

The Leavenworth Echo

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NCW News | B1-B2

Cascade High School program prepares student for workforce



COURTESY OF KIRK SUNITSCH

Cascade High School partners with Chelan County Fire District #3 for hands-on firefighting experience.



COURTESY OF KIRK SUNITSCH

CTE Visual Arts teacher Teara Dillon helps students explore different career paths in the arts.

By **Taylor Caldwell**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

LEAVENWORTH – As Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month highlights post-secondary training in schools nationwide, Cascade High School (CHS) is preparing its own students for success as they enter the workforce, pursue technical education, or attend a four-year university.

The high school's CTE program offers seven career connected learning areas with ten pathways, including early childhood development, computer science, fire

science and wildland fire, sports medicine, and more. These courses combine classroom instruction with hands-on projects and learning outside the classroom.

"For a small district like this, we do offer quite a few pathways, opportunities for kids to experience or pursue," said Cascade High School CTE Director Kirk Sunitsch.

The program is set up to provide students with post-secondary readiness by not only applying lessons to real world experiences, but also offering college credits and certifications to students at no cost. Before they graduate, students can

earn their food handlers permit, first aid and CPR certification, red card for wildland firefighting, and more.

CTE has also been able to expand its range in technology courses under the TEALS program with Microsoft. At no cost to the school, Computer Science and Information Technology teacher Tammy Murphy has been able to bring in industry professionals that help teach the content through the lens of real world application.

"I think the tech part has been probably one of the most awe inspiring...When I first started teaching, I taught typing," said

Sunitsch.

TEALS is just one of the many partners the CTE program works with to provide a hands-on experience for the students. Most of these partners are based in the community, and are even walking distance from the high school.

"I think the unique thing too is how connected we are with our community and our community partners...and the willingness for them to do projects with us and participate," said Sunitsch.

For instance, natural resource

See **HIGH SCHOOL** Page **B2**

Federal cuts hit Wenatchee River Ranger District, threatening Leavenworth backcountry

By **Taylor Caldwell**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

LEAVENWORTH – Ten U.S. Forest Service employees have been fired at the Wenatchee River Ranger District Office amid agency wide cuts, with fears that more agency firings are on the way.

"It feels like...We're kind of the canary in the coal mine...This is like the beginning of actions that are going to really start affecting everyday people, not just government employees," said Lead Wilderness Ranger Kyle Warden, who was included in the Wenatchee River Ranger District terminations.

The employees were among 3,400 Forest Service employees that were fired by Presidents Day as billionaire Elon Musk and President Donald Trump have taken swift actions to cut federal spending.

"These cuts to the Forest Service are devastating, in particular for my district, the eighth congressional district, just because we have vast expanses of national forest land," Congresswoman Kim Schrier (D-District 8) told Ward Media. "The people who keep our forests safe and protected are critically important."

A Shrinking Staff

The Wenatchee River Ranger District (WRRD), based in Leavenworth, has three field crews that oversee and maintain roughly 800 miles of trail and approximately 696,000 acres. This acreage contains large parts of three congressionally designated Wilderness areas: the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, Henry M. Jackson Wilderness, and Glacier Peak Wilderness.

See **FEDERAL CUTS** Page **A3**



COURTESY OF OWEN WICKENHEISER

Former temporary seasonal employee Evan Melcher sets up a fire closure on a trail.



COURTESY OF OWEN WICKENHEISER

Wickenheiser protests federal cuts on Presidents Day.

Chelan County Commissioners finalize short-term rental code changes

By **Taylor Caldwell**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

WENATCHEE – After receiving public comment and recommendations from the Planning Commission, the Board of Chelan County Commissioners (BOCC) formally adopted changes to the short-term rental (STR) code on Feb. 18.

Last year, the BOCC tasked the Planning Commission with reviewing portions of the short-term rental code, which was originally adopted in 2021.

Of these considerations, the Planning Commission was asked to consider whether children 24 months and younger should be included in

occupancy counts. STR owners were supportive of this change, which would align with the occupancy standards of booking platforms. The commissioners decided to leave the code as is, which counts children in occupancy rates, regardless of age.

Commissioners agreed to maintain the same percentages of maximum number of short-term rentals allowed in designated areas, with the Manson area lowered from nine to six percent at the request of the Manson Community Council.

Under the new updates, property owners will need an initial inspection of new short-term rentals by the Chelan County Fire Marshal's office, rather than an applicable fire district.

While self-inspections for health and safety are encouraged annually, the updated code now requires that Fire and Life Safety Inspections are performed every other year by the office.

Parking standards were updated to require that the number of vehicles allowed at short-term rental must include any boats, trailers, campers, personal watercraft or other similar vehicles. Additionally, short-term rentals will be allowed to park in setbacks, in alignment with homes that are not short-term rentals, as long as they provide proof of two parking spaces outside of the setback.

Signage verbiage was updated to

clarify the intent of the code. Signs must be all-weather, permanently posted, and include the permit number and phone number of a qualified person or local contact who can be on-site in 60 minutes.

Lastly, code surrounding annual renewal payment updated to include a schedule of renewal application acceptance and late fees. Applications are accepted between Sept. 1 and Oct. 31. Between Nov. 1 and Nov. 30, applicants must pay a late fee of twice the permit fee in addition to the renewal fee, with the permit fee tripling between Dec. 1 and Dec. 31.

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

Point in Time Count shows mixed picture of homelessness in Chelan, Douglas counties

NCW News
Ward Media

WENATCHEE — The 2025 Point in Time Count for Chelan and Douglas counties showed fewer people living unsheltered but more utilizing emergency shelters and temporary housing services.

The annual count, conducted on January 30, documented 104 unsheltered individuals, a decrease of 37 people from the previous year's count of 141. The sheltered population rose by 64 people, with 405 individuals staying in emergency shelters, RV Safe Parks, transitional housing, or emergency hotel/motel voucher programs.

"Data collected during the Point in Time Count is intended to be a snapshot of homelessness on this one night in our community," said Madison Calloway, coordinator of the Chelan County Homeless Program. "The PIT Count helps to measure and monitor trends and changes in homelessness on local and national levels."

The survey found that 88 of the unsheltered individuals identified as chronically homeless, while 46 reported experiencing homelessness for the first time. Demographics showed most surveyed individuals were white (63 people) and male (61 people), with an average age of 47 years.

Housing and economic factors emerged as leading contributors to homelessness, with 24 people each citing job loss/unemployment and eviction/loss of housing as causes. Health-related issues also affected housing status, with 15 people reporting mental illness and nine each attributing their situation to physical illness and substance use.

The count's expanded reach this year included participation from fifteen agencies and covered previously underserved rural areas. "We had a great turnout of outreach volunteers and agencies participating this year," Calloway said. "This allowed us to target the more rural areas that we had not been able to target in previous years, and contributed to the event's overall success."

Among those surveyed, 66 expressed willingness to stay in shelters if space was available, while 48 declined shelter options. The most

See **POINT IN TIME** Page **B2**



COURTESY OF CHELAN COUNTY

Outreach workers Mathena and Torres document an outdoor living site during the Point in Time Count. The 2025 survey found 42 people living outdoors in locations not meant for habitation, part of the total 104 unsheltered individuals counted across the two-county region.

Inside The Echo this Week

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The Leavenworth Echo 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 letters@ward.media.

Corrections

The Leavenworth Echo regrets any errors. If you see an error, please call 509-548-5286. We will publish a correction on this page in the next issue.

News tips

Have an idea for a story? Call the Echo at 509-731-4392 email news@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!

Red Barn Event: Cottonwoods - Unlocking Our Rivers' Histories

Join us Thursday, February 27, 7 p.m. - 8 p.m. for a hybrid event at Wenatchee River Institute's Red Barn 347 Division Street, Leavenworth or livestream via our YouTube Channel

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for a community social with beer and wine available for purchase. The presentation will start at 7:00 p.m.

This presentation, partnered with the Wenatchee Valley chapter of the Native Plant Society and the Pacific Northwest chapter of the Society of Wetland Scientists, is all about the river specialists called cottonwoods. We'll talk about how these trees evolved and what they can tell us about a river's history and diversity. Streaming link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rAYduajgr7M>

For more information, visit jschaub@wenatcheeriverinstitute.org 509-548-0181, ext. 5

Cirque Kalabante - Strength, Spirit, Spectacle

Join us at the Numerica Performing Arts Center on

Thursday, Feb 27 at 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. for Cirque Kalabante. Afrique en Cirque is a show by Yamoussa Bangoura, inspired by daily life in Guinea. This performance shares the beauty, youth, and artistry of African culture. A colorful show beyond its scenery, costumes, and staging, it makes any theatre vibrate with energy and represents the strength, agility, and life's joy of young Africans. The audience will see acrobats execute gravity-defying moves and human pyramids, accompanied by the contemporary sound of live Afro-Jazz, percussion, and kora. Welcome to the universe of Kalabante Productions, and prepare for an unforgettable journey.

Numerica Performing Arts Center 123 N Wenatchee Ave, Wenatchee

For more information, visit <https://numericapac.org/>

Make Your Own Glass @ Boulder Bend Glassworks

Interactive glassblowing experience at Boulder Bend Glassworks at 8210 US Highway 2, Leavenworth WA. 98826 on March 1, from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. During this workshop you'll have the opportunity to choose and create your own unique

glass piece(s) under the guidance of Craig or Jori. Each participant will enjoy a hands-on experience in the hot shop, witnessing the transformation of molten glass into a stunning work of art. We look forward to sharing our passion for glass with you.

Prices are \$300 per session. Sign up today via our website or in person. Advance reservations highly recommended, but limited walk-ins are welcome on a space availability basis.

For more information, visit www.boulderbendglassworks.com or call/text at (509) 881-1320

Mountain Music Series: Live Music with the Bandits of the Animal Kingdom

Come experience the vibe of live music on the mountain in the Hampton Lodge on Saturday, March 1 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Take a break from your night turns, or just head up for a night of good music, dancing, food, and drinks at a higher elevation. The action goes down on the



5 THINGS TO DO THIS WEEK

Ka Wham Cafe side of the lodge but can also be enjoyed from the Chair 5 Pub. Mountain Music Series nights are free and are all-ages events.

Location - Mission Ridge Ski Area 7500 Mission Ridge Road Wenatchee

For more information, visit missionridge.com (509) 663-6543

Snowshoe Strolls

Starting from the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery at 12790 Fish Hatchery Rd. in Leavenworth, join Wenatchee River Institute naturalist guides on a one-mile snowshoe trail along beautiful Icicle Creek on Saturday, March 1, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. We will learn about native wildlife and ecology along the

way. What signs do we see along the trail that tell us what animals were there? How do the plants and animals survive winter? Even if this is your first time on snowshoes, come along and enjoy this fun outdoor winter program! Bring your enthusiasm for the wonders of winter and nature, and make sure to dress in warm layers. The area is not ADA accessible due to non-plowed trails. We provide snowshoes, gaiters, and poles. Limit of 12 participants per group. Registration required for everyone in the party. We offer the Pay What You Can model in recognition that paying for education programs looks different for different people.

For more information, visit info@wenatcheeriverinstitute.org (509) 548-7641

Icicle Creek work group to showcase \$9 Million in water projects at public meeting



COURTESY OF CHELAN COUNTY

A contractor for the Cascade Orchard Irrigation Company lays irrigation pipe last summer on Shore Street in Leavenworth. The irrigation project will modernize the system from a gravity-flow to a closed-pressurized system. The project is on schedule to be completed by May 1 for the start of the 2025 irrigation season.

NCW News
Ward Media

LEAVENWORTH — The Icicle Creek Work Group will host a public open house on February 26 to showcase progress on multiple water management and infrastructure projects in the Icicle Creek watershed.

The event will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Chelan County Fire District No. 3 firehall, located at 228 Chumstick Highway, featuring a 30-minute presentation beginning at 6:30 p.m.

"The work group has taken on a number of new projects, especially in the past few years," said Mary Jo Sanborn, senior program manager with Chelan County Natural Resources. "We're eager to update the community on our progress and explain the long-term impacts these projects will have on the Icicle Creek watershed. We will also have news on what's to come in the near future."

The work group, established 13 years ago, comprises representatives from local,

state and federal agencies, tribes, irrigation and agricultural interests, and environmental organizations. Their collaborative efforts focus on addressing chronic water supply issues while enhancing fish habitat and improving agricultural reliability.

Among the highlighted projects is a \$9 million irrigation improvement initiative by the Cascade Orchard Irrigation Company, scheduled for completion in May 2025. The project will modernize a century-old system, converting it from gravity-flow to a closed-pressurized system while improving instream flows.

At Eightmile Lake Dam, engineers have begun design work following the completion of an Environmental Impact Statement that identified a wide spillway without gates as the preferred alternative.

The Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery recently completed the first phase of its Surface Water Intake Fish Screens and Fish Passage project in December 2023,

addressing fish passage concerns and reducing environmental impacts. A second phase, planned for spring 2026, will focus on rehabilitating the hatchery's surface water supply pipeline.

The work group also launched the Water Smart Gardens Program in 2024, offering landowners \$2 per square foot for lawn removal, with maximum reimbursements of \$3,000.

The Icicle Creek watershed serves multiple purposes in the region, supporting domestic water supply, agricultural irrigation, fish hatchery operations, fish habitat, and recreational activities.

The open house will provide information about these ongoing projects and future initiatives. Interested parties can find additional information about the Icicle Work Group and its strategy at www.iciclestrategy.com.



Chelan County Sheriff's Report



This report is compiled from records provided by the Chelan County Sheriff's Office and RiverCom. The publisher cannot certify the complete accuracy of the information provided.

Feb 14

- 13:49:29 Animal Problem, 12735 Prowell St, Leavenworth
- 14:33:03 Welfare Check, 21309 Stetson Rd
- 15:38:54 Vehicle Theft, 1000 Front St\# A Plain,Wa
- 18:38:41 911, Alpine Acres Rd & Pine
- Enzian Motor 15:26:30 Juvenile Proble, Titus Rd & Pine St, Leavenworth
- 16:01:43 Hazard, Chumstick Hwy Mp 12, Leavenworth
- 18:25:43 Traffic Offense, Us Hwy 2 & Icicle Rd, Leavenworth
- 2:40:28 Alarm, 11756 Us Hwy 2: Jerrys Aut

Feb 18

- 2:40:28 Alarm, 11756 Us Hwy 2: Jerrys Aut
- 8:39:28 Suspicious, 9089 Deadman Hill Rd; Area
- 9:21:38 Assist Public, 401 Washington St\#
- 11:11:43 Fraud/Forgery, 25804 Camp 12 Rd, Plain

Feb 19

- 0:56:06 Accident No Inj, Chumstick Hwy Mp 8, Leavenworth
- 1:02:48 Noise, 8th St & Commercial St
- 9:42:43 Fraud/Forgery, 243 Mine St, Leavenworth.
- 13:19:42 Harass/Threat, 10885 Chumstick Hwy, Leavenworth
- 19:14:18 Parking/Abandon, Pine Tree Rd & Salal Dr,

Feb 16

- 7:25:21 Vehicle Prowl, 11645 North Rd; Amtrak
- 8:35:45 Assist Public, 16079 River Rd, Plain, Wa
- 9:31:58 Burglary, 17400 Winton Rd; Winton
- 13:05:57 Animal Problem, Blackbird Island, Leavenworth
- 21:56:54 Domestic Distur, 917 Commercial St, Leavenworth
- 10:53:21 Assist Agency, 8820 School St, Dryden
- 14:07:30 Hazard, Front St & 12th St, Leavenworth
- 16:29:57 Trespass, 10710 Ski Hill Dr; Ski Hill
- 16:57:19 Assist Public, 32495 Us Hwy 2; Yodelin
- 20:23:38 Suspicious, 9003 Eagle Creek Rd, Leave 6
- 20:33:55 Domestic Distur, 18375 W Dardanells Rd

Feb 17

- 8:41:03 Welfare Check, 7986 Icicle Rd, Leavenworth
- 9:13:25 Hazard, 10300blk Chumstick Hwy,
- 14:01:47 Domestic Distur, 7600 Us Hwy 97, Peshastin,
- 14:33:24 911, 590 Us Hwy 2;
- 11:45:55 Extra Patrol, 12225 Mule Tail Flats Rd
- 14:19:51 Accident Unk, 1320 Us Hwy 2; Fig, Leavenworth
- 16:45:06 Welfare Check, Us Hwy 2 & Icicle Rd, Leavenworth
- 18:06:25 Accident No Inj, Peshastin Crk Saunders Bri
- 21:31:27 Welfare Check, 6875 Us Hwy 97, Peshastin

The Leavenworth Echo

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COURTESY OF OWEN WICKENHEISER

Former Wilderness Climbing Ranger Owen Wickenheiser hikes a vault toilet out of the Enchantments.

Community Calendar

Wednesday

Children and Youth Program, 6:30-8 p.m., 4th-12th grade, Leavenworth Church of the Nazarene, 509-548-5292.
Alpine Water District, meets at the Lake Wenatchee Fire and Rescue, 1 p.m. Contact Anne Mueller, 425-238-3935.
Ukulele Circle, 5:30-6:30 p.m. every Wednesday at the Peshastin Library. Please come 15 minutes early to tune and get sheet music.
Senior Center, Lunch, Noon, \$8 per meal. Call 509-548-6666 by Tuesday noon to make a reservation.

Thursday

Leavenworth Lions Club, Meetings are 1st Thurs. at 6:30pm and 3rd Thurs. at 9 am at Kristalls Restaurant. For more info contact president Tony Maffey at (509)470-6743.
Peshastin Community Council meeting, 7 p.m. Peshastin Memorial Hall. (2nd Thurs.)
Caregiver Support Group, 2-3:30 p.m. For Caregivers of those with Memory Loss. The Henry Building, 120 Cottage Ave. Cashmere. Contact Carmen Gamble, 509-393-0789. (1st & 3rd Thurs.)
Parkinson's Support Group Mountain Meadows Assisted Living 320 Park Avenue Leavenworth, WA 98826. Event Date, Last Thursday of every month, time 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., Contact Cascade Medical 509-548-3420 x 3873
 Find strength in community. Join our People with Parkinson's Support Group for valuable connections, shared experiences, and support. Navigate challenges, celebrate victories, and empower each other on this journey. You are not alone. Join us.

Friday

Leavenworth Rotary Club, In person at Kristall's Restaurant at Noon. Call President Mahala Murphy-Martin, 206-227-1576, for more information.
Senior Center: Bingo 6 p.m. Call 509-548-6666. Facebook & website: leavenworthseniors@gmail.com

Monday

Upper Valley Free Clinic, open every Monday to evaluate urgent health needs. Downstairs at Cascade Medical, 6:30 -8:00 p.m. Call UVMIED, 509-548-0408 for more information.
Leavenworth Mosquito District board meeting 1st & 3rd Monday of each month at 7pm via ZOOM link posted at https://leavenworthmosquitocontrol.org/notices-updates/
Cascade School board meetings, 7 p.m., Agenda can be found at https://www.cascadesd.org/Page/166. (2nd & 4th Mon.)
Chelan Douglas Republican Women, Monthly meeting and luncheon 1st Monday of the month (unless it's a holiday). \$21. for lunch, \$8. for sitting only. 11 a.m. check in starts, noon for meeting and speaker. Wenatchee Convention Center 121 N. Wenatchee Ave. For information and reservations, please call, Angela Dye, President, 509-668-1105 (1st Mon.)

Tuesday

Peshastin Water District, 5:30 p.m. For meeting location, contact Steve Keene, 509-548-5266. (2nd Tues.)
Icicle & Peshastin Irrigation Districts Meeting Current meeting time is 8 a.m. at 5594 Wescott Drive. Call Levi Jantzer, cell 509-607-0278, 509-782-2561, or levi.lipid@nwi.net (2nd Tues.)
Cascade Education Foundation, Contact: CEF@cascade.org
LWSC Alpine Committee, 7 p.m., Ski Hill Lodge. Call 509-548-5477. (1st Tues.)
Leavenworth Masons, 7:30 p.m., Zarthan Lodge No. 148, Leavenworth Senior Center upstairs. www.leavenworthmasons.org. (1st Tues.)
Cascade Garden Club, 1 p.m., at a member's home or other venue. Call President Claudia, 509-662-7706. (3rd Tues.)
The Chelan County Cemetery District #2 (Peshastin) meets monthly at 6 p.m., at the Memorial Hall, located at 10204 Main Street. (2nd Tues.)
Senior Center, Exercise, 11 a.m.-Noon. Tues & Thurs. 509-548-6666. Facebook & Website: leavenworthseniors@gmail.com
Greater Leavenworth Museum board meeting 5-7 p.m. Everyone is invited as a guest. Contact info@leavenworthmuseum.org for meeting information. (1st Tues.)

NCW Libraries

Libraries will continue to offer a wide variety of resources and programs online at ncwlibraries.org and its Facebook page. Go to NCWLBRARIES.ORG or 1-800-426-READ (7323) for more information, and updates.
Leavenworth Public Library. Located at 700 Hwy. 2, Call 509-548-7923 or online leavenworth@ncwlibraries.org
 Open on Tues., 10-5, Wed., 11-6, Thurs., 10-7, Fri., 10-5 Sat., 10-2. Closed Sun. and Mon.
Peshastin Public Library. Located at 8396 Main St. Call (509) 548-7821 or email peshastin@ncwlibraries.org. Open on Tues., 2-6pm, Wed., 2-6pm. Thurs., 10am-6pm, Fri., 10am-6pm, Sat., 10am-2pm, closed Sun. and Mon.

Meeting Schedules For AA, Alanon, Celebrate Recovery

AA Meetings: Call for the Zoom link to Leavenworth AA meetings: 541-480-8946. Call for the Zoom link to Leavenworth Alanon meetings: 509-548-7939, 509-548-1627, 548-4522, 664-6469, 206-719-3379. Sunday 7 p.m., Leavenworth Senior Center, 423 Evans St. Tuesday, 7 p.m., Light in the Valley, 8455 Main Street, Peshastin. Wednesday, 7 p.m., Leavenworth Senior Center, 423 Evans St. Thursday, 1 p.m., Leavenworth Senior Center, 423 Evans St. Friday, 7 p.m., St. James Episcopal Church, 222 Cottage Ave. **Alanon Meetings**, Call 509-548-7939. **Renewed Celebrate Recovery**, Every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at Leavenworth Church of the Nazarene. 111 Ski Hill Drive. Come experience God's grace for all of life's hurts, habits and hang-ups. For more information: CelebrateRecoveryLCN@gmail.com or 509- 596-1510.

NORTH CASCADES
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Federal cuts

Continued from page A1

In fall of 2024, the Forest Service already dealt a blow to WRRD's size, announcing it would not hire temporary seasonal workers for the 2025 season due to a shrinking budget, cutting about 2,400 jobs agency wide.

The Leavenworth-based district lost all of its non-fire temporary seasonal employees, which accounted for three Wilderness crew members, one trail crew member, and three development and dispersed recreation crew members, according to former staff.

Now, the most recent firings, which targeted permanent seasonal employees in probationary periods, have gutted the district's field operations.

All trail crew members were let go, which consisted of three permanent seasonal employees and a mule packer, who is responsible for 11 mules that are used to transport volunteers and heavy equipment into the backcountry. The mules were not only used by WRRD, but were also available for the Naches, Entiat, Cle Elum districts.

As of Feb. 19, only one permanent seasonal employee remained in each of the other two teams: the Wilderness crew, which lost three employees, and the development and dispersed recreation crew, which lost one. Included in the terminations was the district's volunteer coordinator, further complicating its workforce.

In addition to the eight field employees, the office lost its two front desk employees that provided visitor information and services.

"Terminating your lowest paid employees who are making \$15,000 to \$20,000 a year is not the way to cut the budget. And really it's the taxpayers who are going to see the negative consequences from these illegal terminations," said National Federation of Federal Employees (NFFE) union steward Rachel Granberg.

Granberg told Ward Media that the union knows of 40 Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest employees that were included in the firings.

Probationary, but Experienced

While the terminated employees were in their first and second years of their probationary period, they had already dedicated a number of years to the district as temporary seasonal employees.

"It's extremely common for people to have, you know, 20 years as a seasonal that just had the opportunity to either get a promotion or turn into a perm[anent employee]," said Warden.

Temporary seasonal employees are often referred to as "1039 employees," as they are only allowed to work 1,039 hours in a season—one less hour required to be eligible for year round health benefits. It took Warden seven seasons as a temporary seasonal employee with WRRD before landing a permanent position.

Even as a temporary seasonal employee, Warden had field-specific skills such as terrain familiarity, medical and rescue capabilities, firefighting certifications, trail building knowledge, and physical strength to hike up 60 pounds of gear over 5,000 vertical feet.

"People think you can just throw any college intern in these jobs, and everything will be okay, but there's a serious chance of injury out there on a day to day basis, so just having the people with the skill set to make those safe decisions is huge," said Warden.

"A big slap in the face"

The district's four Wilderness rangers were funded through the end of the 2025 season by a grant from Washington state's Recreation Conservation Office, according to RCO grant details. Yet, three of them still received letters of termination, and for reasons Warden found perplexing.

"[The letter said] I'm being terminated, I've been deemed 'not in the public interest' or something...But it also says 'due to performance,' which is a big slap in the face to everybody," said Warden.

After four seasons of positive evaluations from Warden, his direct superior, Wilderness Climbing Ranger Owen Wickenheiser received



COURTESY OF OWEN WICKENHEISER

Former Lead Wilderness Ranger Kyle Warden buries an abandoned poop left near a creek.



COURTESY OF OWEN WICKENHEISER

A WRRD ranger assists with a search and rescue mission in the backcountry.

the same reason in his letter. "All of the employees I've talked to who have been terminated have positive performance evaluations, but their termination documents say that they're being let go due to poor performance," said Granberg.

The NFFE Forest Service Council is currently gathering performance evaluations and other documents from employees for legal action, claiming that the basis of their termination was illegal.

"In order to let someone go due to poor performance, you have to first demonstrate that they indeed have poor performance, and also give them a chance to improve. There's an entire process that you have to go through to be able to do that. And they've completely bypassed all of that," said Granberg.

Wilderness Areas at Risk

Going into the 2025 season, the former rangers fear irreversible damage will occur in the increasingly popular Wilderness areas, which are "designated for preservation and protection in their natural condition" under the Wilderness Act of 1964.

The Wilderness areas are not only intended to protect areas of solitude for recreationists, such as Pacific Crest Trail or Enchantments hikers, but they can also protect water resources for municipalities, or habitats for threatened species.

In 2024, WRRD saw nearly 175,000 visitors in its Wilderness areas, who left behind thousands of pounds of waste. Last year alone, the Wilderness rangers dug 14 wilderness toilets, buried 703 piles of human waste, removed 5,000 pounds of it via flight, and hiked out 635 pounds of trash, according to a 2024 WRRD wilderness report. However, Wickenheiser says the overall waste removed via flight actually amounts to about 10,000 pounds a year.

As a climbing ranger, Wickenheiser worked primarily in the Enchantments, located in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area. Although the

Enchantments only makes up 6.7 percent of the wilderness area, it receives the highest amount of traffic in the entire district. In 2024, it saw over 120,000 visitors alone.

"We hear a lot like, 'This trail looks excellent. I didn't see any trash.' But like, you step five feet off the trail and look behind a boulder, and there's 10 piles of poop right on the creek side," said Wickenheiser. "We find things like full abandoned coolers up there, full of broken glass... People pop holes in their rafts and decide they don't want to carry them down."

With the amount of trash and rogue feces piles that were found under Wickenheiser's patrol, he only sees it getting worse in the absence of rangers. This could pose a problem for Leavenworth's municipal water, which is sourced from the Alpine Lakes via Icicle Creek.

"The human waste issue is going to be immediate in the Enchantments. As soon as we open the gate, those toilets are going to be overflowing after a week of use," said Warden.

A Threat to Public Safety

As more inexperienced hikers venture into the Enchantments, the Wilderness rangers have played a crucial role in public safety. Due to their backcountry presence, the rangers often become first responders, providing emergency medical assistance and coordinating extraction with the Chelan County Sheriff's Office search and rescue (SAR) team.

"Sometimes we are the only people there, waiting for a helicopter for four hours, which can get really difficult when there is a situation like a fatality or serious injury," said Warden.

The rangers also take preventative measures, including providing trail safety information, deescalating potential SAR situations, and putting out campfires. Last year, Wickenheiser put out three campfires in undesignated areas, and extinguished more that were put out but still hot.

"There's so much standing

dead from beetle kill... Colchuck Lake is literally a tinderbox... And that's four, five miles from town [as the crow flies]," said Wickenheiser.

Although the recent cuts exempted firefighters, the loss of field employees presents a significant blow to firefighting resources. During fire seasons, the fire qualified WRRD staff were sent on fire assignments for support, working as a resource advisor, cleaning gear, managing radio operations, or managing base camp.

"There are so many critical roles to make fire camps run, and a lot of those were staffed by either [temporary] seasonals or permanent seasonals," said Wickenheiser.

An Uncertain Future

A day after Wickenheiser was fired, the lottery opened for overnight permits in the Enchantments, even though the district no longer has the staff to enforce them. Warden also anticipates the district office will close without enough personnel, making it harder for recreationists to source information.

"People are paying for an experience that they're not going to get. There's also going to be just so much poaching of campsites that it's going to be difficult to even probably find a campsite in certain times for those people that are legally going," said Warden.

The agency has yet to announce any shutdowns to the lottery or trail closures. However, the nature of the terrain access makes it near impossible to close the area off entirely. Even if the district closed the Eight Mile Road gate, persistent recreationists could still reach the Enchantments via Snow Lakes Trailhead.

"Maybe this might not be the year to like, do all your goals out in the [National] Forest or Parks...It's going to be really hard, even if you are totally [practicing] 'Leave No Trace,' to not leave an impact in these times of no management," said Warden.

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Cascade wins All League Sportsmanship, Coach of the Year honors

By MIKE MALTAIS
Ward Media Staff Reporter

LEAVENWORTH - The 1A Caribou Trail League comprised of Chelan, Cascade, and Omak high schools named 45 varsity athletes to its 2025

list of All League players for boys and girls basketball and boys wrestling. Cascade girls basketball coach Cody Bench was named Coach of the Year, and the Kodiaks won the boys basketball Sportsmanship Award.

Boys Basketball
CTL Team Champions
Chelan
Team Sportsmanship
Cascade
Player of the Year
Teagan Mullin (12) Omak
Coach of the Year

Tony Callero - Chelan
First Team
Teagan Mullin (12) Omak
Luca Faletto (11) Omak
Tev Uttech (10) Chelan
Saige Boyd (12) Omak
Jacob Allen (12) Chelan
Second Team
Zachary Noyd (12) Chelan
Vance Reese (12) Omak
Ethan Davis (12) Cascade
Ivan Alejandro (12) Cascade

Ceciley Albert (8) Omak
Teyva Dillon (12) Cascade
Boys Wrestling
CTL District Champions
Omak
Team Sportsmanship
Chelan
Wrestler of the Year
Darrell Nanpuya (135 lbs)
Omak

Juan Duran (165) Omak
Easton Jensen (175) Omak
Talon Cate (190) Omak
Jacob Monaco (215) Omak
Issac Avila Tinoco (285)
Cascade

Second Team
Victor Aragon (106) Omak
Colton Bowthorpe (113) Chelan
Javier Anzar (120) Chelan
Damian Sandoval (126)
Cascade
Evan Ragsdale (132) Cascade
Ryder Abrahamson (138)
Omak
Jeffrey Palacios (144) Cascade
Gage Pucket (150) Chelan
Diego Garcias (157) Omak
Zimri Kelling (165) Chelan
Maddoc Finch (175) Chelan
Daniel Guerrero (190) Cascade
Arlo Nanamkin (215) Omak

Coach of the Year
Dan Agee - Omak
First Team
Connor Scaman (106 lbs)
Chelan
Cruz Martinez (113) Cascade
Abraham Gonzalez (120)
Cascade
Sebastian Cisneros (126)
Chelan
Bryar Jensen (132) Omak
Darrell Nanpuya (138) Omak
Jessie Garcia (144) Omak
Tristan Sharpe (150) Cascade
Quinn Phillips (157) Omak

Girls Basketball
CTL Team Champions
Chelan
Team Sportsmanship
Chelan
Player of the Year
Brynn Hughbanks
Coach of the Year
Cody Bench - Cascade
First Team
Brynn Hughbanks (11) Chelan
Lydia Petersen (12) Chelan
Finley Sackman (11) Omak
Maizy Groff (12) Cascade
Sydney Melody (9) Cascade

Second Team
Jayden Simmons (10) Chelan
Marley Williams (11) Chelan

CASCADE SCOREBOARD

Girls Basketball					
Sat Feb 22	Cascade	48	Lakeside	56	Loss

Hundreds gather in Wenatchee to participate in nationwide Presidents Day Protest



TAYLOR CALDWELL / WARD MEDIA

Three generations demonstrated together: Tom Rowe, Judy Dubuque, and Henry and Elizabeth Kazemba (left to right).



TAYLOR CALDWELL / WARD MEDIA

Karen Grudier attended to protest the federal cuts, as well as the dissolution of diversity, equity, and inclusion programs. "I'm a Native American, and I've always had to fight for what I want, and I feel like getting rid of DEI is going to make the fight even worse," said Grudier.

By TAYLOR CALDWELL
Ward Media Staff Reporter

WENATCHEE - An estimated 300 people gathered at Memorial Park on Presidents Day to protest the significant changes implemented in the federal government by President Donald Trump and billionaire Elon Musk. The protest was part of a nationwide demonstration organized under the 50501 Movement, which stands for "50 protests, 50 States, 1 movement." The protest was organized in order to "uphold the Constitution and end executive overreach," according to the group's

website. Wenatchee's demonstration brought in protestors from all over North Central Washington, including Winthrop, Leavenworth, and Malaga. "I hope that more people realize that it's okay and it's safe to come out and speak out. That's one of our first and foremost constitutional rights to peacefully assemble and protest," said demonstrator Elizabeth Kazemba. "And in order to create better future citizens, they need to be educated of those rights and demonstrate them." Kazemba attended the demonstration with her fifth-grade son and two parents.

As a Fourth Grade teacher, Kazemba was compelled to advocate for her students, who have been affected by the current administration's rhetoric and directives with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). "I have had students come to school and said, 'I'm scared that one or both of their parents are going to be deported,'" said Kazemba. "When the questions do come up, it's hard to answer. And it's hard for anyone to answer." Many demonstrators also came out to protest the firing of over 200,000 federal

See **PRESIDENTS DAY** Page B4



TAYLOR CALDWELL / WARD MEDIA

Friends of Sophie Stavig (left) and Emma Loney (right) have been affected by Forest Service staffing cuts.

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Minibike theft investigation leads to drug and weapons bust

NCW News
Ward Media

EAST WENATCHEE — A burglary investigation led to the discovery of drugs, counterfeit pills, and stolen property during a search warrant execution in East Wenatchee, police officials said Wednesday.

The investigation began on February 10 when patrol officers spotted suspicious activity near Rock Island Road and 2nd Street SE around 4:45 a.m. Officers observed one individual standing near a new Coleman minibike while a second suspect was found hiding in nearby bushes with a backpack containing bolt cutters.

Police discovered a large hole in the fence of a nearby business that had previously reported multiple thefts and burglaries. One suspect was

immediately taken into custody on charges of burglary in the second degree, theft in the second degree, malicious mischief in the third degree, and possession of burglary tools. A second suspect was arrested two days later on identical charges and held on \$5,000 bail.

The investigation expanded on February 13 when the East Wenatchee Police Department and Douglas County Sheriff's Office executed a search warrant at a residence in the 700 block of N. Baker Avenue. During the search, officers discovered powdered fentanyl, methamphetamine, and counterfeit oxycodone pills. Additionally, law enforcement recovered a stolen handgun and stolen Dewalt power tools valued at over \$2,000.

Two additional individuals were taken into custody during the warrant service.



COURTESY OF EAST WENATCHEE POLICE DEPARTMENT
DeWalt power tools and accessories valued at over \$2,000, including multiple cordless drills, batteries, chargers, tool bags, and a 108-piece mechanics tool set, were recovered during a search warrant execution at a residence in East Wenatchee on February 13.

Committee proposed to redesign state flag

By JUAN JOCOM
Washington State Journal

OLYMPIA - Is Washington's State flag a relic of days gone by and should it be redesigned? A bill in this year's Legislature says the question is worth considering and proposes establishing a committee to explore the idea.

Rep. Strom Peterson, D-Edmonds, said he sponsored HB 1938 after receiving an email from a constituent who raised issues with the flag's design. If enacted, the bill will establish a redesign committee consisting of the director of the state arts commission, two legislators from each party, the secretary of state, historians, cultural leaders, tribal members, and Washington residents.

Committee members will consider updating the flag to reflect the state's diverse

identity, history, and culture. The state seal or other symbols of the state would not be altered, Peterson said.

As a New Mexico native, Peterson compared Washington's flag to New Mexico's award-winning design. He said Washington's solid green background and central state seal lacks aesthetic value, and he questioned the historical relevance of George Washington as a state symbol. The flag's intricate design also makes reproduction difficult and the text hard to read, he said.

The proposal did meet with some opposition.

Rep. Hunter Abell, R-Inchelium, said the bill is an attempt

by Democratic legislators to remove the former president from the flag.

"The shift to do away with our history, our past, who we were as a nation and how we've grown through the good times and bad, is insulting," said Abell in a public statement. "It makes me wonder if this is the beginning of an

effort to change the name of our state."

On a video posted on X (formerly known as Twitter) Rep. April Connors, R-Kennewick, started a movement #SaveGeorge, imploring people to vote against the bill that will "cancel George."

Peterson has clarified that the bill proposal is not an attempt to erase the former president from Washington.

"That's just the farthest thing from the truth," Peterson said.

Graphic designers and printmakers testified in support of the bill, citing the history of the former

president as a slave owner. However, Washington residents like Ryan Jewell, who opposed the bill, argued that there are more important issues to address during the session.

"The state is named after the man on the flag," Jewell said. "What would symbolize our identity better than a seal of the greatest president of all time in my opinion?"

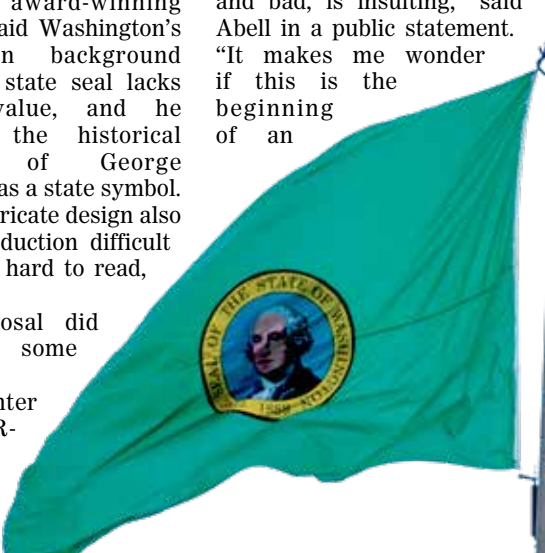
While Peterson agrees that there are more pressing issues to address in the legislative session, he argues the bill still holds value.

"That's what we do in the Legislature," Peterson said. "We have such a diversity in the state, this could be a

great way to engage people in state government and what they think should be reflected, I don't mean [just redesigning] our flag, but in our policies and discussion."

Washington originally was going to be named Columbia when it was separated from the Oregon Territory, but a Kentucky congressman objected, saying that name was too similar to the District of Columbia, the nation's capital. He suggested the new territory be named for the nation's first president instead.

If enacted, the people of Washington would vote on whether to approve a new design.



JUAN JOCOM/WASHINGTON STATE JOURNAL
The Washington state flag waves in the wind at the state capitol on Feb. 18. Designed in 1914 by the Daughters of the American Revolution, led by Emma Chadwick, the flag was adopted on March 5, 1914

The Washington State Journal is a nonprofit news website operated by the WNPA Foundation. To learn more, go to wastatejournal.org.

Presidents Day
Continued from page A4

workers under the direction of the White House and its Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE).

"I feel like just the people I know are really suffering, and we're basically on a standstill in academia right now, in science," said demonstrator Molly Sayles. "Even though we're not federal employees, everything we're doing is funded by federal grants or in collaboration with federal employees."

Sayles, a Wenatchee-based entomologist obtaining her Ph.D at Washington State University, works with farmers

in the valley on implementing affordable and sustainable pest control. In addition to watching her federal partners lose their jobs, Sayles's project funding has been frozen since January.

"We were applying for a grant to continue this project we're doing, and they took away the deadline, so we can't apply for it anymore. So there's no more money. The grant agencies told us to stop spending our money," said Sayles.

Jeff Graham, a realty specialist who has worked for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for 17 years, came out from Malaga in support of employees fired from the Forest Service, a

fellow public land management agency. While his office had been spared at the time of the protest, Graham says he and his colleagues have been waiting for more information, and anticipating terminations.

"I hope people realize it is affecting us. I don't care who you voted for as Americans. It's public lands, it's your fellow Americans. We are people. Who's America being great for?" said Graham. "You're taking workers out. I mean, we've got families here. You're taking our income, our salary. Not only that, you're taking what we do for our community. We protect our public lands."

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TAYLOR CALDWELL / WARD MEDIA
Jeff Graham fears more cuts are coming to public land management agencies.

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CONNECTING COMMUNITIES ACROSS NORTH CENTRAL WASHINGTON

WSU Master Gardener plant clinic moves to Wenatchee Library

NCW News Ward Media WENATCHEE — The Washington State University Chelan-Douglas Master Gardener Program is relocating its weekly Plant Clinic to the Wenatchee Public Library, offering residents

expert guidance on gardening and plant health issues. Starting February 24, the clinic will operate every Monday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the library's Sagebrush Meeting Room, located at 310 Douglas Street. The service will not be available on Monday holidays when the library is closed.

The Plant Clinic provides community members access to a Master Gardener diagnosis team who can identify plant problems and garden pests while offering recommendations for plant health maintenance and pest management. Residents seeking assistance are

encouraged to bring plant samples, photographs, and detailed information about their gardening concerns. For those unable to attend in person, the program maintains an email service at askamastergardener@chelamdouglas.org. Email inquiries should include

contact information to allow diagnosticians to follow up if additional details are needed. Additional information about the Plant Clinic's services can be obtained through the WSU Chelan County Extension office at (509) 667-6540 or by visiting their website at bit.ly/mgplantclinic.

The announcement marks a continuation of the program's commitment to providing horticultural education and support to the Wenatchee Valley community. Marco Martinez serves as the coordinator for the WSU Chelan-Douglas Master Gardener Program.



COURTESY OF CHELAN COUNTY

Joshua Mathena of the City of Wenatchee and Chyvonna Torres of the Chelan-Douglas Community Action Council conduct outreach during the 2025 Point in Time Count, surveying individuals living in RVs in Wenatchee on January 30. The annual count showed 27 people living in RVs across Chelan and Douglas counties.

Point in Time Continued from page A1

common reasons for avoiding shelters included feeling unsafe (9 responses), inability to bring pets (7 responses), and concerns about storage availability or overcrowding (4 responses each). The survey also revealed that 104 of the individuals were unemployed, with 12 reporting part-time work and one person in full-time employment. For income

sources, 20 people reported receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI), while 11 each received Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or other forms of assistance. The count was conducted across both counties, with resource events held at Lighthouse Christian Ministries in Wenatchee, Chelan Valley HOPE, and Upper Valley MEND locations. The data will be used to plan services and identify gaps in the region's homelessness assistance system.

Write On The River contest deadline nears for regional authors

NCW News Ward Media WENATCHEE — Regional writers have less than two weeks remaining to submit entries for the 2025 Write On The River Writers Competition. The annual contest, now in its 16th year, offers \$1,200 in prize money to be shared among six winners. The competition, hosted in partnership with the Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center, welcomes

both fiction and nonfiction entries up to 1,000 words. Submissions can be complete works or opening pages of longer pieces, including novels, short stories, flash fiction, essays, memoirs, or humor writing. Eligibility is restricted to writers residing east of the Cascades, with an exception for Write On The River members who live elsewhere in Washington state. Out-of-state submissions will not be considered.

All entries must follow specific formatting requirements: double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font with one-inch margins, submitted as PDF files. Manuscripts should not include the author's name but must display the title, page numbers, and genre designation ('F' for fiction or 'N' for nonfiction) on the first page. The entry fee is \$20 per submission. Writers can opt for three written critiques of their work for an additional

\$20. While multiple entries are permitted, participants can only win one prize per category. Competition directors and judges are ineligible to win prizes in categories they are judging. The contest accepts prose entries only, with separate poetry competitions planned for later in 2025. For complete guidelines and submission details, writers can visit wvmcc.org or writeontheriver.org.

High School Continued from page A1

students will work on a restoration project with Wenatchee River Institute, art students market and sell their art at Village Art in the Park, and fire students work directly with Chelan County Fire District #3 (CCFD3) for training and experience. "There's nothing like it, being actually out here and helping people and doing things...You don't get experience like the real world when you're in high school," said Braeden Parton, a former CTE fire student. "I loved it. It was really good. They treat you like adults here." After graduating from CHS in 2023, Parton spent a year as a wildland firefighter for the U.S. Forest Service. Now, he's in a two-year residency

COURTESY OF KIRK SUNITSCH Students cultivate plants in the CHS greenhouse. Last year, the plants class grew vegetable starts for the Community Cupboard through a Cascadia Conservation District grant.



program at CCFD#3, which will set him up for a career in firefighting. "I didn't know I wanted to be a firefighter until I came over here in high school and I saw just the family you're around, and the brotherhood," said Parton. As the CTE program grows and changes, it aims to offer coursework for the most in

demand occupations in both the county and in the state. Last fall, registered nurses ranked highest in the state and third in Chelan County, according to an Employment Security Department report. Next year, the program will offer Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) training and certification, in partnership with Mountain Meadows

Senior Living and Cascade Medical Center. "[They] get built in mentors. We're not experts at fire science, we're not experts at the medical [science]...They get more mentorship than we can provide them here...from the community," said Sunitsch. Taylor Caldwell: 509-433-7276 or taylor@ward.media

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BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

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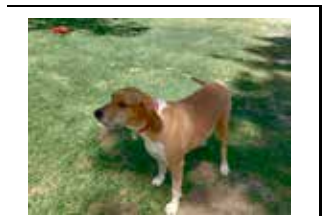
PUBLISHER'S NOTICE
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. To complain of discrimination call HUD at 1-800-669-9777. The number for hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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Announcements

Lost & Found



Huckleberry
Was found deceased on Apple Acres Road, less than a mile from his home. His collar and tags had been removed. **SEEKING ANY INFORMATION/TIP LEADING TO WHO HAS THE COLLAR & TAGS. WE WOULD LIKE THEM RETURNED.** Substantial Reward Offered. (509) 682-0131 Avemariadover@gmail.com

Miscellaneous

DIRECTV-
All your entertainment. Nothing on your roof! Sign up for Directv and get your first three months of Max, Paramount+, Showtime, Starz, MGM+ and Cinemax included. Choice package \$84.99/mo. Some restrictions apply. Call DIRECTV 1-888-492-3055

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Miscellaneous

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General Interest

Resolve Conflict Now!
509-521-6441
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Employment

Help Wanted



WE ARE HIRING
Learn more online at cityofleavenworth.com/employment
The City of Leavenworth is an equal opportunity employer (EOE)



Entry Level Career Training:
Client Service/Sales/Rating. Are you responsible, friendly, motivated, honest, detailed, looking for a career then we hire local! See Wenatchee Craigslist job # 7824642237 Leavenworth Insurance.

Work Wanted

WORK WANTED
Looking for House Cleaning Part Time and/or Pet Sitting in the Leavenworth Area
House Phone: 509-763-0355
Please send text message to 509-429-3392

Legals

Public Notices

T-Mobile proposes to collocate telecommunications antennas and associated equipment
on an existing monopole telecommunications tower facility located at an address 90 Elderberry Lane, Peshastin, Chelan County, WA 98847 (47° 30' 56.06" N, 120° 37' 50.58" W). Associated support equipment will be installed within a proposed T-Mobile lease area within the existing compound. The facility is accessible via an existing access road with an underground route for fiber and utilities planned. Eocene Environmental Group is publishing this notice in accordance with Federal Communications Commission regulations (47 CFR § 1.1307) for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Parties interested in commenting on this Federal undertaking or with questions on the facility should contact Eocene. Attn: Telecommunications Department, 8951 Windsor Parkway, Johnston, IA 50131 or call 515-473-6256 (Ref. T-Mobile NW #829-AM). Published in the Leavenworth Echo/Cashmere Valley Record on February 26, 2025. #9460

Legals

Public Notices

Legal Notice:
The Leavenworth Mosquito Control District board will hold the first public meeting of the 2025 season on Monday March 17th at 7 p.m. via ZOOM. Meetings are scheduled at 7 pm on the first or third Mondays of each month (generally March-Oct). For meeting date confirmations, agenda details and Zoom meeting links please see www.LeavenworthMosquitoControl.org/Notices&Updates Details concerning pesticides used (mostly Bacillus thuringiensis subspecies israelensis), treatment site locations, and other important information are also posted at our website www.LeavenworthMosquitoControl.org/PesticideandChemicalUsage
LMC contact info:
Website: www.LeavenworthMosquitoControl.org
Email: info@LeavenworthMosquitoControl.org
Phone: Program Mgr. Jenny Mullins 509-548-5904
****Notice****
Leavenworth Mosquito Control District Board member opening
The Leavenworth Mosquito Control District was founded in 2002 with the goal of controlling mosquitoes in the Leavenworth area by using bacterial larvicides. These larvicides are harmful only to mosquito larva and are harmless to other aquatic organisms, mammals, and humans. This five member volunteer board sets a yearly budget and oversees the seasonal district manager along with a couple assistants that carry out the larvicide applications along with the review and approval of program expenditures, policies and procedures. To be on the board you must:
1) Live inside the Leavenworth Mosquito Control District - see the map on our website www.leavenworthmosquitocontrol.org/WhereareWe
2) Regularly attend board meetings on the 1st or 3rd Mondays throughout the mosquito season and fall's Budget Hearing meeting(s).
Since 2020 the meetings have been held via Zoom and typically last approx an hour or less. If you are interested in joining the board please send your letter of interest to info@leavenworthmosquitocontrol.org or mail to PO Box 34, Leavenworth WA 98826
Published in the Leavenworth Echo/Cashmere Valley Record on February 26, 2025. #9483

Public Notices

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CHELAN
In the Matter of the Estate of: MARTIN GEORGE VENNEBERG, Deceased.
No. 25-4-00003-04
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 latter 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: 12. February 2025
Personal Representative: Paul Martin Venneberg
Attorney for Personal Representative: Nicholas Yedinak
Address for Mailing of Service: 435 Orondo Avenue P.O. Box 1667 Wenatchee, WA 98807-1667
DATED this 20th day of December, 2024.
PAUL MARTIN VENNEBERG
Personal Representative
KOTTKAMP, YEDINAK & ESWORTHY, P.L.L.C.
Attorneys for Estate
Published in the Leavenworth Echo/Cashmere Valley Record on February 12, 19, 26, 2025. #9375

Public Notices

2025 PUBLIC NOTICE
Brae Burn Mosquito Control District (MCD1)
In accordance with the Washington State Dept of Ecology's Aquatic Mosquito Control General Permit. S6-A-3:
a) The larvicide(s) and adulticide(s) planned for use are:
Vectobac GS contains Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis (Bti). EPA Reg. No. 73049-10
Duplex-G contains Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis (Bti) Strain BMP 144 and (S)-Methoprene. EPA Reg. No. 89459-93
Cocobear Larviciding Oil (mineral oil). EPA Reg. No. 8329-93
DUET contains Prallethrin: (RS)-2-methyl-4-oxo-3-(2-propynyl) cyclopent 2-enyl-(1RS)-cis-trans-chrysanthemate. Sumithrin®: 3-Phenoxybenzyl-(1RS,3RS, 1RS, 3SR)-2,2-dimethyl-3-(2-methylprop-1-enyl) cyclopropanecarboxylate. and Piperonyl Butoxide. EPA Reg. No. 1021-1795-8329
b) The approximate date ranges of the planned treatment are:
Weekly March through October each year.
c) The approximate treatment location(s) are: Treatments will occur throughout the Braeburn Mosquito Control District (MCD), including standing water, sloughs, and wetlands
d) The public may access updates about the treatment(s) at: By contacting Braeburn MCD representative at (425) 239-9656
e) No larvicides with water-use restrictions will be applied waterbodies used for water supply, fish and shellfish harvesting, swimming, or other water contact activities.
f) Name and the best number to reach the applicator. Matthew Oaks (509) 883-7371
g) The name and contact information for the Ecology Aquatic Mosquito Control General Permit Manager. Shawn Ultican / Aquatic Pesticide Permit Specialist shawn.ultican@ecy.wa.gov / (360) 870-3492
h) The procedure for a person to follow if they want to be added to the Pesticide Sensitivity Registry maintained by the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) is located at: <https://agr.wa.gov/departments/pesticides-and-fertilizers/pesticides/compliance/sensitivity-registry>
Published in the Leavenworth Echo/Cashmere Valley Record on February 26, 2025. #9477

Public Notices

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR CHELAN COUNTY
In the Matter of the Estate of SUSAN N. HOWARD, Deceased.
No. 25-4-00058-04
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
RCW 11.40.030

The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the Court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and RCW 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets. Date of First Publication: February 19, 2025
Personal Representative: Heidi S. Schroeder
Attorney for the Personal Representative: Russell J. Speidel
Address for Mailing or Service: Speidel Bentsen LLP 7 North Wenatchee Avenue, Suite 600 P.O. Box 881 Wenatchee, WA 98807-0881
Court of Probate Proceedings and Cause Number: Chelan County Superior Court Cause No. 25-4-00058-04
HEIDI S. SCHROEDER
Personal Representative
Attorneys for Personal Representative: SPEIDEL BENTSEN LLP
By: RUSSELL J. SPEIDEL
WSBA No. 12838
7 North Wenatchee Avenue, Suite 600 P.O. Box 881 Wenatchee, WA 98807
Published in the Leavenworth Echo/Cashmere Valley Record on February 19, 26, March 5, 2025. #9424

Public Notices

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR CHELAN COUNTY
In the Matter of the Estate of KAREN ELIZABETH JOHNSON. No. 25-4-00033-04
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)
The Administrator 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 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets. DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: February 12th, 2025
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Alexander D. Johnson
ATTORNEY FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Rani K. Sampson
ADDRESS FOR MAILING OR SERVICE: Overcast Law Offices Attn: Rani K. Sampson 23 South Wenatchee Avenue, Suite 320 Wenatchee, WA 98801
COURT OF PROBATE PROCEEDINGS AND CAUSE NUMBER: Chelan County Superior Court, Cause No. 25-4-00033-04
Overcast Law Offices By: /s/ Rani K. Sampson, WSBA No. 37489
Attorney for Personal Representative
Published in the Leavenworth Echo/Cashmere Valley Record on February 12, 19, 26, 2025. #9372

Public Notices

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR CHELAN COUNTY
In the Matter of the Estate of JOHN WILLIAM BRANGWIN, Deceased.
No. 25-4-00049-04
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

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 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets. DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: February 19, 2025
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: John Michael Brangwin
ATTORNEY FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: David Visser
ADDRESS FOR MAILING OR SERVICE: OVERCAST LAW OFFICES 23 South Wenatchee Avenue Suite 320 Wenatchee, WA 98801
COURT OF PROBATE PROCEEDINGS AND CAUSE NUMBER: Chelan County Superior Court, No. 25-4-00049-04
OVERCAST LAW OFFICES By: /s/ David Visser, WSBA No. 41546
Attorney for Personal Representative Published in the Leavenworth Echo/Cashmere Valley Record on February 19, 26, March 5, 2025. #9445

Spread the News about your **COMMUNITY EVENT** online at
ncw.news/
leavenworthecho.com
cashmerevalleyrecord.com
lakechelanmirror.com
qchannel.com

Public Notices

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR CHELAN COUNTY In the Matter of the Estate of JAMES WILLIAM WALLACE Deceased.
No. 24-4-00001-04
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)
The Administrator named below has been appointed as Administrator 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 Administrator or the Administrator'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 Administrator 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 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets. DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: February 26th, 2025
ADMINISTRATOR: James Warren Wallace
ATTORNEY FOR ADMINISTRATOR: Kera E. Dexter
ADDRESS FOR MAILING OR SERVICE: Overcast Law Offices Attn: Kera E. Dexter 23 South Wenatchee Avenue, Suite 320 Wenatchee, WA 98801
COURT OF PROBATE PROCEEDINGS AND CAUSE NUMBER: Chelan County Superior Court, Cause No. 24-4-00001-04
Overcast Law Offices By: /s/ Kere E. Dexter, WSBA No. 58486
Attorney for Administrator Published in the Leavenworth Echo/Cashmere Valley Record on February 26, March 5, 12, 2025. #9480

Public Notices

CITY OF LEAVENWORTH REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR SS4A SAFETY ACTION PLAN
The City of Leavenworth is soliciting qualifications for the development of a Safety Action Plan in accordance with the US Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration's Safe Streets and Roads for All grant program. The Safety Action Plan will analyze collision occurrence and trends, review opportunities to revise and establish safety related policies, identify countermeasures to increase safety and mobility, and develop a capital improvement plan to construct countermeasures as necessary. Due to funding constraints, this project must be completed by the end of 2025. The complete Request for Qualifications (RFQ) document can be found on the City of Leavenworth's request for bids/proposals webpage: <https://cityofleavenworth.com/documents/category/requests-for-bids-proposals>. It is the sole responsibility of the Consultant to obtain any RFQ updates or addenda from the City's website. Submissions shall be sent **electronically** to Andrea Fischer, City Clerk, at afischer@cityofleavenworth.com by **1:00:00 PM on Wednesday, March 5, 2025**. Late or incorrectly submitted submissions will be automatically disqualified from consideration. Any qualifications received after the specified date and time will not receive any further consideration by the City. The City of Leavenworth in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), commits to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability, in all of its programs and activities. This material can be made available in an alternate format by emailing Kit Kocha, EIT . CIP Manager at kkochoa@cityofleavenworth.com or by calling (509) 548-5275. The City of Leavenworth, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252,42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all consultants that will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this request for qualifications, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit proposal in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award. Published in the Leavenworth Echo/Cashmere Valley Record on February 19, 26, 2025. #9420

HIPPPOS

How Hippos Keep Their Cool

To stay cool in the African heat, hippos spend most of their day in rivers and lakes. Their eyes, nose and ears are located on the top of their head, which means they can see and breathe while the rest of their bodies are under water.

Danger!

Don't let their gentle appearance fool you. The hippopotamus is considered the world's deadliest large land mammal. These giants kill an estimated 500 people per year in Africa.

The Hippo Code

Use the code to discover some facts about hippos.

- = CALF
- = BULL
- = COW
- = RIVER
- = HORSE
- = TUSK

Q: What does the word *hippopotamus* mean?

A:

Q: What is a baby hippo called?

A:

Q: What is a female hippo called?

A:

Q: What is a male hippo called?

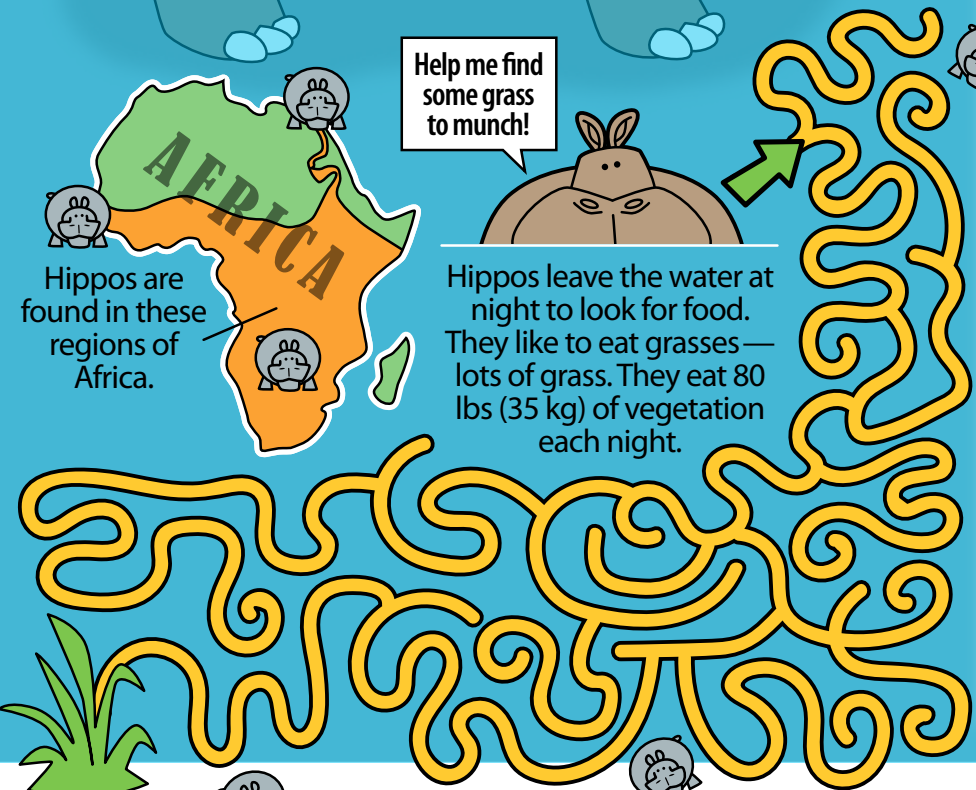
A:

Help me find some grass to munch!



Hippos are found in these regions of Africa.

Hippos leave the water at night to look for food. They like to eat grasses—lots of grass. They eat 80 lbs (35 kg) of vegetation each night.



How many hippos can you find on this page?

CAUTION: SPEEDING HIPPOS

Are hippos slow? Quite the opposite!

Even though their legs are short, and their bodies are large and heavy, a hippo can run fast! Hippos have been clocked running at speeds of 19 to 25 mph (30-40 km/h).

Open Wide!

Hippos have a huge mouth, measuring up to 4 ft (1.2 m) when opened wide!

Hippos have a pair of huge incisors in each jaw. The large, curved lower canine teeth are like tusks as they grow throughout a hippo's life. They can reach a length of 1 foot 8 inches (50 cm)! These teeth are used for combat, not eating. When a hippo yawns, it's not tired but it is a sign of a threat.

How many differences can you find between these two hippos?

Extra! Extra! Opposites

Look through the newspaper to find words that are opposites. For example: large and small wet and dry

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Recognize antonyms.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Sweaty, Sweaty Hippos?

Hippos have an oily red liquid that oozes out of their skin. It isn't sweat. Sweat evaporates and cools a body. This liquid looks red in sunlight and it stays on the skin and protects it from drying out—and acts as a sunblock, too!

When early European explorers first noticed this reddish liquid on the hippos they observed, they gave it a name.

Circle every other letter to see what they called it.

DBKLTOWOYDJSAPVEDAVT

B

Double Double Word Search

- DEADLIEST
- INCISORS
- SUNBLOCK
- BREATHE
- GRASSES
- AFRICA
- HIPPUS
- RIVERS
- THREAT
- OOZES
- TUSKS
- SWEAT
- COOL
- SLOW
- JAW

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

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

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: **COMBAT**
The verb **combat** means to fight with or struggle against.
When you have to **combat** a cold, plenty of fluids and lots of rest are helpful.
Try to use the word **combat** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

MEDIA PARTNER

NCW Libraries

WARD MEDIA

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- Stream books, comics, movies, & more