of the Court. The purpose of this lawsuit is to quiet title as to the interest of the Defendant in the real property located in Douglas County, Washington and legally described as:

**Public Notices**

**Public Notices**

Lot 11, Block 91, Original Town of Bridgeport, Douglas County, Washington. According to the Plat thereof Recorded in Volume 4 of Plats at Page 66-72, Douglas County, Washington Parcel No. 00209101100, and commonly known as 1637 Fisk Ave, Bridgeport, WA 98113. DATED this 21st day of October, 2024.  
**DILLE LAW, PLLC**  
Bryce H. Dille, WSBA #2862  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
1800 Cooper Point Rd SW Bldg 11  
Olympia, WA 98502  
Published in the Quad City Herald on October 30, November 6, 13, 20, 27, December 4, 2024. #8784

**Public Notices**

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CHELAN Estate of JOHN R. MYERS, Deceased. NO. 24-4-00416-04 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. 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(3); 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 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets. DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: November 20, 2024  
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Debra J. Bunch  
ATTORNEY FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Jeffrey T. Fehr  
ADDRESS FOR MAILING OR SERVICE: Fehr Law Office, PLLC P.O. Box 1606 Chelan, WA 98816 509-682-4536  
Court of probate proceedings and cause no.: Superior Court of Washington in and for Chelan County, Cause No. 24-4-00416-04  
Published in the Quad City Herald on November 20, 27, December 4, 2024. #8924



**GAME & PUZZLE WORD SEARCH**

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

**WORDS**

- ACTION
- ADVENTURE
- ANAGRAM
- APPLICATIONS
- ARITHMETIC
- BOARD
- BRAIN TEASER
- CARDS
- CHARADES
- COMPUTER
- CONSOLE
- COSPLAY
- CROSSWORD
- CRYPTOGRAM
- CUBE
- GAMES
- MAZE
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- PUZZLE
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# Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

Get puzzle answers, recipes and more at [www.kidscoop.com](http://www.kidscoop.com)

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**Kid Scoop Together**

## Cheese Versus Person

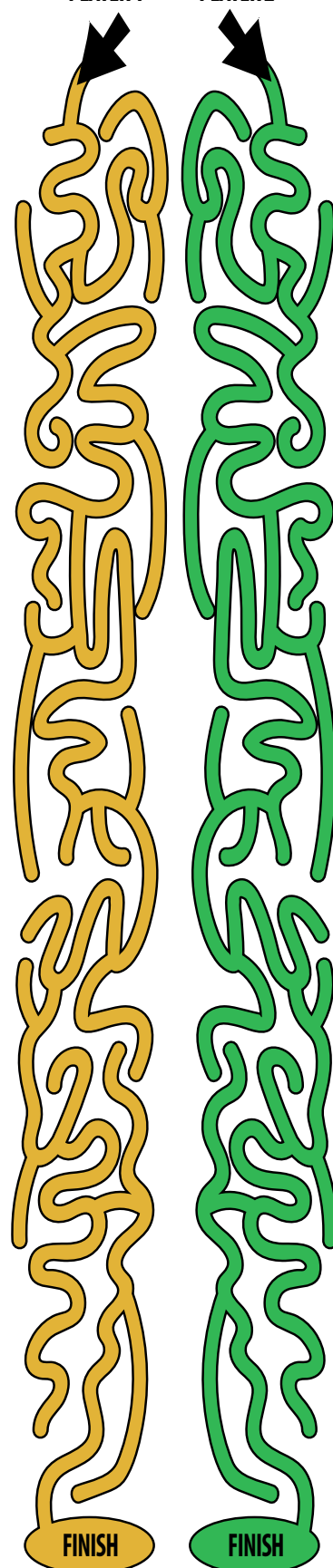
Each year in May at Cooper's Hill near Gloucester, England, people try to beat a rolling wheel of cheese down a big, steep hill.



Race against a friend or family member to see who can run down the maze hill first!

PLAYER 1

PLAYER 2



## Sports Surprise!

What do you think of when you think of sports? Many people think of sports such as soccer, football, baseball and basketball.

There are hundreds, maybe thousands of sports played all over the world. We went looking for some of the most surprising!



### Egg and Spoon Race

Competitors carry an egg on a spoon and race to cross the finish line first, without dropping and breaking their egg!

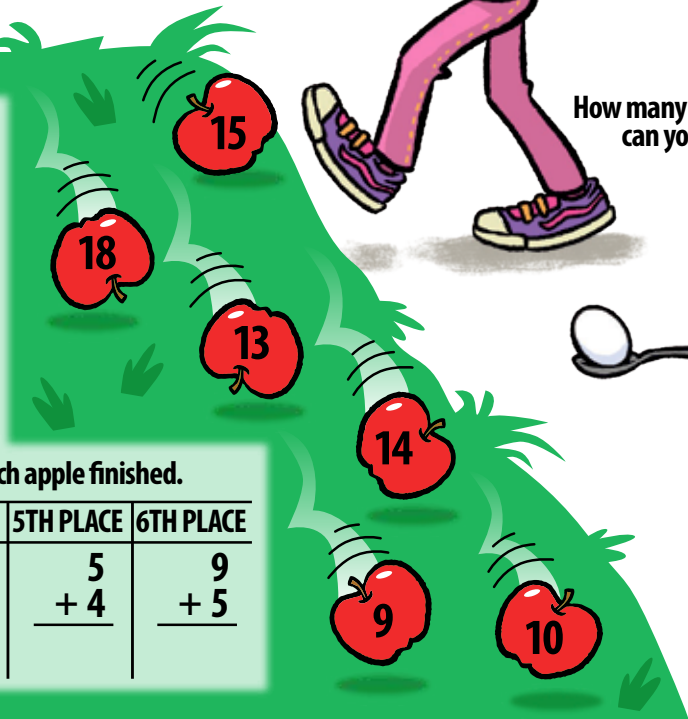
Holding the spoon with two hands or touching the egg with hands is not allowed. If a competitor drops the egg, they have to pick it up, put it back onto the spoon and balance it before they can resume running.

How many differences can you find?



### Apple Racing

In Tasmania, Australia, people drop apples from a bridge and watch the apples bob down the Houn River for 300 meters (328 feet). The owner of the first apple to cross the finish line wins. The Rotary Club of Houn Valley raises money by selling apples.



Which apple won? Do the math to see how each apple finished.

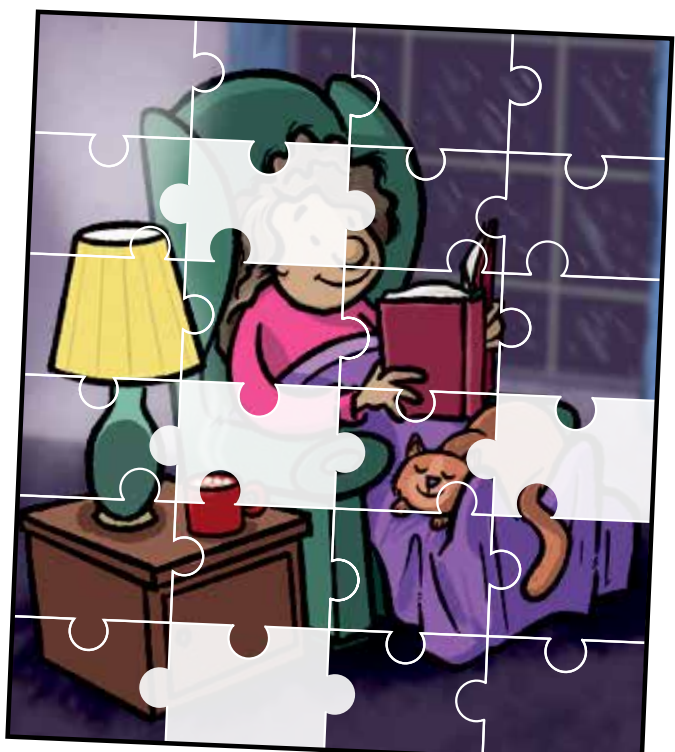
1ST PLACE	2ND PLACE	3RD PLACE	4TH PLACE	5TH PLACE	6TH PLACE
6	8	6	9	5	9
+7	+7	+4	+9	+4	+5

Standards Link: Math: Calculate sums and differences.

### Speed Puzzlers

Often people think of doing jigsaw puzzles as relaxing. But some puzzlers also see it as a chance to see who can put a puzzle together the fastest.

Draw lines to show where each missing puzzle piece belongs. Can you do it in under 60 seconds? Ready? Set? GO!



Standards Link: Language Arts: Follow simple, written directions.

### Puzzle Pros

Use the code to discover some amazing puzzle facts!

= 0   
  = 2   
  = 4   
  = 6   
  = 8  
 = 1   
  = 3   
  = 5   
  = 7   
  = 9

In 2020, Sarah Mills of the United Kingdom completed a 1,000-piece puzzle in    hour and    minutes. That's    one piece each    seconds!

Students at Vietnam's University of Economics put together a massive   -piece puzzle! This puzzle measured nearly    feet by    feet (14.85 x 23.2 meters).

It took    students    hours to put this big picture of a lotus flower together.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Read informational text.

The fastest time to complete

a   -piece jigsaw puzzle is    minutes and    seconds, set by Alejandro Clemente León at the 2023 World Jigsaw Puzzle Championship.

**Extra! Extra!**

### Newspaper Ball Games

Scrunch up several pages of a newspaper to make a big ball. Wrap the ball in tape to hold it all together. Play catch with your ball. Or hit it back and forth like in a volleyball game. What else can you do with your newspaper ball?

Standards Link: Make reasonable assertions through supportive citation. Analyze text.

### Kid Scoop Puzzler

#### What is a Good Sport?

A person with a good attitude in difficult situations is often called a good sport. Which person is being a good sport?

"My team didn't win but that's because this is a dumb game and the referees were terrible."



YES  NO

"We lost today, but it was still fun. The other team just played a little better."



YES  NO

"We won, but it wasn't easy. The other team is really good!"



YES  NO

### Double Double Word Search

- APPLES
- BALL
- BIG
- BRIDGE
- EGG
- HOLD
- HOUR
- JIGSAW
- LOTUS
- PIECE
- PLACE
- PUZZLE
- SPOON
- TAPE
- TIME

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

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

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

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### Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word:  
**COMPETITOR**

The noun **competitor** means a person, group, or thing that tries to win or get something others are trying to get.

Each **competitor** agreed to play by the rules of the hockey league.

Try to use the word **competitor** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

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