March 26, 2025

Lake Chelan Mirror

\$1.00 Volume 134 No. 13

Lake Chelan & Entiat Valley News Since 1891 A Ward Media Publication

www.lakechelanmirror.com





Connecting communities across North Central Washington NCW News | A5

After more than twenty years, Chelan County Sheriff's Office has a cruiser in Stehekin

By ANDREW SIMPSON Ward Media Staff Reporter

STEHEKIN - "You can't get there by car." That's the answer you'll get if you ask anyone who's ever been there how to get to Stehekin, the tiny community at the northwest end of Lake Chelan with fewer than 100 year-round residents.

The fact of the matter is, it's hard to even get a car there at all. A quick Google search returns a result that practically insists on it, because there are no roads into Stehekin. There is no ferry that carries passengers and cars, like you might find in Western Washington.

The only way to get a vehicle to the tiny town is to put it on a barge and ship it there, and that'll cost you a few hundred dollars, so be sure you can't iust make do with one of the ATVs you can rent there to travel the one road that spans the lower Stehekin Valley.



FACEBOOK/CHELAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE The new-to-Stehekin Sheriff's SUV sits in front of the North Cascades Lodge.

But the Chelan County Sheriff's Office has done it: They've permanently stationed a repurposed school resource officer's SUV near the North Cascades Lodge in the picturesque community. The vehicle was in the

process of being rotated out of service, so they got it for a much lower price than buying a new unit.

There is no deputy permanently on duty there, of course. Because Stehekin is part of the Lake Chelan National



FACEBOOK/CHELAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

The cruiser being transported aboard a barge, the only method of transport for vehicles to Stehekin.

Recreation Area, most law enforcement needs are met by the National Park Service. But the Sheriff's Office does respond to some incidents in Stehekin that the NPS is not equipped to handle, and they need a means of



FACEBOOK/CHELAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

At about 17 miles an hour for a lake barge, it took around 3 hours to get the vehicle to its destination.

transportation. People live up to 20 miles away from the spot where you'd step off the ferry.

Deputies needing to use the cruiser

See SHERIFF'S SUV Page A5

Lake Chelan Health CEO speaks on potential federal and state cuts

By GAYLEN WILLETT

CHELAN - Lake Chelan Health CEO, Aaron Edwards, expressed concerns to approximately 100 attendees at Ruby Theater, March 15. He offered details on potential cuts, both federally and at the state level, that could negatively impact Lake Chelan Health. A newly formed group, Chelan Valley Indivisible, spearheaded by Jeff Fehr, is attempting to inform Chelan Valley residents about the dangers of Project 2025 and other Trump initiatives. They are also suggesting "Political to-do lists" for residents to speak out against Medicaid cuts, lessened public health protection, tariffs, voter suppression, immigration policies, and other Trump administration policies. Edwards said Lake Chelan Health employs roughly 430 people, with 210 who work full time. It has its own **Emergency Medical Services, Express** Care, Primary Care, Emergency Care and Specialty Care. "We gross 66 million with a margin of two million, which largely comes from tax revenue. Edwards said a new EMS building and a specialty care clinic are planned, but electrical panels come from Mexico and timber from Canada, so he is concerned about tariffs. Edwards listed some of the potential cuts that could impact Lake Chelan Health: Medicaid funding, physician medical education, reimbursement payment of bad debts, and telehealth services, removal of non-profit status, 340B cuts (drug discounts most rural hospitals receive), work requirements for Medicaid recipients. In addition to federal challenges the state is considering new payroll taxes, increases



our area. We believe we are going to grow older and skew toward retirees. which makes it tough to sustain OB which lost roughly \$780K last year."

They also have 22 active hospital grants worth about a million dollars. If it is perceived that Chelan is in violation of executive orders of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI), many of those grants could be at risk.

Another serious aspect is the conflict around immigration. "We want everyone to be able to get care." There is concern that community members will forgo necessary medical treatment because of the fear of being picked up by ICE while at the doctor's office or hospital.

District 12 Legislators address budget, education, and housing concerns in virtual town hall

By TAYLOR CALDWELL Ward Media Staff Reporter

OLYMPIA - State District 12 Legislators Senator Keith Goehner, Representative Mike Steele, and Representative Brian Burnett addressed key challenges facing Washington state in a virtual community town hall on March 20. The community meeting

during the meeting as lawmakers prepare to negotiate the 2025-27 biennium budget, facing an operating budget shortfall of an estimated \$15 billion over the next four years. The Republican representatives expressed the need to curtail new spending rather than increasing taxes and fees.

"We're not living within our means... We're spending more than we have. And again, this is not a revenues issue. This is a spending issue," said Rep. Steele.

Lake Chelan Health CEO, Aaron Edwards

in B&O taxes, capping insurance payments for governmental workers insurance plans (PEBB/SEBB), and a potential loss of rural labor and delivery funding. "Rural health is already challenging and it feels like it's getting tougher and tougher, there are 1,000 ways to die," Edwards said.

He also explained that all hospitals pay into a state fund which gets matching federal funds which gives back payments through Inner Governmental Transfers. This seems to be a potential target for DOGE (Department of Government Efficiency, enacted by Elon Musk)." It is \$1.1 million in the hospital's budget if that goes away, and we are not counting on it this year." said Edwards.

Edwards added that, as a retirement community, there are fewer births. Last year, the hospital was reimbursed \$177,000 for losses in that department, but it isn't enough. "We don't see many new young families moving into

Lastly, the Affordable Care Act (also known as ObamaCare) could potentially be in the crosshairs which could substantially harm rural healthcare. Senator Maria Cantwell and Kim Schrier (D-WA, 8th District) are working hard to save it.

So, what can people do - Contact Chelan Indivisible at chelangoodtrouble@gmail.com to be added to their email list. In general - make phone calls to Congressional members, call your representatives with your specific concerns, join a phone bank to educate and encourage voters to contact their representatives, write letters to this newspaper, call KOZI radio to raise your concerns, join protests - many are held weekly in Wenatchee and attend town hall meetings with your local legislators. Sign up for email updates from your State Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell, US Representative Kim Schrier, 12th District Representatives Mike Steele and Brian Burnett, and 12th District Senator Keith Goehner.

included budget issues, education, and housing.

"There's nothing better than learning from you, hearing from you [about] what's important. I just want you to know we take that to heart and in consideration to everything that we do," said Rep. Burnett.

The state's budget was top of mind

The lawmakers cautioned against the Senate Democrats' property tax proposal as a means to balance the budget, calling it a "regressive tax."

See LEGISLATORS Page A6



COURTESY OF WASHINGTON STATE HOUSE REPUBLICANS Rep. Brian Burnett, Sen. Keith Goehner, and Rep. Mike Steele represent the 12th District.

Port weighs redevelopment while citizens push for park expansion on vacant lot

By QUINN PROPST

Ward Media Staff Reporter

MANSON - The future of a prime piece of property in Manson is undecided as the Chelan-Douglas Regional Port Authority considers purchasing the vacant commercial lot next to Manson Bay Park.

The port, which holds the first right of refusal, envisions a bus turnaround and small business incubator on the site at 91 Wapato Way, Port Executive Director Jim Kuntz said.

Meanwhile, a group of private citizens has assembled a backup cash

offer with hopes of expanding the park instead. The port is set to make its decision at its next meeting on Tuesday, March 25, at 9 a.m.

"We have received input from a host of Manson citizens," Kuntz said. "Some like the concept of a redevelopment into small business incubator buildings. Others want the property to be used as a park."

Larry Hibbard is part of the group of citizens who want to see the property added to the Manson Bay Park.

'When some of us in the community realized that's the piece of property that had been talked about for probably 50 years as getting as an extension of the Manson Bay Park,' Larry Hibbard said. "Quickly, we put together a backup offer to the port if they decide not to do it and we found enough local donations to make a cash backup offer on the property. And that is where we sit."

If the port does not follow through with the purchase Hibbard said the group of locals is ready to jump in and purchase the property.

"We feel that we're not against them having the incubator building, but we think there are other options, without taking one of the nicest spots in town to do it," Hibbard said.

"It's just a group of individual, private citizens," Hibbard said. "We're all involved in various things in the town, and we have a common interest of improving the park and gaining more public access to the lake, and we feel that it would be an economic benefit in a lot of different ways to the community."

In the past, the owner of the service station kept an area of the property as a green space with trees and grass, Hibbard said.

"There were community picnics, Fourth of July celebrations, and other things there," he said. "And we have a park there now, but there's not a room there for a gathering place for people.

"If you want to have a family picnic, you want to have a group there, it's not set up for that," he said. "We have a great swimming area. We have a great boating area. But if people want to come up and bring a lunch or just sit and enjoy the lake, we don't have an area for that, it's pretty marginal."

The current property owner is Dorette Prinsloo.

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



29 S. Wenatchee Ave Ste A, Wenatchee, WA 98801

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Inside Lake Chelan Mirror this Week

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Business & Service Directory A6	Classifieds	Sheriff Report
Community Bulletin Board	Death & Obit Announcements A6	Spring Sports

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On the Internet Website: www.lakechelanmirror.com E-mail: news@ward.media

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8 a.m.- 5 p.m. except weekends

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Calendar Listings Noon, Friday News Submissions: Noon, Friday Letters to the Editor: Noon, Friday Display Advertising: 5:00 p.m., Thur. Legal Notices: Noon Friday Classified Ads: Noon Friday Obituaries/Death Notices 4 p.m., Friday

Subscriptions Rates

Print & Online Subscription \$50 **Online-only Subscription** 12 Month \$50.00 6 Month **\$25.00**

- 3 Months \$15.00
- 1 Month \$8.00

1 Week \$1.50

The Lake Chelan Mirror does not refund subscription payments except to the extent that it might fail to meet its obligation to publish each week, in which case the cost of the issues missed would be refunded as an extension. Subscriptions may be transferred to another individual or organization.



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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!

Mushroom Painting -With Scandinative

The Cove will host a special mushroom painting craft night on March 27 from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 806 W. Manson Hwy. in Chelan.

Each person will receive a handmade mushroom to paint and decorate. Tickets are \$20 per person.

For more information and tickets, visit The Cove on Facebook.

Spring Wreath Making

Tsillan Cellars will host a Spring Wreath Making event on April 1 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. "Craft your very own wreath using grapevines harvested from our vineyards.

Tickets include a complimentary glass of rosé, Tickets are \$65 per person."

For more information and tickets, visit tsillancellars. com.

Spring Bazaar

The Lake Chelan Senior Center will host a Spring Bazaar from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at 534 E. Trow Avenue in beautiful Chelan.

"This free event will feature a variety of local vendors and unique handmade goods - a perfect way to celebrate the season and support the community."

For more information, contact Joan at the Lake Chelan

Senior Center, 509-682-2712.

Pub Live at the Pub & Veranda

Campbell's Resort will host Pub Live at the Pub & Veranda on March 28 from 6 to 8 p.m. at 104 W Woodin Ave in Chelan.

"Join us every Friday for live music at the Pub and Veranda! Kick off your weekend, grab a drink, enjoy delicious bites, and let the tunes set the vibe for a perfect Friday night," the event page states.

For more information, visit campbellsresort.com or call 509-682-2561.

THINGS TO DO THIS WEEK

Cider Sunday

Rootwood Cider will host Cider Sunday on March 30 from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Rootwood Cider Orchard Tasting Room & Production Facility, located at 1731 Totem Pole Rd in Manson.

"Enjoy a relaxing afternoon sipping craft cider while taking in the beautiful orchard views," the event page states.

For more information, visit RootwoodCider.com or call 509-888-0126.

Local author Teri Fink wins multiple literary awards

NCW News / Ward Media

WENATCHEE-Local authorTeri Fink, who has spent most of her life in Wenatchee, has received several prestigious literary honors for her novels, including the Legacy Fiction Award from the 15th Annual International Book Awards. Fink's second novel, "The

VISIBLE TERI FINK UNABRIDGED NARRATED BY GRACE GRAY

"Invisible by Day," Fink's first novel that has been named a finalist in The Wishing Shelf Audiobook Awards



Letter to the Editor

Clovis Dig," which tells the story of an East Wenatchee orchardist who discovers ancient artifacts beneath the orchard, earned the top prize in the Legacy Fiction category.

Jeffrey Keen, President and CEO of American Book Fest, which manages the award, said this year's contest yielded thousands of entries from authors and publishers around the world before being narrowed down to the final results.

Her third novel, "The Restless Lake," has been named a finalist for the Eric Hoffer Award, which honors the memory of the American philosopher by highlighting excellence in writing and the independent spirit of small publishers.

The novel, which chronicles the meeting of a tech executive and an Olympic gold medalist in the wilderness community



of Stehekin at the head of Lake Chelan, has also been nominated by Eric Hoffer judges for the Montaigne Medal, recognizing it as one of the most thought-provoking books that "either illuminate, progress, or redirect thought.

Additionally, the audiobook version of Fink's first novel, "Invisible by Day," a historical fiction work in the vein of Downton Abbey, has been named a finalist in The Wishing Shelf Audiobook Awards. Narrator Grace Gray, a professionally trained actress, brings the audiobook to life.

The Wishing Shelf is an or-

ganization based in the United Kingdom founded by children's author Edward Trayer.

"We always knew Teri Fink was a talented writer, a real pro, which is why we were thrilled to bring her on board," says Fink's publisher Dave Lane of Evolved Publishing LLC.

"Nonetheless, the responses to all of her books by award sites, professional reviewers, and book consumers alike have exceeded even our high expectations. Her books leave a lasting impression in the best way for readers."

"I'm thrilled that all three of my novels are receiving recog-

Lake Chelan Health and Wellness Foundation scholarship applications due April 7

Lake Chelan Mirror Ward Media

CHELAN – The Lake Chelan Health and Wellness Foundation has announced that applications for its 2025-26 college scholarships are now being accepted, with a submission deadline of Monday, April 7. Interested students can apply online and submit their applications to foundation@ lchealthwellness.com. Among the foundation's success stories is Karen Munguia Rodriguez, a thirdyear scholarship recipient who exemplifies the program's impact on local students pursuing careers in healthcare. "Lovely inside and out, Karen Munguia Rodriguez is a 3rd year - first-generation college student and very proud of her heritage. She is pursuing a career in public health, inspired by health issues she herself had gone through and because it was difficult to diagnose. She spent almost a



"One of the key items she is interested in is research. Because of her own situation. she believes that if there had been more research at the time. the doctors might have been able to diagnose her illness sooner. She is also interested in furthering her Public Health education and applying to the Physician Assistant (PA) program," Monteleone added. A local student committed to her community, Rodriguez "loves the Lake Chelan Valley and, upon completion of her studies, plans to be right back here working to make our valley a healthier place," according to Monteleone. As a three-time recipient of the foundation's scholarships, Rodriguez represents the type of dedicated healthcare student the foundation aims to support through its annual scholarship program.



Teri Fink

nition," says Fink.

Fink's novels are available in paperback, eBook, and audiobook formats. They can be purchased locally at A Book for All Seasons in Leavenworth, Ye Olde Bookshoppe in Wenatchee, and Riverwalk Books in Chelan.

The novels and audiobooks are also sold online wherever books and audiobooks are sold.

Letters policy

The Lake Chelan Mirror welcomes letters to the editor. All letters must be accompanied by the author's name, a home address and a davtime 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 nonprofit organizations and events. We will not publish lists of businesses, or lists of individual names. Email your letters to letters@ward.media.

Corrections

The Lake Chelan Mirror regrets any errors. If you see an error, please call 509-682-2213. We will publish a correction on this page in the next issue.

News tips

Have an idea for a story? Call the Mirror at 509-731-4392 email news@ward media

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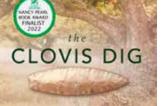
Services

Back Issues are available up to one year after publication for a small fee. Archive Research \$25 per hour

Lake Chelan Mirror (USPS 101-620) is published every Wednesday by Ward Media LLC, 29 S. Wenatchee Ave., Suite A Wenatchee, WA 98801 Telephone: 509-731-4392 Periodical postage paid at Chelan, Wash. 98816 Postmaster: Send address corrections to: Lake Chelan Mirror 131 S. Apple Blossom Drive #109, Chelan, WA 98816

Classified Weekly Rates

\$15.00 for first 30 words .10 for each additional word over 30 words Borders, bold words, headlines, logos and photos subject to additional charges.



"The Clovis Dig," her second novel that recently won the Legacy Fiction Award at the 15th Annual International **Book Awards**

Local resident praises

Thank you for the article

about the Ruby U presenta-

tion. It certainly helped bring a crowd to join the discussion

led by the Indigenous Roots

and Reparation Foundation in

story in the movie about the

decades-long "Fish Wars" in

the Pacific Northwest. I think

we are overdue paying at-

Get rid of all that

extra stuff with an ad

in the Lake Chelan

Mirror Classifieds.

We were stunned by the

Ruby U event

Wenatchee.

TERI FINK

"The Restless Lake," Fink's third novel that has been named a finalist for both the Eric Hoffer Award and nominated for the Montaigne Medal.

tention to these matters and

working together to acknowl-

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created by past mistakes.

future.

Chelan

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Marianne Patton

Karen Munguia Rodriguez

year working with doctors to identify and manage her health problem. But she did, and now she is ready to move forward," said Vita Monteleone, Director of Community Relations at Lake Chelan Health & Wellness Foundation

Rodriguez's personal health journey has influenced her academic interests and future aspirations.

The Lake Chelan Health and Wellness Foundation encourages all eligible students to apply before the April 7 deadline.





General Surgeon

Services Offered: Colon Cancer Screening, Appendicitis, Hemorrhoids Hemias, Lipomas, Gallbladder Disease, and other general surgery care!

Chelan goes green Shamrock shuffle and top dog parade bring St. Patrick's spirit despite rainy start

Lake Chelan Mirror Ward Media

CHELAN - Lake Chelan Valley residents braved cold and rainy conditions to participate in two St. Patrick's Daythemed events on Saturday, March 15, in downtown Chelan.

The day began with the Shamrock Shuffle, a 5K fundraiser organized by the Lake Chelan Lions Club to support children with Type One Diabetes. The event, which drew 71



This big dog joined his human partner, along with many others in the Top Dog Parade.

registered participants, raises money to send local children to Camp Stix in Spokane and promotes diabetes awareness across all age groups.

Following the morning run, the community gathered for the Wayne Kelly Memorial St. Patty's Top Dog Parade through downtown Chelan. Participants of all ages dressed in green attire alongside their canine companions for the annual celebration.

Pat Kelly led the parade while holding a banner honoring his father, Wayne Kelly,



St. Patrick himself, hitched a ride on the back of this dog for the Top Dog Parade.

for whom the event is named. Many participants wore traditional Scottish kilts and plaid as they marched through town.

The local Girl Scout Troop was also present, informing attendees that Girl Scout Cookies would be delivered soon to those who placed orders.

Dogs of various sizes participated in the festivities, with some owners creating elaborate costumes for their pets. One small dog was seen carrying a miniature St. Patrick figure on its back.

The morning Shamrock



Leading the Wayne Kelly Memorial St. Patty's Top Dog Parade was Pat Kelly (on the left) holding the banner for the parade which honors his father, Wayne Kelly. He was joined by many in the wearing of the plaid and kilts.



The local Girl Scout Troop let everyone know that Girl Scout Cookies would be delivered soon to those that order them.

Shuffle began at Riverwalk Park Shelter, where young participants showed particular enthusiasm at the starting line of the 5K course.

Despite challenging weather at the start of the day, both events successfully brought the community together in celebration of Irish heritage and to support local charitable efforts.

PHOTOS BY RUTH KEYS/ WARD MEDIA



These youngsters were full of energy as they left the **Riverwalk Park Shelter for the** 5k Lake Chelan Lions Club Fun Run, raising money for the Lake Chelan Lions Club program to send kids with Type One Diabetes to Camp Stix in Spokane and promote local awareness about Diabetes for all ages.



Wearing of the green and shamrocks was the order of the day for the Top Dog Parade, with dogs of all sizes and shapes joining in the fun parade.

Community Bulletin Board Local, Regional Community **News & Events**

Meetings

Monday

- American Legion #108: First Monday, 7 p.m., Manson Parks & Recreation Building, 142 Pedio St. Contact: Norm Manly, 509-293-0225..
- Manson Grange Youth Fairs Program: Third Monday, 6 p.m., Manson Grange Building, youth 5th-8th grade. Contact: Norm Manly, 509-293-0225.
- 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

room at Lake Chelan Health, 110 S. Apple Blossom Drive. in person or via the internet. Agenda, login information: lakechelanhealth.org

Manson Grange: Fourth Tuesday, 5 p.m., Manson Grange Hall on Wapato Way, Contact: Norm Manly, 509-293-0225.

Wednesday

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. Attendees should use the side entrance of the church between the Lake Chelan Health Express Manson Fire Dept. Board of Commissioners: Second Wednesday, 3:30 p.m., Station #51 - 250 West Manson Blvd., Manson. Meetings are in person. Contact: Reggie Trusel, Administrative Assistant, 509-687-3222. Agenda at

Any non-profit 501(c)-(3) group, person(s). Must provide: full name, city, phone number. Items pertain-

ing to local events that are free or minimum charge. Garage and

Yard Sale Ads are paid events.

To submit info call 509-682-2213 or

email:ruth@ward.media

mansonfire.org Chelan Fire & Rescue Board of Commissioners: Third Wednesday, 3 p.m., Station #71, 232 E. Wapato Ave., Chelan. Meetings are in person and are held via ZOOM you can follow the link: https://us02web.zoom. us/j/87284665516. Meeting ID: 872 8466 5516 or dial +1 253 215 8782/ Contact: Misty Fifield, Administrative Assistant. 509-682-4476. Agenda at

Chelan County Sheriff Report

March 14

- 06:34:07Accident Injury, US HWY 97A MP 238, Chelan 12:18:57 Suspicious, 1174 IVAN
- MORSE RD, Manson 12:58:40 Harass/Threat, 2681
- ENTIAT WAY, Entiat 14:07:22 Animal Problem, 2127 W
- HIGH ST. Chelan 14:55:19 Theft, 230 E FARNHAM
- AVE# Cl, Chelan 15:44:41 Welfare Check, 117 E
- WOODIN AVE; VOGUE, Chelan 16:48:40 Warrant, E JOHNSON
- AVE & N NICHOLS, Chelan 16:52:15 Traffic Offense, 77
- WAPATO WAY, Manson 17:26:24 Weapons Violation, 401 WASHINGTON ST# 5, Chelan
- 17:39:32 Court Order, 25888 HOWARD FLATS RD NE, Chelan
- 19:32:56 Court Order, 711 E WAPATO AVE# 1, Chelan
- 19:36:28 Animal Problem, 53 S LAKESHORE RD. Chelan 22:40:40 Assist Agency, EARTH-
- QUAKE POINT, Entiat LAKESHORE RD, Chelan

TROW AVE, Chelan 23:38:24 Alarm, 146 LONG DR, Chelan

March 16

- 01:18:03 Disturbance, 322 W WOODIN AVE. Chelan
- 11:39:42 Malicious Misch, 25888 HOWARD FLATS RD NE, Chelan
- 13:12:11 Assist Public, oBLK JOE CREEK FS 8210 RD, Manson
- 13:59:21 Welfare Check, 144 E JOHNSON AVE, Chelan
- 14:20:40 Hazard, SR 150 & DIET-RICH RD, Chelan
- 17:18:13 Welfare Check, UNION VALLEY RD & BLUE GRO 2, Chelan
- 17:28:52 Scam, 476 WHISPER PL, Chelan
- 18:54:11 Parking/Abandon, 15131 N LAKESHORE DR, Entiat
- 18:56:08 Dui, 87 ROSES AVE, Manson
- 22:33:55 Welfare Check, 62 VILLAGE VISTA LN, Manson 23:12:55 Hazard, 11100BLK S



- March 18
- 01:18:07 Prowler, 6710 NAVARRE COULEE RD, Chelan
- 06:28:37 Parking/Abandon, WAPATO WAY & GREEN AVE, Manson
- 7:28:27 Accident No Inj, 14565 US HWY 97A # 1, Entiat
- 7:49:10 Accident Unk, N APPLE BLOSSOM DR & US HW, Chelan 10:22:12 Trespass, US HWY 97 MP
- 237, Chelan
- 10:37:30 Assist Public, 134 WILL-MORTH DR. Chelan
- 12:01:41 Abuse, CHELAN, Chelan 13:19:28 Welfare Check, 20 BIT-TERBRUSH LN, Chelan
- 17:16:46 Trespass, 108 N APPLE BLOSSOM DR, Chelan
- 17:53:46 Traffic Offense, SR 150 MP 11, Chelan
- 18:20:37 Suspicious, 25888 HOWARD FLATS RD NE

Tuesday

- Manson Community Council: Third Tuesday, 6 p.m., Manson Parks Department, 142 Pedi St. In person or JOIN ZOOM MEETING: Meeting ID: 865 5396 3012, Passcode: 98831: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8 6553963012?pwd=feCLUlQkf3 Z2TgEGDFvVaCEHpFl6AB.1
- 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
- Lake Chelan Health Hospital board meeting: Fourth Tuesday, 1:30 p.m., board

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.

Free Blood Pressure Checks: Chelan Valley Community Nurse program provide free, bi-weekly (Wednesday, March 19) blood pressure checks to everyone in the valley, 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Chelan Senior Center, 534 E. Trow Avenue, Chelan. For info: Catharine at 509-679-9059, email: chelanvallevcommunitynurse gmail.com. You will be provided a wallet size record card to share with your physician if desired.

chelan7.com Death Cafe Chelan: Third

Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Chelan Public Library, 216 N. Emerson Street. Contact: Concie Luna or Vita Monteleone at monte419@nwi.net.

Thursday

- Lake Chelan Lions Club: First and Third Thursdays, 9 a.m., Manson Parks Building, 142 Pedoi St.
- **Chelan Cancer Support Group:**

First Thursday, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Lake Chelan Health Hospital. Lunch (purchase from hospital cafe) meeting 3n Bragg Room. Meetings are open to

See BULLETIN BOARD Page A4

23:27:23 Dui, US HWY 97A MP 219, Entiat

RD, Chelan

Cascade

Manson

March 15

23:42:06 Dui, 900BLK W MANSON

02:12:50 Domestic Disturbance,

526 BOYD LOOP RD, Chelan

06:47:32 911, 902 E WOODIN AVE,

11:33:58 Assist Public, 25888

17:19:19 Warrant, S SANDERS ST &

19:39:54 Traffic Offense, 485 W

20:54:22 Welfare Check, UNION

E TROW AVE, Chelan

MANSON RD, Chelan

VALLEY RD. Chelan

HOWARD FLATS RD NE, Chelan

March 17

05:32:21 Hazard, 300BLK STAYMAN FLATS RD, Chelan

05:45:24 Domestic Disturbance. 115 APPLE AVE, Chelan

- 08:52:55 Fraud/Forgery, 2127 W HIGH ST, Chelan
- 09:37:15 Assist Public, CHELAN FALLS, Chelan
- 10:20:46 Property, 200BLK BOETZKES AVE, Manson
- 10:28:27 Miscellaneous, 401 WASHINGTON ST# 5, Chelan
- 17:39:14 Hazard, 30 ARIEL LN, 12:59:12 Trespass, 53 S LAKE-SHORE RD, Chelan
 - 13:00:01 Suspicious, OLD CHELAN BRIDGE, Chelan
 - 14:20:19 Vehicle Theft, 561 AZWELL RD. Chelan
- 22:41:26 Traffic Offense, 534 E 21:17:00 Trespass, 505 BOYD LOOP

Chelan 19:15:59 Trespass, 108 N APPLE BLOSSOM DR, Chelan

- 21:13:39 Disturbance, 77 WAPATO WAY, Manson
- 21:17:58 Alarm, 222 E WOODIN AVE, Chelan
- 21:39:41 Disturbance, 610 SR 150, Manson

March 19

- 06:11:38 Accident No Inj, 2484 MANSON BLVD, Manson
- 08:33:45 Welfare Check, 4245 UNION VALLEY RD, Chelan
- 08:57:37 Theft, 67 WAPATO LAKE RD, Chelan
- 09:32:18 Assist Public, 207 N EMERSON ST. Chelan

See SHERIFF REPORT Page A4



Frontline **REAL ESTATE-RUSS MCCLELLAN & TEAM**



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Chelan, Manson, Entiat BASEBALL - SOFTBALL - SOCCER - TRACK & FIELD



We've got spirit YES WE DO



CHELAN HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

BOYS VARSITY BASEBALL			
Sat, Mar 29 12:00: PM	Chelan vs.	Colville	Home
Tue, Apr 1 4:30: PM	Chelan vs.	Cascade	Home

BOYS VARSITY SOCCER				
Thu, Mar 27 4:00 PM	Chelan vs.	Cashmere	Home	
Sat, Mar 29 1:00 PM	Chelan vs.	Cascade	Away	

VARSITY TRACK			
Sat, Mar 29 10:00 AM	Chelan vs.	49th Ray Cross Invitational	@ Ephrata

V	ARSITY	TENNIS	
Thu, Mar 27 3:00 PM	Chelan vs.	East Valley	Home @ Lake Chelan Shores

GIRLS VARSITY SOFTBALL				
Thu, Mar 27 4:30 PM	Chelan vs.	Okanogan	Away	
Sat, Mar 29 12:00 PM	Chelan vs.	Colville	Home	
Tue, Apr 1 3:00 PM	Chelan vs.	Naches Valley	Away	

CHELAN HIGH SCHOOL SCOREBOARD

	BOYS VAF	RSITY BASEBALL	
Sat, Mar 22	Chelan 12	Okanogan 2	Win

	BOYS VA	RSITY SOCCER	
Tue, Mar 18	Chelan 1	Quincy 4	Loss
Thu, Mar 20	Chelan 0	Othello 3	Loss

MANSON HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

BOYS	VARSIT	Y BASEBALL		
Sat, Mar 29 11:00: AM	Manson vs.	Bridgeport	Home	
BOY	S VARSI	TY TENNIS		
Thu, Mar 27 4:00: PM	Manson vs.	Pateros	Away	
BOY	S VARSI	TY SOCCER		
Thu, Mar 27 4:30: PM	Manson vs.	Liberty Bell	Home	
GIRLS VARSITY SOFTBALL				
Sat, Mar 29 11:00: PM	Manson vs.	Bridgeport	Home	

GIRLS VARSITY TENNIS				
Thu, Mar 27 4:00: PM	Manson vs.	Pateros	Awa	

MANSON HIGH SCHOOL SCOREBOARD

	BOYS VARSITY SOCCER				
Thu, Mar 20	Manson 0	Okanogan 1	Loss		
Sat, Mar 22	Manson 0	Brewster 1	Loss		



Washington State House honors **Chelan High School volleyball for** fifth consecutive championship

Lake Chelan Mirror

mitment to excellence" demon- belief, resilience, dominance, an unwavering commitment to determination, and adaptabilsuccess." With the unanimous adoption of the resolution, the ENTIAT HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

BOYS VARSITY TENNIS			
Thu, Mar 20 4:00: PM	Entiat vs.	Lake Roosevelt	Home
Fri, Mar 21 4:00: PM	Entiat vs.	Manson	Away
Mon, Mar 24 4:00: PM	Entiat vs.	Soap Lake	Away
Wed, Mar 26 4:00: PM	Entiat vs.	Oroville	Home

GIRLS VARSITY TENNIS						
Thu, Mar 20 4:00 PM	Entiat vs.	Lake Roosevelt	Home			
Fri, Mar 21 4:00 PM	Entiat vs.	Manson	Away			
Mon, Mar 24 4:00 PM	Entiat vs.	Soap Lake	Away			
Wed, Mar 26 4:00 PM	Entiat vs.	Oroville	Home			

GIRLS VARSITY TRACK									
Wed, Mar 26 4:00 PM	Entiat vs.	Tonasket Meet	Away						
Wed, Mar 26 4:00 PM	Entiat vs.	Ionasket Meet							



Strong **Body**, Strong Mind,

Ward Media

OLYMPIA - The Washington State House of Representatives formally recognized the Chelan High School Volleyball Team recently with the passage of House Resolution No. 2025-4639, honoring the team's historic achievement of winning a fifth consecutive state championship.

The resolution, introduced by Representatives Mike Steele and Brian Burnett, acknowledges the "unparalleled com-

strated by the team in securing its fifth consecutive Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) 1A State Volleyball Championship.

"The team's championship victory is a testament to the dedication, skill, and perseverance of the student-athletes, coaches, and supporters who have contributed to this historic achievement," states the resolution.

The document highlights several core values embodied by the team, including unity,

ity. It specifically notes how the team overcame earlyseason challenges and coaching changes with "grace and resilience" while maintaining focus on their championship aspirations.

The resolution emphasizes the team's impact beyond athletics, stating, "The Chelan Volleyball Team has brought immense pride to their school, families, and the Lake Chelan community by exemplifying sportsmanship, leadership, and

Washington State House of Representatives formally commended the players, coaches, and supporters for their dedication to excellence. Copies of the resolution will be transmitted to the Chelan High School Vollevball Team, their coaches, and the Lake Chelan School District.

The resolution was certified by Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.







Bulletin Board

Continued from page A3

anyone impacted by cancer. Including: patients, survivors, caregivers, family members and especially those who are recently diagnosed. It is also open to folks wanting to learn ways to support someone affected by cancer. It's a place where members can offer advice, share coping strategies, and build relationships along their journey. More info: Anne Brooks, 509-682-8718.

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.

Saturday

VFW #6853 Post Coffee/Donuts, Every Saturday, 9-11 a.m., 427 S. Bradley Street, donuts, coffee and conversation.

Other Events

Lake Chelan Senior Center will host a Spring Bazaar from 10 a.m to 3 p.m, at 534 E. Trow Avenue in beautiful Chelan.

"This free event will feature a variety of local vendors and unique handmade goods - a perfect way to celebrate the season and support the community." Information, contact Joan at the Lake Chelan Senior Center, 509-682-2712.

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

opportunities, you may call or visit us Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. (closed Noon to 1 p.m.), and speak with one of our helpful volunteers.

- Chelan Museum: The Chelan Museum is now open Thursday thru Saturday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., during the month of March, For more info: 509-682-5644 or https://chelanmuseum.com
- SAIL Exercise Classes: SAIL (Stay Active & Independent for Life) fitness classes are offered at Chelan Senior Center on Monday and Wednesday, 1:15 p.m. Evening SAIL classes are Monday and Thursday evenings, 5:30 p.m., Chelan Senior Center. SAIL classes are offered to residents of Heritage Heights Assisted Living on Mondays and Fridays at 2 p.m.
- Chelan Senior Meals: Served at Chelan Senior Center, 534 E. Trow Avenue, Monday-Friday. Suggested donation for seniors over age 60 is \$5. Fee for persons under age 60 is \$12. Call 509-888-4440 to reserve meals 24 hours

in advance. For information about Home Delivered Meals call 509-470-0522. Visit their website at www.octn.org. Follow them on Facebook.

Food Bank food distribution: Lake Chelan Food Bank food giveaway Saturday and Tuesday, 9 - 10 a.m. Drive through distribution at 417 S. Bradley Street. Families are limited to one box per week. Information: lakechelanfoodbank.org Non perishable food donations may be dropped off at the Lake Chelan Mirror office, 131 Apple Blossom Drive, Suite 109 (Chelan Business Center).

Household hazardous waste drop off: Chelan County Moderate Risk Waste Facility on Highway 97A in Wenatchee. Open the first Saturday of the month, g a.m.-4 p.m. Open Tuesday through Friday at the same hours. Free service to Chelan County residents. For the list of items that the facility does, and does not accept, go to https://www.co.chelan. wa.us/solid-waste-management/pages/household-hazardous-wastes

Sheriff Report

Continued from page A3

- 09:49:59 Burglary, 48 DIETRICH RD. Chelan
- 10:14:15 Civil, 25888 HOWARD FLATS RD NE, Chelan
- 10:25:33 911, 10 WINE GARDEN LN, Manson
- 10:53:42 Fraud/Forgery, 106 W MANSON RD, Chelan
- 11:14:22 Civil, 216 N EMERSON ST# 1, Chelan
- 11:31:18 Disturbance, 207 Ν EMERSON ST, Chelan
- 12:09:24 Suicide Threat, 1300BLK W WOODIN AVE, Chelan
- 13:25:01 Accident Injury, THREE FINGERS, Chelan
- 15:32:22 Traffic Offense, SR 150 & KEY LN, Chelan
- 15:40:49 Harass/Threat, 415 6TH ST, Chelan
- 17:25:31 Welfare Check, 207 N EMERSON ST, Chelan 20:12:29 Burglary, 717 N GOLF
- COURSE DR, Chelan

March 20

- 07:41:58 Drugs, 703 BOETZKES AVE. Manson
- 09:56:56 Welfare Check, 84 WAPATO WAY, Manson

- 10:36:09 Welfare Check, UNION VALLEY RD & BLUE GROW, Chelan
- 10:41:27 Property, 518 E WOODIN AVE. Chelan
- 12:29:54 Welfare Check, 229 W HIGHLAND AVE# 1/2, Chelan
- 13:25:55 Suspicious, 120 BOGEY BLVD, Chelan
- 13:36:18 Suspicious, 75 HURLEY LN, Manson
- 15:15:00 Welfare Check, 114 S EAST CENTER ST, Chelan
- 17:05:33 Civil, 3022 MANSON BLVD, Manson
- 17:38:47 911, ENTIAT WAY & ENTIAT RIVER, Entiat
- 17:48:07 Theft, 108 N APPLE BLOSSOM DR, Chelan
- 18:46:08 Fraud/Forgery, 14907 BURKEY ST, Entiat
- 19:23:18 Domestic Disturbance, 526 BOYD LOOP RD, Chelan
- 21:08:48 Welfare Check, 9969 SASKA WAY, Entiat







www.ncw.news

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CONNECTING COMMUNITIES ACROSS NORTH CENTRAL WASHINGTON

Helion opens dialogue with community on fusion power project

By TAYLOR CALDWELL Ward Media Staff Reporter

WENATCHEE - Approximately 350 people filled the Mission View Elementary gym to learn about the possible construction of the world's first fusion power plant in Malaga during an information meeting on March 11.

Helion, an Everett-based energy company, is considering a 10-acre site on Chelan PUD property near Rock Island Dam to build the first fusion machine to produce electricity, if successful.

The purpose of the power plant would be to fulfill a 50-megawatt power purchase agreement with Microsoft.

"Our goal is not just to provide electricity, but to provide electricity in a way that's clean and safe, that's really low cost," said CEO and founder David Kirtley.



TAYLOR CALDWELL / WARD MEDIA

The community meeting hosted a panel of leaders from Helion, Chelan County PUD and Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority to answer questions about the potential project.

With fusion, the company promises clean and cost-efficient energy without the downsides of existing nuclear power (fission), which runs the risk of an uncontrolled chain reaction and associated nuclear proliferation, and has long-lived ra-

dioactive waste. However, the developing fusion machine, named Polaris, would be the first of its kind to produce electricity at a commercial level. So far, the company has produced six prototypes. Its sixth generation, Trenta, became "the first privately-funded fusion device to reach commercially-relevant fusion conditions."

Helion hosted the informational meeting alongside Chelan County PUD and Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority to answer questions and field concerns from the public about the groundbreaking power project.

During the Q&A portion of the meeting, residents raised concerns of the reliability of executing the project, as well as impact on the public utility,

property taxes, and the environment.

'There's got to be a cost. There's got to be a form of pollution that we don't understand... How do we harness that unknown?" said audience member Gary Koehler, who referenced the Hanford Nuclear site contamination and the Columbia River dams' impact on salmon populations.

The company said its power plant footprint would be smaller than the size of a high school campus, its water usage would be comparable to a small hospital (100 to 300 gallons of water per minute), and its air emissions and radiation would be within Department of Health standards.

The plant would also have a nitrogen fire suppression system. Additionally, Helion explained its radioactive byproduct tritium had a half-life of only 12.5 years.

"It decays into helium-3. So this becomes like a wine cellar. As it ages, it ages into our fuel. These valves can be opened up. We can pull that helium-3 out and put it back into our machine," said Michael Hua, Helion Director of Radiation



TAYLOR CALDWELL / WARD MEDIA Helion CEO and Founder David Kirtley speaks to a standingroom-only crowd about fusion power. Safety and Nuclear Science.

so that's our interest here," said Chelan County PUD General Manager Kirk Hudson.

In response to concerns about project abandonment, Kirtley said the company had enough private investment to construct the "buildings and all the generator infrastructure for the facility." As part of the licensing process, the company also had to place the cost of decommissioning the site in a trust to ensure state-driven clean up was funded, said Hua.

The company is still in the process of permitting and agreements. If all goes to plan, it aims to deliver its first electrons to the grid by 2028, according to Helion Communications Director Jessie Barton.

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

Chelan-Douglas housing task force opens new grant application process March 31

NCW News / Ward Media

WENATCHEE - The Chelan-Douglas Homeless Housing Task Force will begin accepting applications for its 2025-2027 grant cycle starting March 31.

The task force, which serves Chelan and Douglas counties, is preparing to distribute approximately \$6 million in Consolidated Homeless Grant funds for local homeless housing programs. This represents a significant reduction from the current funding cycle. Due to the state's budget deficit, the 2025-2027 grant cycle anticipates at least a 20 percent reduction in available funding. The state has emphasized local governments must maintain the level of services and number of beds available in communities.

ed until 5 p.m. on May 2 and must be submitted to Amber Hallberg, Chelan County Community Services Manager. No late applications will be considered.

The two-year grants will run from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2027.Eligible applicants include registered nonprofits, government agencies, and federally recognized Washington state tribes.

tenance costs are also eligible for funding.

The grants are supported by two primary funding sources: the Consolidated Homeless Grant, provided by the Washington State Department of Commerce, and Local Homeless Housing funds generated from document recording fees.

The local document recording fee fund supports activities outlined in the region's five-

Deadline approaching for studded tire removal

Audience members also

raised the question of both

Helion and Microsoft's impact

on local taxpayers. Chelan

Douglas Regional Port Author-

ity Commissioner Donn Ether-

ington said the new construc-

tion and raised assessed value

from the projects would create

"tax relief on your property

taxes," earning a round of ap-

plause from the gym. Addition-

al concerns were raised with

the large load growth impact-

"One of the things we hear

loud and clear from you all is

concerns about large load data

centers and not using up the

surplus hydropower electricity

that we have ... This is actu-

ally potentially helping in that

regard, and coming up with

an emerging technology that

would address large loads. And

ing the local power utility.

NCW News / Ward Media

OLYMPIA - Spring is arriving in the Northwest, and with it comes Washington's deadline to remove studded tires.

Studded tires must be removed by the end of the day Monday, March 31 to avoid a potential fine of \$137. Automotive centers are expected to be busy the weekend before the deadline, so the Washington State Department of Transportation encourages travelers to plan ahead.

by the Washington State Patrol as soon as Tuesday, April 1. WSDOT does not issue tickets. Washington and Oregon share the same March 31 removal deadline, but other states may have different rules. All drivers - including visitors - must follow Washington's motor vehicle laws while in the state.

Weather and road

tires and carry chains to have handy if necessary. WSDOT crews will continue to monitor weather and roadway conditions and respond quickly to any spring snow.

"Studded tires cause between \$20 million to \$29 million in damage to Washington's state-owned roads each winter, in addition to damaging city and county roads," said WSDOT Maintenance Opera-

tions Manager James Morin.

"There are many alternative

Applications will be accept-

The task force has indicated a preference for funding existing programs, though this is not a requirement.

All projects must comply with Consolidated Homeless Grant guidelines.

The funding will support administrative and operational costs for various homeless services, including emergency shelters, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, and rental assistance programs. Limited mainyear homeless housing strategic plan.

During the current grant cycle, which concludes June 30, Chelan and Douglas counties received approximately \$8 million in combined funding through these programs.

Applications will be available on the Chelan County website beginning March 31. Interested organizations can direct questions to Amber Hallberg at amber.hallberg@co.chelan. wa.us or 509-667-6881.

Studded tire regulations

Studded tires are legal in Washington from Nov. 1 to March 31. There is no individual exception or "out of state waiver" to the studded tire dates. Tickets could be issued

Sheriff's SUV

Continued from page A1

conditions

State law gives WSDOT the authority to extend the traction options available. We encourage drivers to consider deadline when circumstances call for it. While late-season non-stud, winter-tread tires, snow is possible in mountain passes, there are no statewide forecasts warranting a deadline extension. For mountain travel, WSDOT recommends drivers use approved traction

on the ground, however, deputies are now free to travel the

community without assistance.

the acquisition a reflection of

the CCSO's "commitment to

serving all of our communities

to the best of our ability.'

Sheriff Mike Morrison calls

Stehekin may be remote, but they are an integral and important part of Chelan County, and this move is meant to show just that.

Andrew Simpson: 509-433-7626 or and rew@ward.media

State Parks expands same-day camping reservations to all campgrounds

NCW News / Ward Media

OLYMPIA - The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission is opening up more camping opportunities for visitors by expanding its same-day reservation option to all parks with reservable campgrounds.

Visitors will be able to secure a campsite instead of traveling to a park and gambling on the availability of a first come, first served site.

Campers can book a sameday reservation until 2 p.m. on their intended day of arrival.

This change is specific to campground reservations and does not apply to roofed accommodations, vacation rentals, yurts and day-use facilities (like picnic shelters).

First come, first served camping is still available for unreserved sites after 2:30 p.m.

State Parks launched its same-day reservation pilot program in September 2023 at Cape Disappointment, Deception Pass and Millersylvania state parks. Due to its success, it was expanded in 2024 to an additional 24 parks. To date, the program has brought in more than 7,000 same-day reservations for sites that might otherwise have been vacant.

This system-wide improvement will provide more opportunities for more campers to experience a night in a state park, and it will improve the experience for day-of planners. Additionally, this change will help the agency fill sites with last-minute cancellations.

State Parks is primarily funded by earned revenue, with 64% of its funds coming from fees, purchases, donations and other revenue and 36% coming from state general funds. Camping and roofed accommodations account for 40% of the agency's earned revenue and 23% of its total funding.

How to make a reservation Customers have two options for booking a same-day reservation:

• Online at washington.goingtocamp.com

• Bv calling 1-888-CAMPOUT (1-888-226-7688)

NCW Libraries, Write On The River launch 14th annual high school writers competition

NCW News / Ward Media

WENATCHEE - NCW Libraries and Write On The River are now accepting submissions for their 14th annual High School Writers Competition, offering cash prizes for original fiction by students in grades 9-12 across five counties in North Central Wash-

ington.

The competition, which opened March 14, welcomes entries from students in Chelan, Douglas, Okanogan, Grant, and Ferry counties, including public, private, homeschooled, and Running Start students.

Write On The River will award a total of \$200 in cash prizes to three winners selected for excellence in original short fiction.

Eligible submissions must be the student's original work, between 500-2,000 words, previously unpublished, and created without artificial intelligence assistance.

See NCW LIBRARIES Page A6



which provide excellent traction without the road damage caused by metal studs." More information about studded tire regulations in Washington is available online.

would be transported by air or boat, depending on the urgency of their arrival. A flight up the lake would take around just 25 minutes in an emergency. Once

Eastmont District budget update sees staff cuts due to reduced enrollment

By ANDREW SIMPSON Ward Media Staff Reporter

EAST WENATCHEE Interim Eastmont School District Superintendent Spencer Taylor is tasked with delivering difficult news to parents and the community.

But a school district's budget is a tightrope even in the most affluent communities, and all across Washington state there's been an education funding crisis for years. Taylor notes that the community has become accustomed to budget shortfalls, but is not attributing this one to Eastmont-specific policies.

Now, due to reduced enrollment primarily at the two extremes of the grade spectrum, there are unfortunately staff reductions in the works. At the kindergarten level, reduced enrollment can come from a number of factors, but is explained primarily by a decreasing birth rate and the cost of housing in this area. At the high school level, many students are availing themselves of the Running Start program and find themselves in seats at Wenatchee Valley College instead of Eastmont.

In fact, the district anticipates a three-point-five percent reduction in enrollment. That



ANDREW SIMPSON/ WARD MEDIA

Many high school students have joined the Running Start program, which puts them in Wenatchee Valley College and out of Eastmont's enrollment numbers.

looks like it's going to translate to approximately 10% cuts in administration, which will bear the brunt of the reductions. The district anticipates a five percent reduction in the budget each in both certificated staff (those holding teaching certificates) and classified staff (those not required to be certified, like custodians and bus drivers).

The reason for the use of percentages rather than real numbers for expected cuts is that much of the "right-sizing," as Taylor calls it, will come from restructuring existing roles. Where one person may have been filling a role as a job of its own previously, two or more jobs may be consolidated into one in the future. For



ANDREW SIMPSON/ WARD MEDIA

Although most reductions will take place at the kindergarten and high school levels, even the junior high could see repurposed teachers filling roles elsewhere due to teacher attrition.

example, Taylor is the Executive Director of Elementary Education for Eastmont, but was named Interim Superintendent last December in anticipation of former ESD Superintendent Becky Berg's retirement at the beginning of this year.

He now holds both roles until a new Superintendent is appointed by the school board.

The district does not believe there will be a large disruption in class sizes, from essentially no change for elementary levels to slight variations based on department at the secondary level.

Many parents have questioned the prioritization of sports and the purchase of a



WARD MEDIA

At Kenroy Elementary, school administrators took visitors on a tour to show them the state of the nearly 70-year-old building before a bond vote.

bus over keeping staff. The district explains that sports funding and transportation spending come from entirely separate funding allocations and can't be redirected to staffing. The district could not, for example, forego repairs to a district vehicle in order to redirect that money to teacher pay. Priorities are on the mind

NCW Libraries

Continued from page A5

Students may submit one piece annually, and there is no entry fee. The submission deadline is April 11.

The competition was established and continues to be sponsored by New York Times bestselling author Chelsea Cain, who visited Wenatchee in 2011 as a speaker at the

of the Eastmont Education Association President, as well. Natalie Hoback-Noyd holds a dual role herself, as both the Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports Coordinator at Kenroy Elementary and the EEA union leader.

"Eastmont Education Association members understand the District's challenges, although we do not agree with some of the budget items the District has chosen to prioritize," Hoback-Noyd said. But in addition to being in this for the kids, Hoback-Noyd says the union wants to preserve what they can through collective bargaining. "Our goal is to offer contract concessions to save as many jobs as possible," she said.

You can see their current contract at this link.

An additional struggle that Eastmont faces is the fact that the state only funds about 70% of school district positions, and in practice, actually underfunds the true costs, according to Taylor. The schools are forced to make up the shortfall with levies and other revenues to make sure that educators

Write On The River Confer-

connecting regional writers

with educational opportuni-

ties in fiction, nonfiction, and

publishing, while fostering a

vibrant writing community in

region through 30 library lo-

cations, digital resources,

a Mail Order Library, and a

NCW Libraries serves the

North Central Washington.

The organization focuses on

ence.

and administrative staff get required cost of living adjustments.

"We are keeping the student experience at the heart of this,' said Taylor. "This is really hard. Eastmont has a great culture, and we try to do our best to support our staff, so our staff can support students, and any time that you're not able to keep staff, it is really, really hard."

Taylor wants parents and community members to know one thing first and foremost: That all budget decisions are being made with students in mind, and that all contracts are being honored, including the contract with the community that funds their levy.

"District budgets are incredibly complicated, and we want to make sure that your questions are answered," said Taylor. He added that you can contact his office at 509-884-7169 or taylors@eastmont206.org, or you can reach Kayla Brown, the executive director of human resources at brownk@eastmont206.org.

Andrew Simpson: 509-433-7626 or and rew@ward.media

Community Bookmobile, with a mission to connect residents with resources that promote individual growth and community development.

Interested students can find complete guidelines and submission information at www.writeontheriver.org or www.ncwlibraries.org/writerscompetition, where works by past winners are also available for reading.



Legislators

Continued from page A1

The proposal would increase in annual property tax growth from the current 1 percent cap to the combined rate of population growth plus inflation.

On the topic of housing, Sen. Goehner, who sits on the related committee, discussed his support for more housing options through his sponsorship of middle housing allowed in Urban Growth Areas (UGA). However, he could not support the proposed rent control cap of 7 percent annually.

"I talked with a number of low income housing people, and they've encouraged me to support that, and I've told them I can't support it, because I really do care about low income housing people. Because if this goes in, it's shown to be across the nation to actually be a deterrent to more housing being built," said Sen. Goehner.

Education also received significant attention during the town hall, with concerns of budget declines and dwindling resources from a local teacher.

The representatives affirmed their commitment to education funding in the budget, as well as exploring additional means of support.

Concerns also arose from a retired teacher regarding the need for a permanent cost-ofliving-adjustment (COLA) for closed retirement plans.

"It's something that I care deeply about. I know it's something that Sen. Goehner cares deeply about, and I know it's something that Rep. Burnett is absolutely behind, and it's something we all believe...That

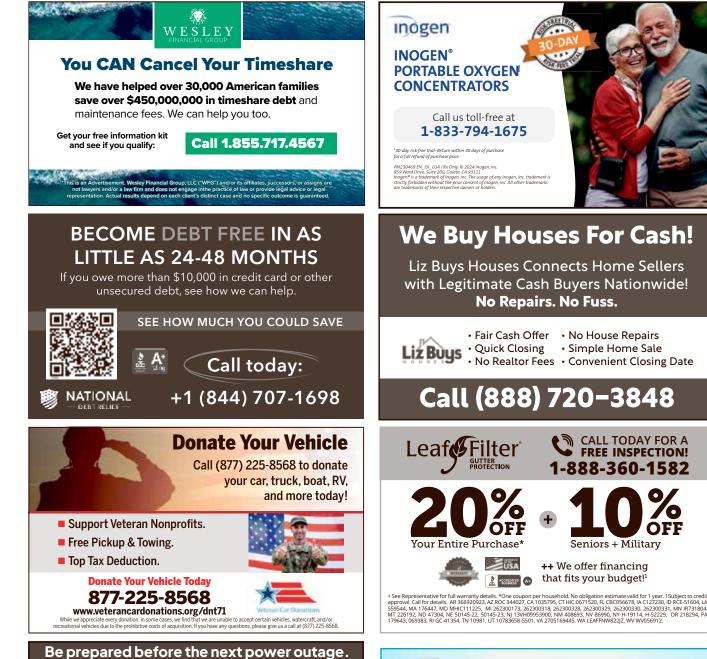
a promise made should be a promise kept," said Rep. Steele.

Additionally, Rep. Burnett discussed his first legislative bill proposal, House Bill 1969, which would provide financial assistance to local law enforcement aviation support units. The bill passed the House floor and is currently under review in the Senate.

"That's just going to help provide some funding for our four agencies in Washington State, which [are] Snohomish, King, Chelan and Spokane, that [have] rotary programs primarily for search and rescue," said Rep. Burnett.

Comments and questions can be left for the legislators via the toll free legislative hotline: 1-800-562-6000.

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



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GENERAC





Jaqueline Woods La Chapelle

Jacqueline Woods La Chatheatre, crafting, gardening, and pelle, "Jackie," daughter of Forcaregiving. She was a voracious rest and Marjorie Woods, passed reader and passed on her acaaway on January 21, 2025. Born demic discipline to her children. Jackie also enjoyed cooking with March 9, 1947, in Salem, Oregon, she moved to Woodburn with her family when the town had approxi-

mately 2,500 residents. They became active members of the Baptist church on Gatch Street. Jackie graduated from Woodburn High School in 1965 and Oregon State University in 1969 with a BS in Speech. At OSU, she met and married David Simmons, father of her three children.

Jackie's career life included be-

ing a vice principal and counselor,

teacher and adjunct professor

of Speech, social worker, and

culinary arts instructor. She en-

joyed teaching and working with

students of all ages to improve

During her years in teaching.

she met fellow educator and

second husband, Lawrence La

Chapelle, the love of her life and

role model to her children. They remained married until his pass-

Jackie enjoyed and excelled in many creative pursuits including

plaving the flute, quilting, singing,

ing on December 5, 2018.

their lives.



an annual tradition. Her sense of humor, love of life and strong faith were beacons of light to any gathering.

Jackie is survived by children Valeri Hodson. (Mark) from Whidbey Island, WA, Drew Simmons (Jennifer) Win-

throp, WA and Steven Simmons (Kalee) Chelan, WA. She is also survived by sisters Winnie Sample (William), Salem, Oregon and Vivian Kamph (Fred) McMinnville, OR, and brother, Vaughn Woods (Terrie) La Jolla, CA.

Jackie maintained a strong faith in Jesus throughout her life. In life, we all decide whether we invite faith to come along for the ride. Jackie did.

The public is invited to celebrate the life of Jackie at a Memorial Service to be held at Mid-Valley Community Church, 591 Gatch Street, Woodburn, Oregon, 97071, Saturday, April 5, 2025, at 2:00 p.m.



Joanna "Pete" Simmons

Joanna "Pete" Simmons, 93, of Brewster, Washington, and formerly of Manson, Washington passed on March 20, 2025.

Precht Rose Chapel is handling the arrangements for the family.



La Chapelle

Lake Chelan Mirror March 26, 2025

Classifieds WARD MEDIA

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE All real estate advertis-ing in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimina-tion based on race color religion tion based on race, color, religion sex, handicap, familial status or na-tional 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 discrimi-nation call HUD at 1-800-669-9777. The number for hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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Miscellaneous

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Employment

Help Wanted



School District is seeking qualified applicants for the following position:

Bus Drivers

Paid Training Benefits and PTO Please call Lori Duncan @ (509) 548-6039 for more information.

Fast Track application process and information can be found on our website at www.cascadesed.org EOE

Finance/ HR Assistant **Full Time** Organization: Okanogan County Transit

Authority (TranGO) TranGO is looking for a Finance/HR full-time Assistant. This position is hourly non-exempt. Compensation is \$26.20 per hour. Benefits include health, dental, vision, life insurance (see website benefit details). for retirement, sick leave, and vacation. Responsible for assisting in operations in the areas of accounting, finance, budget. procurement, and contracts. Assists in the agency's human resources programs including recruitment, labor relations. compensation and benefit administration. drug staff development, testing program and record keeping in accordance with state. federal, and local laws. Bilingual, English/ preferred. Spanish Please visit

Help Wanted

Administrative **Assistant Full-time** Organization: Okanogan **County Transit** Authority (TranGO) TranGO is looking for a Administrative full-time Assistant. This position is non-exempt. hourly Compensation is \$20.33 - 21.99 per hour – DOE. Benefits include health, dental, vision, life insurance. (see website details) for benefit retirement, sick leave, and vacation. Responsible to perform a variety of front desk. clerical, administrative office support functions and customer service duties. Bilingual English/Spanish preferred. Please visit

WWW. okanogantransit.com for required qualifications. application. and job description. A application complete including a resume and cover letter must be

submitted in order to be considered for the E-mail position. your completed application to financehr@ okanogantransit.com or mail to TranGO, PO Box 507, Okanogan WA 98840

Application Deadline: Open until filled. Okanogan County Transit Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

PUD No. 1 of Okanogan County is seeking to fill the Director of Finance, Accounting and Administration position headquartered in our Okanogan office. Please see www.okanoganpud.org for job description. requirements and submit application with resume.

Okanogan PUD is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Full-time

Organization: Okanogan

County Transit

Authority (TranGO)

Supervisor. This position

is hourly non-exempt.

Compensation is \$30.73

– 33.24 per hour - DOE.

Benefits include health.

insurance (see website

vacation.

drivers, the maintenance

of our transit system, and

ensuring the safe and

efficient transportation of

English/Spanish

www.

okanogantransit.com

qualifications. application.

and job description. A

including a resume and

cover letter must be

submitted in order to be

completed application to

financehr@

okanogantransit.com

or mail to TranGO, PO

Box 507. Okanogan WA

Application Deadline:

Open until filled.

Okanogan County

Transit Authority is an

Equal Opportunity

Employer.

for

preferred. Please visit

benefit

retirement, sick

vision,

assists

the

TranGO is hiring

full-time

dental,

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98840

position. E-mail

position

overseeing

passengers.

Help Wanted

The Bridgeport School District has the following opening for the 2025-26 school vear: **Secondary Special Education Teacher.** The position is open until filled. Apply on-line: https://www.bsd75.org/pa ge/employmentopportunities. For further information. please contact the HR office at 509-686-5656 or email iobs@bsd75.org. BSD is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Legals

Public Notices SHERIFF'S PUBLIC NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CHELAN LODGE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff(s),

vs. TINIAN, LLC, a New Mexico limited liability company, Defendant(s). Cause No. 24-2-00789-04 Judgment Rendered On: 12-13-24

Order of Sale Issued: 2-24-25 Date Received: 3-13-25 Date of Levy: 3-14-25

Superior Court of Chelan The County has directed the undersigned Sheriff of Chelan County to sell the property described below to satisfy а judgment in the above-entitled action. The property address is in Washington and legally described as:

Legal Description: UNIT 638-C DECLARATION THEREOF RECORDED APRIL 04, 1984, UNDER AUDITOR'S FILE NO. 8404040186, RECORDS OF CHELAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON, AND ALL AMENDMENTS THERETO, THE LAST OF WHICH RECORDED MARCH 23, 2004, UNDER AUDITOR'S FILE NO. 2169625, UNDER AND SAID UNIT IS LOCATED ON SURVEY MAP AND PLANS FILED IN VOLUME 19 OF CONDOMINIUMS, PAGES 16 THROUGH 31;

The Assessor's Property Tax Parcel or Account Number: N/A Property Address: 1 Wapato Point Parkway #638-C, Manson, WA 98831

Public Notices

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CHELAN LODGE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff v. CHAD ADAMS and JOHN/JANE DOE ADAMS, and their marital community, Defendants. No. 24-2-00648-04 SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION (60 DAYS) The State of Washington, To:

CHAD ADAMS and JOHN/JANE DOE ADAMS , and their marital community. You are hereby summoned to appear within sixty days after the date of the first publication of this summons, to wit, within sixty days after the _26th day of _February__, 2025, and defend the above entitled action in the above entitled court, and answer the complaint of the plaintiff and serve a copy of your answer upon the undersigned attorney for plaintiff at his (or their) office below stated; and in case of your failure so to do, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the complaint, which has been filed with the clerk of said court. The object of this action collect unpaid being to assessments and foreclose a lien for the same. This concerns collection of a debt. Anv information obtained or provided will be used for that purpose. The attorney is acting as a debt collector. Signed: /s/ Patrick M. McDonald

Pody & McDonald, PLLC Dean H. Pody, WSBA #27585 Patrick M. McDonald, WSBA #36615 Asha A. Abdulle, WSBA #61101 1000 Second Avenue, Suite 1605 Seattle, WA 98104-1094 Published in the Lake Chelan Mirro on

February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 2, 2025. #9476

Public Notices

Lake Chelan **Reclamation District** Budget Workshop

The Board of Directors of Lake Chelan Reclamation District will meet for a special Board Meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 08, 2025 at the District office. The purpose of the meeting is to hold a Budget Workshop.

Published in the Lake Chelan Mirror March 26 and April 2, 2025. #9606



Email your Classifieds & Legal Notices to: classifieds@ward.media or call 509-293-6780

Public Notices

SUPERIOR COURT, STATE OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF SPOKANE In the Matter of the Estate of TERRI L. AAL, Deceased. NO. NOTICE TO CREDITORS RCW 11.40.030

Personal Representative The 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 (30) 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 (4) months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever otherwise barred, except as 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: March 12, 2025. DENISE KLIEWER Presented By: STAMPER RUBENS, P.S. STEVEN O. ANDERSON, WSBA #34572 Attorney for the Estate TERRI L. AAL West 720 Boone, Suite 200 Spokane, WA 99201 Published in the Lake Chelan Mirror March 12, 19, and 26, 2025. #9553



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www.

okanogantransit.com required for qualifications. application. and job description. A complete application including a resume and cover letter must be submitted in order to be considered for the position. E-mail your completed application to financehr@ okanogantransit.com or mail to TranGO, PO Box 507. Okanogan WA 98840 Application Deadline:

Open until filled. Okanogan County Transit Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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ncw.news/ leavenworthecho.com cashmerevalleyrecord.com lakechelanmirror.com qcherald.com

The sale of the above-described **Road Supervisor** property is to take place:

Road

life

details).

Bilingual,

required

application

the

your

leave.

This

in

bus

Time 9:30 AM Friday, May 2, 2025 Date

Place https://www.bid4assets.com/ chelancountysheriffsales

The judgment debtor can avoid the sale by paying the judgment amount of Eighteen thousand fifty-seven and 22/100 dollars (\$18,057.22) plus interest, costs, and fees before the sale date. For the exact amount, contact the sheriff at the address stated below. DATED: March 14, 2025 MIKE MORRISON, SHERIFF CHELAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

By: /s/ Jen Ramm, Civil Deputy P.O. Box 36 98807 0036 401 Washington Street, Level One Wenatchee, Washington 98801 Sheriff's Civil Process No. C25-00182 509 667 6876

Published in the Lake Chelan Mirror March 26, April 2; April 9, and April 16, 2025. #9645



	6		/			9	2		Like puzzles? Then you'll love
ngaaaa			6						sudoku. This mind-bending
				9	7				puzzle will have you hooked from
				4	2		5		the moment you square off, so
						2	8	4	sharpen your pencil and put
		secoda					9		your sudoku savvy to the test!
		5						2	
7					8	6			

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

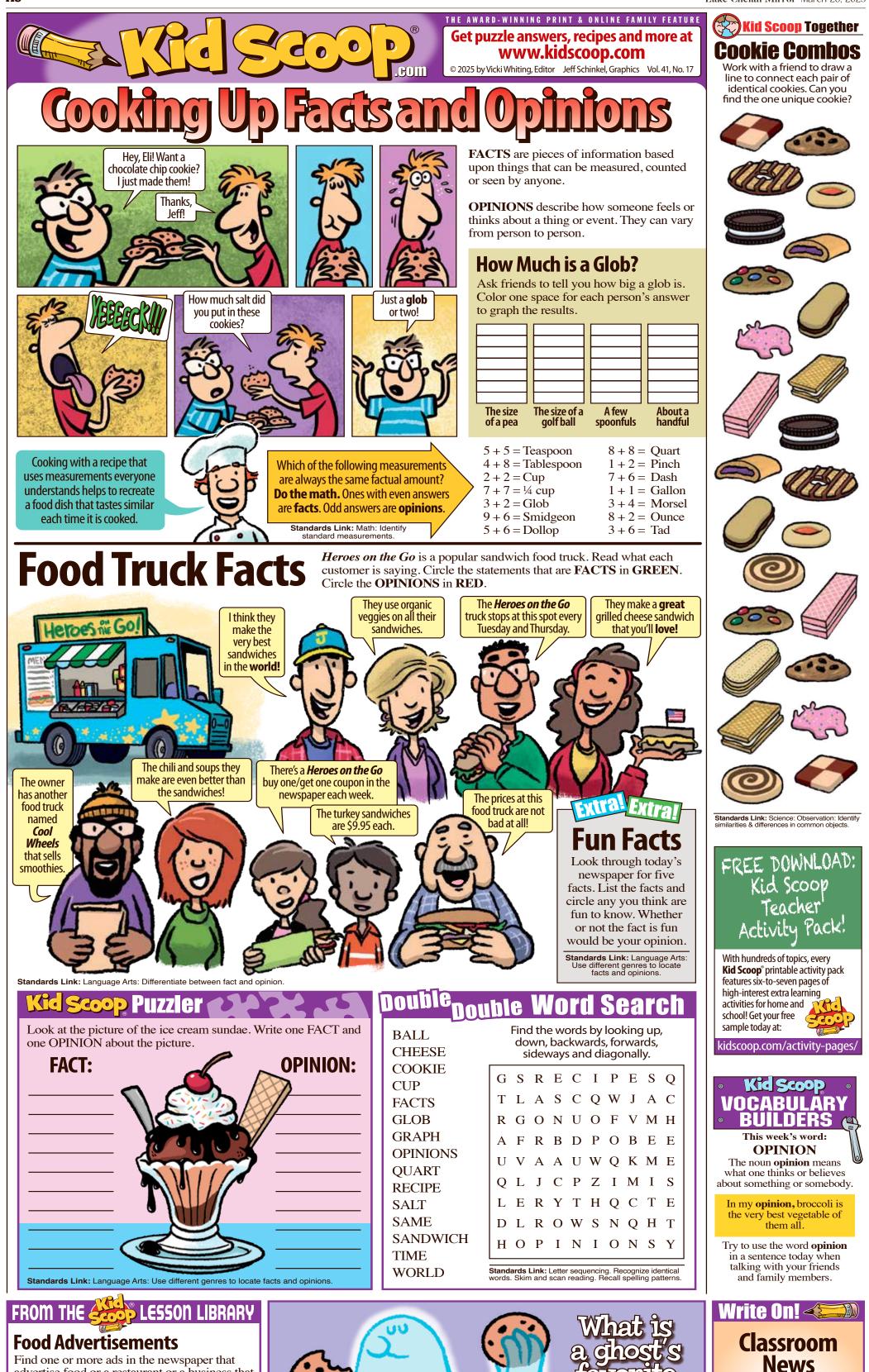
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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:AJWSNA								



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advertise food or a restaurant or a business that sells food. Circle any facts in the ads in green. Circle any opinions in the ads in red. Are there more facts or opinions?

Standards Link: Language Arts: Identify facts and opinions.

MEDIA PARTNER

Libraries

WARD MEDIA

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Write a paragraph telling

about something that

happened in your

classroom.

or beginner

Growing your own produce is an all-around smart practice ate inviting

A few pops of color can help make your yard look superb

for sm

You can almost always find a spot or two for extra storage

STOCK PHOTO

Creating a fire-resistant landscape Protecting your home from wildfire

TREE SPACING 6 FEET to to too feet to 60 feet Trees/clumps of trees umps of trees should have a mil of 6 feet between tree tops should have a min of 12 feet between should have a minimum o 18 feet between tree tops

Proper tree spacing is a key factor in wildfire defense. This diagram illustrates recommended distances between tree canopies

within different Home Ignition Zones. In the Intermediate Zone (5-30 feet), trees should be spaced at least 18 feet apart. In the

Extended Zone (30-60 feet), a minimum of 12 feet between tree canopies is advised, while in the outermost zone (60-100 feet),

trees should have at least 6 feet of separation. Maintaining these distances helps slow fire spread and reduces the risk of flames

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (NFPA)

This illustration highlights the three critical Home Ignition Zones-Immediate (0-5 feet), Intermediate (5-30 feet), and Extended (30-100 feet)—which help homeowners reduce wildfire risk by managing vegetation, removing flammable materials, and creating defensible space. Proper landscaping and fire-resistant construction in these zones can significantly improve a home's chances of surviving a wildfire.

homeowners For in wildfire-prone areas, strategic landscaping can be a critical line of defense against encroaching flames. By designing an outdoor with fire-resistant space principles in mind, residents can significantly reduce the risk of wildfire damage to their

mulch. all Remove dried vegetation, dead plants, and anything that could serve as fuel.

- Avoid planting shrubs or trees that touch your home's siding, as they can ignite and spread flames to
- Using fire-resistant plants such as lavender, yarrow, and certain succulents, which contain less resin and sap, making them less likely to ignite.

Extended zone (30-100 feet): slowing the fire's spread In this outermost zone, the

least 30 feet from the home. · Create firebreaks with gravel paths, driveways, or low-growing, fire-resistant vegetation.

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (NFPA)

Emergency preparedness: have a plan in place

documents, medications, and essentials.

- multiple • Establishing evacuation routes and practicing them regularly. Creating a plan for pets and
- livestock Staying informed with real-time updates from

significant difference in its ability to withstand wildfire. According to the NFPA, the best fire-resistant materials include:

Roofing: Class A firerated materials such as metal, clay tiles, concrete shingles, or asphalt

nomes.

Understanding defensible space

reaching a home.

The concept of defensible space, as outlined by the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) Firewise program, divides a property into three distinct zones that work together to slow or stop the spread of wildfire. Each zone has specific landscaping and maintenance recommendations to minimize fire hazards.

Immediate zone (O-5 feet): your first line of defense

The area closest to your home is the most vulnerable to flying embers, which are a leading cause of home ignitions during wildfires. To safeguard this space:

- Keep roofs and gutters free of leaves and debris.
- Choose non-combustible ground covers such as gravel, stone, or concrete rather than flammable

the structure.

Install metal mesh screens (1/8-inch or smaller) over vents to prevent embers from entering.

Intermediate zone (5-30 feet): reducing fire intensity

This area serves as a buffer between your home and the surrounding landscape. helping to reduce the intensity of flames should a fire reach your property. Best practices include:

- Maintaining a wellirrigated and trimmed lawn with grass no taller than four inches.
- Spacing trees at least 10 feet apart to prevent fire from jumping from one to another.
- Removing "ladder fuels"vegetation that allows fire to climb from the ground to treetops.
- Pruning tree branches 6-10 feet from the ground to prevent flames from reaching the canopy.

goal is to preak up the life's path and slow its advance before it reaches your home. Homeowners should:

- Remove dead trees, branches, and underbrush.
- Keep at least 12 feet of space between tree canopies.

Simple steps to make your

Clean roofs and gutters of

dead leaves, debris, and

pine needles that could

Replace or repair any loose

or missing shingles or roof

Reduce embers that could

eaves by installing 1/8-inch

pass through vents in the

tiles to prevent ember

radiant heat

catch embers.

penetration

Stack firewood and other combustible materials at

While creating a defensible space around your home greatly reduces risk, it's essential to have an emergency plan in case evacuation becomes necessary. The Firewise program recommends:

Keeping an emergency supply kit with important

Home Ignition Zone

metal mesh screening. home safer from embers and

- Clean debris from exterior attic vents and install 1/8inch metal mesh screening to reduce embers.
- Repair or replace damaged or loose window screens and any broken windows.
- Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire mesh to prevent debris and combustible materials from accumulating
- Move any flammable

iocai fire officials ana emergency services.

Choosing fire-resistant materials

In addition to thoughtful landscaping, selecting the right construction materials for your home and outdoor structures can make а

material away from wall exteriors-mulch, flammable plants, leaves and needles. firewood piles—anything that can burn.

 Remove anything stored underneath decks or porches

For more details, visit Firewise. org

Source: NFPA, with funding from USDA Forest Service

For more information on fire preparedness, visit Firewise. org or contact your local fire department for guidance on regional best practices.

Ways to a more comfortable and efficient home this spring

By CATHY MORRIS Chelan PUD Customer Energy Solutions

Are you cranking up the heat in winter and blasting the AC in summer-yet still feeling uncomfortable? This can be frustrating and lead to higher electricity bills.

Spring is the perfect time to assess your home's energy usage and make improvements that enhance comfort while lowering costs for years to come.

The best part? It's easier than you think! Chelan PUD's **Customer Energy Solutions** team recommends starting with these three key areas:

1. Air Seal and Insulate

Hot air moves to colder areas through the path of least resistance. If your home isn't properly sealed, conditioned air escapes, making your heating and cooling system work harder-wasting energy and money.

Sealing air leaks and adding insulation is one of the easiest ways to improve efficiency and comfort by slowing downand even preventing-the conditioned air from escaping vour home.

- Check for air leaks around windows, doors, walls, and ceilings. Use caulk, weather stripping, or door sweeps to seal gaps.
- Insulate your attic. Many Chelan County homesespecially homes built before 1980-do not have proper attic insulation. Use a ruler or tape measure in your attic—look for at least 12 inches of insulation for better resistance against heat and cold.
- Seal and insulate first before upgrading heating and cooling systems for maximum savings.

2. Give Your Heating and Cooling System **Some Attention**

With Chelan County's cold winters and hot summers, about 50% of an electricallyheated home's power bill will go toward heating and cooling the home. Give your heating and cooling system some attention and reap the year-round benefits.

- Schedule an equipment service. Make an annual service appointment to have a technician check the charge of refrigerant, clean compressor coils and to make sure that it is running efficiently.
- Check filters. Cleaning or replacing furnace filters is an easy way to use less electricity. A clogged filter restricts airflow, making your system work

harder and shortening its lifespan.

Consider upgrading to a heat pump. Heat Consider pumps move heat rather than generate it, making them a cost-effective, energy-efficient way to comfortably heat and cool your home.

3. Adjust Your **Thermostat Settings**

The bigger the difference between indoor and outdoor temperatures, the more energy you use. Small thermostat adjustments can help reduce waste and lower costs

- Set it right. Try setting the thermostat at 68°F in winter and $78^\circ F$ in adjusting summer. gradually for comfort.
- Lower the temperature when away. Drop it 2-3°F with a heat pump or up to 10°F with a furnace or

composite shingles.

- Siding: Fiber cement, stucco, brick, or stone.
- Windows: Dual-pane tempered glass, which is more resistant to heat and breaking than single-pane glass.
- Decking: Fire-resistant materials such as composite decking, concrete, or tile instead of untreated wood.

Protect your property, protect your community

Wildfires are an increasing threat in many regions, but proactive homeowners can take steps to minimize risk. By implementing fire-resistant landscaping and construction techniques, you not only protect your home but also contribute to the safety of your neighborhood.

baseboard heater when you're out.

- Use "Auto" mode on a heat pump to allow it to switch to auxiliary heating only when necessary, preventing energy waste.
- Upgrade to a smart thermostat. These devices adjust temperatures based on your schedule to reduce energy waste and keep you comfortable. Plus, you can control them remotely from your phone whether you're relaxing at home or on vacation.

Ready to get started? Chelan PUD offers cash-back rebates to help you make energy-saving upgrades. Our energy advisors are here to guide you through the process.

Visit chelanpud.org/save or call Chelan PUD Customer Energy Solutions at (509) 661-8008 for more information.

7garden growing basics for beginners

Family Features

Growing your own produce is an all-around smart practice, from the money you'll save at the grocery store to the contributions you can make toward a cleaner planet.

Maintaining a garden takes some effort, but it's a project even a beginner can tackle with ease. Consider these tips to start growing your at-home garden:

- 1. Select a perfect spot. You'll want to place your garden in an area where you see it often so you're reminded to weed and care for it regularly. Find a flat area you can access easily, where erosion and other pitfalls (including hungry wildlife) won't be a problem.
- 2. Choose between ground and containers. There are pros and cons to gardening in containers vs. the ground, and there's no universal right choice. Rather, the best garden depends on your goals and preferences. A ground garden usually offers more space and may provide a better growth environment for roots. However, a container garden is often

easier to maintain and may be all you need if you wish to grow just a few plants.

- 3. Understand the importance of quality soil. You may think any dirt will do, but keep in mind the soil you plant in will be the primary source of nutrients for your produce. Not only that, but quality soil provides stability so plants can root firmly and grow healthy and sturdy to support their bounty. Quality soil also allows for ample drainage. Organic matter like compost, leaf mold or aged manure all help improve soil quality.
- 4. Keep water close. Lugging water can quickly eliminate the pleasure of tending your garden, so be sure you're situated near a hose. You'll know it's time to water when the soil is dry about an inch below the surface.
- 5. Plan for plenty of sun. A bright, sunny spot is a must, since most vegetables, herbs and fruits depend on six or more hours of sun every day. Remember the sun's path changes throughout the year, and as trees and foliage grow, they may produce more

shade with each growing season.

Spring HON

- 6. Consider what you'll grow. Starting with veggies you know you like is a smart starting point since you'll be pouring sweat equity into making them grow. Over time, you might add new varieties, but early on, keep your focus on foods you know you like so you can see a meaningful return and avoid waste. You'll also need to consider what you can grow to maturity within your area's growing season. If necessary, you might want to start transplants you can nurture indoors before moving them outside when the temperatures allow.
- 7. Plant according to a calendar. Knowing how long it takes different foods to mature will help you create a planting calendar. You don't want to harvest everything at once, and if you stagger planting and replant what you can, you'll have a garden that produces food for your family for a longer period of time.

Find more helpful tips for managing your home and garden at eLivingtoday.com.





Dethatching can be performed with a manual or powered rake, or a rotary broom.

StatePoint

Dethatching your lawn has numerous benefits. But if you're not sure what dethatching is or how to do it, you may be wondering if it's really worth all the effort.

To shed light on dethatching, lawn care equipment manufacturer, Exmark is answering some frequently asked questions.

What is Thatch? Thatch is a compacted layer of grass and plant stems, leaves, roots, and other organic debris that builds up faster than it can decompose. It accumulates right below the surface of your lawn and right on top of the soil, at the base of your grasses' blades. Overly thick thatch blocks water and fertilizer from reaching the grasses' roots, causing them to be trapped and vulnerable to heat, drought and stressfurther stunting your lawn's health and growth. However, thatch isn't always a bad thing—a layer that's less than a quarter-inch thick is normal and isn't cause for alarm. It actually helps reduce soil compaction and water loss through evaporation, and it increases tolerance for cold and heat by protecting the growing blades.

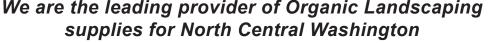
When Should You Dethatch Your Lawn? For warm-season grasses, it's best to dethatch in the late spring or early summer, and for cool-season grasses it's best to do it in early spring or fall. But before you start dethatching, mow your lawn to half its normal height to avoid tearing up any live grass in the process. Then, take out your rake or dethatcher and remove the thatch.

How Do You Dethatch? The process of dethatching is simple. You can purchase a specialized rake, but in a pinch, a regular rake will do. You can also rent a dethatcher to make the job even easier. Your lawn might look a bit ragged afterwards, so you'll need to go over it again—this time just barely skimming the top of your lawn to remove all the loose debris that you just dug up. But before you start, call up your local utility company and have them mark any buried lines to avoid unwanted surprises.

What are the Benefits of Dethatching Your Lawn? The time and effort that it takes to remove thatch pays huge dividends. Primarily, it exposes your soil to warmth and sunlight, helping carbon dioxide and key nutrients reach your grasses' roots, resulting in deeper growth. It also encourages the effectiveness of fertilizers and reduces water pooling on the surface of your yard by facilitating drainage. And, it helps fight back against invasive weeds that thrive in conditions created by a heavy thatch layer. Best of all, it promotes an overall healthier, greener lawn.

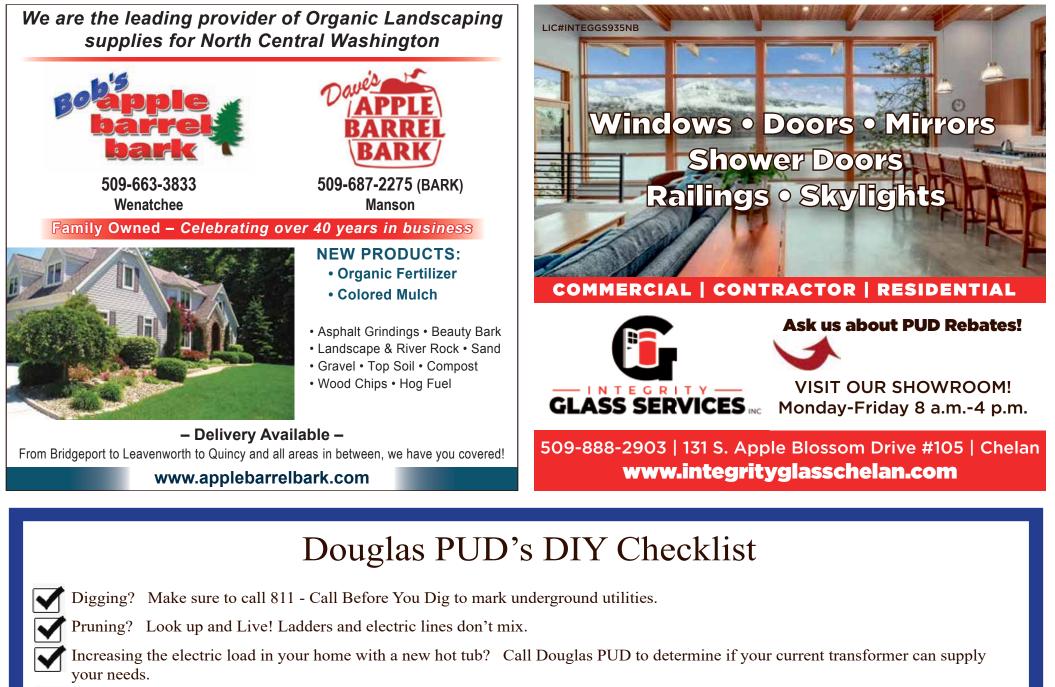
For more insights, watch "The Benefits of Dethatching." an episode of "Backyard Smart," an original series from lawn care equipment manufacturer, Exmark. To watch the video, visit Backyard Life, which is part of a unique multimedia destination with a focus on helping homeowners improve their outdoor living spaces. There you can also download additional tips and view other Exmark Original Series videos.

Now that you have the lowdown on dethatching, it's time to get outside and free up your soil. Your lawn will thank you later.

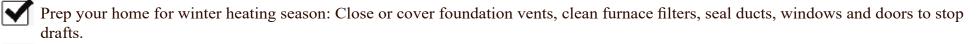








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DOMO HOME

Pro tips for maintaining your lawn mower



Family Features

Most homeowners strive for beautiful yards, but neglecting a key component of lawn maintenance – the lawn mower itself – can lead to issues not only with your lawn but with the machine as well.

A well-maintained mower provides a cleaner cut, which promotes healthier grass growth. Neglecting regular maintenance can result in uneven cuts, scalping and other issues that can damage your lawn. Regular maintenance also ensures your mower operates at peak efficiency, which can extend the lifespan of your mower, saving you COURTESY OF SHUTTERSTOCK money in the long run by preventing costly repairs or

money in the long run by preventing costly repairs or the need for a new machine. To unlock the full potential of vour lawn mower, clean it after

each use to prevent buildup of grass clippings and debris, and store it in a dry, sheltered place between uses. Additionally, regular maintenance including checking the oil level, inspecting the air filter and ensuring the blades are sharp can prevent larger issues and keep your mower running smoothly. 1. **Change the Oil:** Drain the

old oil from your mower and refill it with fresh, high-quality engine oil.

2. **Replace the Air Filter:** A clogged air filter can reduce

your mower's efficiency. Replace it with a new one to ensure optimal air flow to the engine.

- 3. **Change the Spark Plug:** Remove the old spark plug using a spark plug wrench and replace it with a new one. This ensures reliable ignition and efficient fuel combustion.
- 4. **Sharpen the Blades:** Remove the blades and sharpen them using a file or a sharpening tool. Reattach them securely before mowing.
- 5. **Clean the Deck:** Grass clippings and debris can accumulate under the deck. Clean it thoroughly to prevent rust and ensure smooth operation.
- 6. **Inspect the Belts and Cables:** Check for any signs of wear or damage. Replace any worn or frayed belts and cables to avoid future breakdowns.

Visit eLivingtoday.com to find more advice to keep your lawn and garden equipment in pristine condition.

Family Features

There are countless ways you can make your environmental contributions felt. If you'd like to join millions of others in the fight for Mother Earth, consider one of the most popular gifts given back to the world each year: planting a tree.

Consider these tips to properly plant a tree in your own yard.

Choose the Right Tree and Location

Depending on where you live and your desired outcome, choosing the right tree and planting location are critical factors. Larger shade trees help cool homes in warmer climates, evergreens provide privacy and fruit trees offer a grocery store right in your backyard. Consider your available space along with conditions that will impact the tree itself, such as soil conditions, sun exposure, drainage and more.

Make a positive impact by

planting a tree

Dig Safely

Before digging, remember that proper tree placement requires factoring in underground utility lines, overhead power lines and proximity to sidewalks, driveways and homes. Dial 811, the national call-beforeyou-dig number, to locate underground utilities and consider contacting an arborist or tree care professional to make sure you've weighed all the important factors.

Break Ground

Dig a hole that's roughly 2-3 times wider than the root ball of your tree and equally as deep as the root ball. Be sure the trunk flare (where the trunk expands at the base of the tree) is partially visible when planted. Remove any wrapping or cover from COURTESY OF UNSPLASH the root ball and trunk. Lift from the root ball, not the trunk, to place in the hole then straighten vertically and firmly backfill soil around the root ball to stabilize.

Add Mulch

Mulching helps maintain moisture and improve soil conditions while controlling weed growth. Place a 2-3-inch layer in a 3-foot radius around the base of the tree without touching the trunk itself.

Keep Soil Moist

Make sure your tree has enough water to grow strong by keeping the soil moist. Typically, this means watering just once per week, barring rain, but may require more frequency during especially hot weather.

Find more tips for giving back to Mother Earth at eLivingtoday.com.

A how-to guide for deep cleaning your grill

Family Features

A clean grill can enhance the flavor of your food, making regular grill maintenance an essential part of your outdoor cooking routine.

Grills, especially those exposed to the elements, can accumulate dirt, rust and food residue that can affect performance and safety. Plus, residual char and grease can impart unwanted flavors and even lead to flare-ups.

Once you've gathered the right tools – a sturdy grill brush with stainless steel bristles, a scraper, a bucket of soapy water, microfiber cloths and grill cleaner or degreaser – consult this step-by-step guide to keep your grill in pristine condition, ensuring delicious

- meals every time.
 1. Preheat the grill for 15 minutes to loosen any stuck-on residue then turn it off and let it and alightly.
- it off and let it cool slightly. 2. Ensure the gas supply is turned off before cleaning. 3. Remove the grates and
- scrub them thoroughly with a grill brush and warm, soapy water. Rinse and let dry.
- 4. Clean burners by wiping them with a damp cloth.5. Scrape the inside of the
- grill to remove any debris and use a vacuum to collect loose dirt and ash.
- 6. Wipe down the exterior of the grill with a microfiber cloth and grill cleaner.
- 7. Reassemble the grill once all parts are dry and give it a final wipe down.

In between deep cleanings, remember to clean your grill grates immediately after cooking while they are still warm to remove food particles and grease. Find more tips for the grill and beyond at eLivingtoday.com.



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Create a cozy outdoor space with a backyard firepit

Sping HOME

Family Features

A firepit can serve as a warm and inviting backyard retreat, perfect for roasting marshmallows for s'mores or stargazing while wrapped in cozy blankets. Before you can share time around the firepit with loved ones, however, consider these tips to elevate your outdoor space.

Gathering Materials and Tools

Essential materials include bricks, stones or metal parts for the structure, as well as gravel or sand for the base. Fireproof materials are a must to ensure safety and longevity. You'll also need tools such as a shovel for digging the base, a level to ensure even construction and adhesive or mortar for binding materials together. Depending on your design, you may require a metal fire ring, grill grate or mesh cover.

Choosing the Right Design

MER NE I P

When it comes to building a DIY firepit, the design you choose can significantly impact the aesthetics and functionality. From classic stone pits to modern metal designs, the options are nearly endless. Think about the size and shape as well. Circular designs are traditional and encourage conversation while square or rectangular pits offer a more contemporary look.

Keeping Safety in Mind

Safety should be your top priority when building and using a backyard firepit. Always place your firepit at least 10 feet away from any structures, trees or flammable materials. Make sure the area is clear of dry leaves and other debris that could catch fire. Consider installing a spark screen to prevent embers from escaping and always keep a bucket of water or fire extinguisher nearby.

Enhancing Ambiance with Seating and Lighting

Creating a cozy atmosphere around your firepit involves more than just the fire itself. Comfortable seating is essential for making your outdoor space inviting. Choose weather-resistant chairs, benches or DIY log stools arranged in a circle to foster conversation. Ambient lighting from string lights, lanterns or solar-powered path lights can elevate the mood and extend the usability of your firepit into the evening. Consider adding citronella candles or torches to keep insects at bay while enhancing the ambiance.

Visit eLivingtoday.com to find more ideas to enhance your living spaces.



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Family Features

With all the beauty Mother Nature has to offer, a few pops of color or other simple embellishments can help make your yard look superb from the curb.

Whether you're looking to enhance your front yard, backyard, porch or patio space, consider these easy and little dab of color can make a statement and brighten the whole space.

Hang It Up

Place hanging baskets around the porch to bring punches of color to your outdoor sanctuary. With the freedom to pick and choose your favorite plants and flowers, these baskets have spend time outdoors in the evening hours can incorporate white or lightly colored plants that take on a silvery sheen in

COURTESY OF UNSPLASH

Add a Birdbath

the moonlight.

These garden favorites come in a variety of styles and colors to fit your unique tastes and budget. Birds of all kinds can find an oasis in their new bath and provide you with a beautiful view.

affordable ways to spruce up your outdoor oasis:

Add Mirrors

Just as they do indoors, mirrors can open up small patio spaces and make areas feel larger. Use mirrors made with resin or other waterproof materials so they won't be compromised when exposed to the elements.

Make Bold Statements

Plant your favorite flowers in a giant, bright red or yellow pot or hang a bright colored swing from a tree. Just a the added benefit of easy maintenance.

Tie Up a Hammock

Make a relaxing retreat in the comfort of your own yard by hanging a hammock from trees or between posts on your deck.

Consider Time When Planting

If you wish to add color to your landscape, consider the time of day you normally spend in your outdoor space. Early risers may appreciate vibrantly colored foliage that perks with the morning sun. Those who

Throw Some Pillows

Outdoor pillows are often available in the same fun designs of their indoor counterparts. Add some throw pillows to your outdoor furniture for a chic yet comfortable update.

These subtle changes can help beautify your outdoor spaces and cause onlookers to do a double-take – for the right reasons. Find more ideas at eLivingtoday.com.

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Budget-friendly ideas to boost curb appeal

Family Features

Your home's first big impression is its curb appeal, so if your place is in need of some sprucing up, you may wonder how you can make some updates without breaking the bank.

These 10 ideas are easy on budgets, but they can also make a big impact on your home's exterior image.

- 1. Paint your front door. As long as your front door is in good condition, there's no need to replace it completely. A fresh coat of paint can instantly update your home's facade. Go bold or stick with a classic hue – it's all up to you.
- 2. Dress up the windows. Add character and charm by enhancing your front windows. You might add wooden shutters, window box planters or both. Also look at the trim around the windows. If it's chipped and peeling, adding a fresh coat of paint doesn't just look nice, it can protect your windows from damage, too. Clean up flower beds. An unkempt flower bed can drag down an otherwise stunning home. Keep beds tidy and vegetation

trimmed, even during the

offseason. Watch for weeds and replenish mulch or rock ground cover as needed to keep the beds looking healthy and inviting.

- Install new lighting. Replacing outdated light fixtures can give your exterior an instant upgrade. There's no right or wrong style; just choose a color and look that matches the rest of your design. 5.
 - Replace worn welcome mats. A cheerful mat at vour front door can be an inviting sight for visitors, but those mats inevitably wear with time, and what was once bright and charming becomes dingy and dull. A new mat can help bring back that cheery entry you once cherished.
- 6. Pressure wash the drive and walk. Over time, driveways and sidewalks collect an incredible amount of grime. Pressure washing not only eliminates the filth, but the clean surfaces also add to your home's visual appeal.
- 7. Add new vegetation. Landscaping is a relatively inexpensive way to introduce more personality to a yard. Aim for a mix of pretty and practical, such as some low flowering

KEEPING OUR MERGHBORS WARM IN THE

WINTER AND GOOL IN THE SUMMER SINCE 1989

COURTESY OF UNSPLASH bushes and some trees or

bushes that offer privacy and shade. Keep up with basic 8.

- maintenance. When your home is in poor repair, it shows. Pay attention to bent or rusting gutters, imperfections in the roof and other maintenance matters that aren't just aesthetic; left unrepaired, they can also result in major damage.
- Pay attention to details. 9 Functional items like the mailbox might not seem like much of a design element, but these small details can be a big distraction if they're not in good condition. Update or replace as needed to keep your aesthetic in sync.
- 10. Add seasonal decor. There's no need to go all out for every occasion, but some timely decorations that celebrate the holiday or season can make your entry fun and festive. Coordinate wreaths, planters, signs and other accent pieces for a cohesive look that says, "come on in.'

Find more affordable ideas for upgrading your home and garden at eLivingtoday.com.

Door design tips to enhance tour home's beauty and value

factors you have control over,

it's helpful to use a design

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has different requirements

though. Fortunately, storm

doors can be individually

certified.

StatePoint

When choosing doors for your home, remember that careful selections can improve not only your home's beauty and value, but also your quality of life. Here are a few door types to consider, along with their benefits:

Elevate with exterior French doors: French doors double the design impact, and elevate the front entryway and curb appeal of any home. Manufacturers like ProVia offer customizations on every element of French doors so you can make a truly unique statement. Start by choosing from various styles, materials and finishes. Then, consider the addition of sidelites, transoms and decorative or privacy glass. Given how many



customized to meet your practical and aesthetic needs. Depending on where you live, factors like the thickness and construction of the storm door can make a big difference in its performance. You'll also want to investigate your glass and screen options for added fresh air circulation in your home. While storm doors are often thought about more in terms of their functionality, it's important to keep in mind that varying hardware options, styles and paint finishes allow you to seamlessly blend yours in with the aesthetic of your home.

Bring the outside in with sliding glass patio doors: Want to bathe your home interiors with light and the beauty of your natural surroundings? One of the most effective, lowmaintenance ways to do just that is with vinyl sliding glass patio doors. Those from ProVia are tested against the most stringent industry standards for air and water infiltration, wind load resistance, ease of operation and more. This means you'll have lower heating and cooling costs and increased comfort all while offering your household full, unparalleled views of your outdoor spaces. Customization options, such as the materials and colors of the interior frame and the type of glass you choose, can help you tailor the look and functionality of your sliding glass doors.

For more design tips, visit provia.com. For a true return on your home improvement project, consider how a door replacement can elevate your home's style while protecting it from the elements.





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TRANSFER SWITCH: When operating a generator, connecting appliances that are hard-wired to the house's wiring system requires the use of a transfer switch. The switch will mechanically disconnect the household's circuit from the utility's power grid. A transfer switch MUST be used to avoid backfeed into the utility's power grid and is required by electric code.



INSTALLATION: Electric code requires that a licensed electrician install stationary generators that are permanently wired to the household's electrical system. The owner of the generator must acquire an electrical permit, and the unit must be inspected.

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A first-timer's guide to kitchen remodeling

STOCK PHOTOS





Family Features

Kitchen upgrades are among the most common renovation projects homeowners tackle. Even so, it's a big project for a first-time renovation, and the final results are sure to be stronger with some detailed planning from the start.

Take into account these five tips from the experts at Wellborn Cabinet to help firsttime kitchen remodelers achieve the kitchens of their dreams:

1. Plan Your Budget

Establish a clear and realistic budget. Factor in costs for materials, labor and some extra for unexpected expenses. Sticking to your budget can help ensure you enjoy the outcome of the project while avoiding financial stress. Your contractor can help you strike a balance between vour vision and financial resources. You may also find it helpful to consult with a real estate professional who can ensure your plans are in line with the overall value of your home and neighborhood.

2. Prioritize Functionality

Design with practicality in mind. Ensure there's enough counter space and storage to create an efficient workflow. Consider the kitchen work triangle; that is, be conscious of the travel pattern among the sink, stove and refrigerator.

Additionally, look for opportunities to incorporate functional storage in unexpected places. One example is the exposed end of a cabinet run or side of the refrigerator, where there is often wasted space. One example is a shallow cleaning utility cabinet from Wellborn Cabinet that fits a broom, dustpan and everyday cleaning supplies neatly, giving you practical access to frequently used supplies. A variation on this cabinet offers a spice rack designed for easy access to cooking essentials. Other options in the line include an over-fridge cabinet with a combination of shelves, sheet pan or cutting board storage and a trash can-cutting board combination.

3. Choose Quality Materials

Consider factors such as durability, maintenance requirements and compatibility with your design aesthetic when selecting materials for your kitchen. You may be tempted to cut corners and stretch your money further, but quality materials are a critical element of successful renovations. Prioritize highquality materials that stand the test of time. Durable countertops, solid cabinetry and reliable appliances typically save money in the long run, and they'll enhance the overall look and value of your kitchen.

4. Hire Professionals

Work with experienced contractors and designers. Their expertise can help you avoid common pitfalls and ensure your remodel meets all safety and building codes. What's more, these professionals have likely encountered and overcome all kinds of challenges, which means they'll be wellprepared to help you navigate unexpected obstacles and provide a wealth of knowledge from previous clients to help make recommendations for the perfect finished space.

5. Stay Flexible

Be prepared for unexpected challenges and delays. Stay adaptable and open to changes and remember patience is key to achieving the kitchen of your dreams. Materials go on backorder and paperwork gets misplaced all the time. Set a realistic timeline for your project that allows for some hiccups and try to avoid becoming too rigidly attached to any single element of the design, so if you have to make a modification, it doesn't feel like a monumental sacrifice.

Look for more ideas and inspiration for your kitchen remodel at Wellborn.com.

Inspiring Ideas for Kitchen Islands

Adding an island to your kitchen offers many functional and aesthetic benefits, and there are styles to suit every type of kitchen.

Galley Kitchen Island: This type of island is more functional than designforward, conveniently adding extra storage and counter space. This conventional configuration works well in most kitchen layouts, both large and small, and can be constructed to fit almost any kitchen.

Table-Style Kitchen Island: If you want a unique addition, an island table is the way to go, whether you opt for a custommade piece or upcycle an antique. The beauty of a tablestyle island is that it serves a functional and decorative purpose, warming up a modern kitchen and adding personality.

Double Kitchen Island: Incorporating multiple islands often called a double island kitchen – can improve traffic flow, increase storage space and seating, and create additional space for meal prep, cooking, washing and eating. Plus, islands are ideal for implementing design elements such as complementing materials and finishes, pops of color and unique cabinetry components including door

styles and hardware. Rolling Kitchen Island: This convenient solution adds flexibility with extra storage and counter space. You can easily tuck it away to open up more floor space when done, and this portable island can easily roam around the kitchen so you can place it where you need it.

Two-Tier Kitchen Island: While you can cook and eat on any island, the two-tier creates a clear boundary where you can cook on one side and eat on the other. This all-encompassing island is perfect for larger families and homeowners who like to entertain.

Chef's Kitchen Island: If you want to showcase your cooking

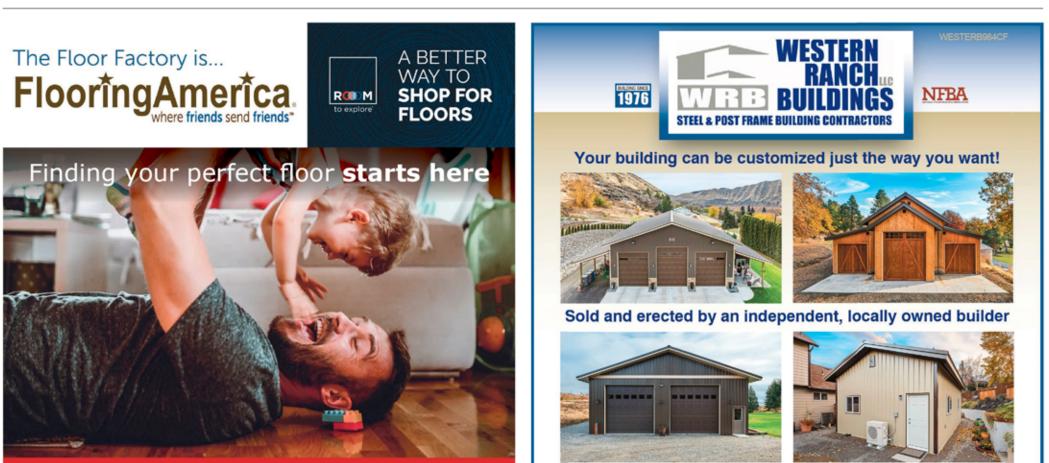
skills or have a private chef cooking for friends and family, a chef's island is a unique solution. Installation requires the appropriate ventilation and electrical, which may be well worth it if you frequently cook for family or friends.

Round Kitchen Island: Compared to a typical rectangular island, a rounded option is an eye-catching way to add more seating in your kitchen for entertaining family and friends.

L-Shaped Kitchen Island: If you have a lot of space in your kitchen, an L-shaped island can fill the area. The design provides extra cooking space, allowing you to accommodate multiple chefs in the kitchen. You can also add seating for family and friends.

U-Shaped Kitchen Island: Best suited for large, openconcept kitchens, a U-shaped island creates storage space and room to install appliances such as a bar fridge, sink or range with prep space left to prepare meals.





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Family Features

No matter how cramped and cluttered your living space may be, you can almost always find a spot or two for extra storage. It's often just a matter of getting creative and utilizing a few clever solutions.

Consider these simple ideas to create some extra space in oft-used rooms:

Kitchen

- Metal rods with hanging hooks can create storage space on your blank walls. Use them to hang coffee cups, cooking utensils, dish towels or pots and pans.
- Magnetic strips mounted on the wall or the inside of a cabinet door can be a simple way to hang knives and free up counter space normally taken up by a knife block.
- If your countertop is cluttered with small spice containers and oil bottles, elevate them with a decorative cake stand. Place small jars below and

top with pretty decanters and additional spices.

If you're using prime cabinet space for items you only use once a year, such as holiday cake pans or a big serving bowl you pull out for parties, consider storing them in the attic or a closet instead.

Bathroom

- Instead of hanging just one towel bar on the back of the bathroom door, hang multiple to maximize your drying space.
- Most modern cabinetry has adjustable shelving. If you haven't customized the heights of your shelving to accommodate different sized bottles and containers, give it a try.
- A three-tiered fruit basket might seem perfect for the kitchen, but it's also a handy way to store bathroom essentials right beside the sink.
- Flour and sugar canisters can also be repurposed in the bathroom to keep

COURTESY OF UNSPLASH makeup, toiletries, cleaning supplies and soaps contained. Make sure to buy bins that stack easily.

Bedroom

- · Nix those nightstands and hang small shelves on either side of the bed. This cuts down on the clutter you can keep and makes cleaning underneath a breeze.
- Rolling bins that fit under the bed are perfect for storing linens, out-of-season clothing and children's toys. They're also the perfect way to slide building block projects out of sight without destroying your child's latest masterpiece.
- Closets with a single hanging rod are one of the biggest space-wasters in the bedroom. Double their storage capacity by hanging a second rod or shelf below shorter jackets and shirts.

Find more ideas to maximize your space at eLivingtoday. com.

Go green with home cleaners

Family Features

If you're among those looking for ways to clean your home while also going green, it may be easier than you think.

Consider these easy and affordable solutions to help you live more environmentally friendly. You may be surprised to find you already have many of these household products on hand.

Baking soda: A natural, safe, effective and gentle solution, baking soda can serve multiple home cleaning needs. Make a paste of three parts baking soda to one part water. Rub onto silver with a clean cloth or sponge. Rinse thoroughly and dry for shining serving or decor pieces. Additionally, you can sprinkle baking soda on upholstery and carpet to get rid of odors.

Vinegar: With the acidity to help get rid of dirt and grime around the home, vinegar can be used to clean cloudy glassware. Simply soak paper towels or a cloth in full-strength white distilled vinegar and wrap around both the inside and outside of the glass. Let sit before rinsing clean. To remove lime deposits on your tea kettle, add 1/2 cup distilled white vinegar to the water and let it sit overnight. In the morning, boil the vinegar for a few minutes then rinse with water.

Lemons: With a fresh, natural smell, lemons have the acidity to remove soap scum, clean and shine brass and remove hard water deposits Just spray some lemon juice on tile surfaces to remove soap scum or hard water deposits. Squeeze lemon juice on a cloth and use to polish brass around the home.

Houseplants: Plants serve as natural air purifiers. African violets and ferns are beautiful ways to help clear the air.

Other easy, green ideas for keeping your home clean include opening windows and doors while you clean to improve air quality and taking off your shoes when you come inside, which can help avoid tracking dust, dirt, pollen and more throughout the house.

Visit eLivingtoday.com for more eco-friendly advice.





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Stips for choosing gardening essentials

or a seasoned gardener looking to do some updating, when it comes to gardening, you simply need the right tools to do the iob well. Consider these tips when purchasing essentials for your tool shed.

Shovel: A shovel with a pointed blade is a good allaround choice for digging, mixing and moving soil. Conversely, a flat-bladed shovel should be used for "cutting" tasks such as straight-side trenches and edging. After narrowing down which style of shovel best meets your needs, check the metal to ensure it's well-constructed and won't bend or break easily. Check fittings such as bolts and screws to ensure the blade and handle are strongly connected and can withstand reasonable pressure. Finally, spend a few

be intimidating. A basic fanshaped rake with metal fingers is a universally accepted, longlasting option. Select a model with plenty of give in the fingers if you'll be raking large areas and don't want to damage the ground below. A rake made of firmer metal allows you to work and smooth soil. Purchasing the broadest width you can comfortably handle allows you to cover more ground, which

clumps and hard spots on the surface while pointed hoes make quick work of rows and mounds to protect and irrigate your plantings.

Shears: A variety of shears are available to accomplish a wide range of garden tasks. Larger shears are ideal for big jobs such as shaping hedges, while smaller pruning shears are meant for snips and sprucing. Quality metal and sharp blades are important features. Be sure to choose a model with a safety latch to lock blades when not in use.

Gloves: Even if you eagerly embrace the chance to get your hands dirty, no tool shed is complete without a sturdy pair of gloves. Choose a material tough enough to protect from thorns but pliable enough to allow for free movement. Proper fit is key to avoiding

Find more gardening tips and advice at eLivingtoday.com.

minutes testing out the tool to Family Features ensure it fits well in your hand. Rake: With numerous Whether you're a new homeowner ready to tackle the materials and shapes to choose from, finding the right rake can landscaping for the first time

means less work. Depending on the space you'll be tending, you may also consider purchasing a garden fork, which has fewer tines than a traditional rake and is ideal for aerating, weeding and turning small sections of soil. Hoe: Whether flat or pointed, blisters. a hoe is essential for a weedfree garden. Flat versions can also be useful for breaking up

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Gardening can be a simple way to beautify your yard, relieve stress and save money on your grocery bill, but like any hobby, you can get carried buying necessary away equipment.

frugal and Fun, environmentally friendly, these tricks can help you create a cost-effective garden:

- Use a yardstick and permanent marker to mark inches and feet on the handle of your rake, shovel or hoe. The next time you plant, simply lay the marked handle along the row to create perfectly spaced holes for seeds.
- Line the bottom of a clay pot with a coffee filter to keep soil from leaking out the bottom.
- · Use empty plastic water

bottles or clear milk jugs to fill the bottom of large pots. They reduce the weight of the pot and require less soil to fill.

- To test your seeds to see if they're still viable for this planting season, place a wet paper towel inside a zip-top bag, drop in 3-4 seeds and wait a week to see if anything grows.
- One way to help prevent weeds is lining your garden with a layer of newspaper. Just top two or three sheets of newsprint with a layer of pine needles, grass clippings or dried leaves for an eco-friendly and inexpensive weed barrier. Keep gardening twine handy. Nail a funnel to
- your potting bench with the spout pointing downward,

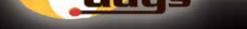
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feed the twine through and your string will never go missing. For a more portable solution, place a ball of twine inside a canning jar, make a hole in the lid and feed the end of the twine through the hole. Now, you can take twine anywhere, tangle-free.

There is no need to buy expensive potting systems for starting seedlings. Place several cardboard toilet paper rolls inside a clean plastic clamshell, like those used for premade salads. Fill each cardboard tube with potting soil and plant. Once your seedlings grow too tall for the clamshell, simply tear off the top lid.

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