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NCW News | B1-B2

Local photographer earns
recognition from American
Society of Photographers

Chelan County
secures
previously
frozen wildfire
defense grant

By TAYLOR CALDWELL
Ward Media Staff Reporter

CHELAN COUNTY – After facing an uncertain delay due to frozen federal funding, Chelan County has secured access to its \$9.275 million Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) for wildfire risk reduction in the Leavenworth area.

The federal grant supports five years of hazardous fuels reduction, evacuation route improvement, and implementation of remote water tanks for firefighting response in priority landscapes, such as Chumstick Highway, Upper Lake Wenatchee, and Nason areas. The work will be led by a number of group of organizations and agencies, such as Chelan County Fire District #3, Lake Wenatchee Fire and Rescue, Chumstick Wildfire Stewardship Coalition, and Cascadia Conservation District, to name a few.

In early February, the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the grant facilitator, lost access to \$180 million in Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and Inflation Reduction Act funding amid the Trump administration's spending freeze. According to DNR Communications Director Michael Kelly, \$90 million of which was designated for wildfire prevention, suppression, resilience, and forest health.

Kelly previously told Ward Media that there was no official communication from the federal government about why it was frozen or when it would be made available. Without confirmation of funding, the DNR moved to pause the execution of pending grant agreements, including Chelan County's CWDG funding.

Within the last several weeks, the DNR regained access to the funding, although some funds remain inaccessible. According to Kelly, program staff and grant managers evaluated grants and contracts for resumption on a case-by-case basis.

“Just like when the funds were frozen originally, there has been no official communication. Any information we’ve received has come through staff-to-staff conversations,” said DNR Communications Director Michael Kelly in an email to Ward Media.

Chelan County Natural Resources Director Mike Kaputa confirmed that the county received the signed agreement in the first week of April, guaranteeing funding for work in the 2025 season.

“The whole time we continued with our planning...So as soon as we got the money, we were able to start sending out emails to homeowners we already had lined up [for defensible space fuels treatment],” Fire District #3 Deputy Chief Mike Smith. The fire district’s goal is to treat 40 properties per year over the five-year grant.

At the state level, the DNR’s concerns lie with expectations of a “degraded federal partner” going into the 2025 wildfire season, due to the firing of staff at a federal level and the delay in the U.S. Forest Service hiring seasonal staff, said Kelly.

“But we are preparing for wildfire season as we always do – hiring and training our seasonal staff, locking in our exclusive-use aircraft contracts, planning to pre-position our air and other resources across the state, and making sure we are in regular communication with our local, Tribal, and federal partners,” said Kelly.

Taylor Caldwell: 509-433-7276 or
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COURTESY OF HEIDI SWOBODA

Swoboda’s “Wind Runners” received the American Society of Photographers (ASP) State Elite Award.

By TAYLOR CALDWELL
Ward Media Staff Reporter

LEAVENWORTH – Local photographer Heidi Swoboda has received the highly sought after American Society of Photographers (ASP) State Elite Award for her image titled, “Wind Runners.”

“[ASP is] made up of all master photographers, and so to be honored within that group as the best in your state is a very high honor,” said Swoboda. The ASP is a society of professional photographic artists “who aspire to maintain the highest level of excellence.” ASP members have earned certain Professional

Photographers of America (PPA) degrees, including Master of Photography, Master Artist, Master of Electronic Imaging, Master of Wedding Photography, or a Photographic Craftsman degree.

The ASP State Elite Award is given to the highest scoring image by an ASP member in each state during the annual image competition. Images are judged on the “12 Elements of a Merit Image,” such as impact, technical excellence, composition, and creativity.

“Wind Runners” is a photo Swoboda took at the Chelan County Fairgrounds, which she then recomposed and digitally painted.

The process of digital painting uses software and tools that simulate traditional painting techniques by using a digital tablet and stylus, versus a canvas and brush.

“With this [image], I love the sense of movement in it, and I love the reaction that people are having to it,” said Swoboda.

As a Fellow of Photography and Master Photographer, Swoboda has over two decades of professional photography experience and accolades. Her work specializes in fine art and portraiture.

In years past, Swoboda has earned recognition from Professional Photographers of Washington (PPW)

for the best portrait of a group, best portrait of an animal, best illustrative, and distinguished service, to name a few. She also earned third place for ASP Images of Distinction Reportage in 2022, and was a PPA Grand Imaging Award Finalist in 2021.

“[Photography is] powerful. You can help people to see themselves in a better light. You can take part in people’s special moments of their life, and you get to preserve those memories. Every day is different. I get to explore the world and make art out of it,” said Swoboda.

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Leavenworth area hopping with activities over Easter weekend

By TAYLOR CALDWELL
Ward Media Staff Reporter

LEAVENWORTH – From Lake Wenatchee to Leavenworth, families can enjoy a variety of Easter activities throughout the weekend of April 19 and 20, including brunch, egg hunts, and visits from the Easter Bunny.

Easter egg hunt for Lake Wenatchee/Plain residents

On April 19, Lake Wenatchee Rec Club (LWRC) will host an Easter egg hunt for kids 10 and under, with a visit from the Easter Bunny on a fire



COURTESY OF HEIDI SWOBODA

Egg hunters line up at the start of the Leavenworth Lions Club’s Easter Egg Hunt last year.

See **EASTER** Page **B2**



COURTESY OF UV MEND

Volunteers collect food during the Methodist Church’s food drive last year.

Upper Valley MEND to host Easter weekend food drive

By TAYLOR CALDWELL
Ward Media Staff Reporter

LEAVENWORTH – As food insecurity continues to rise in the region, Upper Valley MEND’s Community Cupboard food pantry is seeking additional support to meet the growing need in the community. The nonprofit will host a food drive at the Leavenworth Safeway on April 19.

To date, the Community Cupboard has seen 2,700 individual shoppers in 2025, compared to just over 1,600 shoppers at the same time in 2024.

“The food pantry is kind of our best indicator of overall how people are



COURTESY OF UV MEND

The Community Cupboard food pantry has already seen 2,700 individual shoppers to date in 2025, compared to a little over 1,600 shoppers at the same time last year.

See **VALLEY MEND** Page **B2**

Inside The Echo this Week

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\$100



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509-731-4392

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Letters policy

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

Corrections

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

News tips

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

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\$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.

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!

Going Down for Good

The Community Action Council will host a fundraising rappel event on April 20 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Residence Inn by Marriott in Wenatchee.

“Taking fundraising to new heights! This high-energy event will see 75 thrill-seeking participants rappel four stories down the Residence Inn. Each participant must raise \$1,000 to secure their spot on the ropes.”

For more rules and information, visit the Community Action Council of Chelan-Douglas Counties webpage.

Ski Hill Wednesday Music Series

The Leavenworth Winter Sports Club will host a free, family-friendly concert

on April 23 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Ski Hill as part of its Wednesday Music Series.

“Terror Cactus and Cuervo Cuervo will bring high-energy performances to the mountain for an unforgettable evening of live music. Pack a blanket, bring the whole family, and enjoy a spring night at Ski Hill.”

For more information, visit Leavenworth Winter Sports Club on Facebook or skileavenworth.com.

Easter Egg Hunt

An Easter Egg Hunt will be held on April 19 at 11 a.m. at 14400 Chiwawa Loop Road in Leavenworth.

“This event is open to children ages 10 and under, and the Easter Bunny will make a special appearance—arriving on a fire truck.”

For more information, call Michelle at 509-860-3220.

Spring Saunters

The Wenatchee River Institute will host Spring Saunters on April 19 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., beginning at the Wenatchee River Institute campus.

“Join one of our knowledgeable naturalists for a two-hour guided walk through Leavenworth’s Waterfront Park. Learn about the area’s natural wonders and cultural history while enjoying the beauty of spring in bloom.”

Registration is required. For more information or to sign up, visit the Wenatchee River Institute online.

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THINGS TO DO THIS WEEK

Rhea Lana's of Wenatchee Spring 2025 Shopping Event

Rhea Lana’s of Wenatchee will host its Spring 2025 shopping event from April 13 to April 17 at 151 Easy Way in Wenatchee.

“You’re invited to shop at this children’s consignment

event, offering 60–90% off retail prices. Each item is hand-inspected to meet high-quality standards, so you can shop with confidence for your kids and family.”

Tickets—both free and early access—are available now on the Rhea Lana’s of Wenatchee Facebook page.

Chelan County District Court and Probation offer limited time debt relief program



ANDREW SIMPSON/WARD MEDIA

The Chelan County Courthouse is at 350 Orondo Avenue, above Memorial Park.

By ANDREW SIMPSON
Ward Media Staff Reporter

CHELAN COUNTY — Chelan County District Court and Chelan County District Court Probation will be working with Armada Collections with an account relief program designed to aid those who have unpaid fines or

probation fees with the Court or its Probation office.

The County last offered such a program four years ago, and it turned out to be helpful for customers who had balances with Armada, a debt collection company, from those unpaid debts.

In a press release, Judges Allen Blackmon and

Jonathan Volyn said “It is the Court’s intent to provide an opportunity to pay off your court fines and fees, probation costs, as well as court-ordered victim restitution at a greatly reduced cost.”

This two-month program, which began April 14 and ends June 14, could prove key to allowing people who

have already seen their accounts go into collections to rid themselves of the kinds of debt that cannot generally be discharged through bankruptcy. Any debts resulting from anything more serious than a minor traffic infraction usually persist until they are paid in full, unlike most debt collections with

statute limitations.

For more information or to find out if you qualify for this program, contact Armada at 509-884-8000, the Chelan County District Court at 509-667-6600, or Chelan County Probation at 509-667-6656.

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



ANDREW SIMPSON/WARD MEDIA

The Chelan County District Court Probation office is at 410 Washington Street, just down the block from the courthouse.

City of Leavenworth recognizes International Dark Sky Week

By TAYLOR CALDWELL
Ward Media Staff Reporter

LEAVENWORTH – The week of April 21–28 was proclaimed International Dark Sky Week for the City of Leavenworth by Mayor Carl Florea and the city council.

Mayor Florea read the proclamation during the April 9 city council meeting, which recognized the “aesthetic beauty and wonder” of the natural night sky, the rise of development and light pollution in the Wenatchee Valley, and the “scientifically-established economic and environmental consequences” of light pollution.

“Whereas, the experience of standing beneath a starry night sky inspires feelings of wonder and awe, and encourages a growing interest in sustainability and nature, and preserving the rich natural heritage and starry night skies of Leavenworth is important to its citizens,” the

proclamation read.

The proclamation aligns with an annual global celebration created by the organization Dark Sky International, which advocates for the protection of the night sky from light pollution. The week is intended to spread awareness of the ecological and human health impacts of light pollution, advocate for dark sky conservation, implement responsible lighting practices, and encourage citizen research.

In the proclamation, the City of Leavenworth encourages residents to observe and ponder the week, enjoy the night sky, learn about light pollution and how to implement practices that protect the night sky, and participate in the area’s events and programs that celebrate and promote the protection of the night sky.

The proclamation drew mixed reactions on social media, with criticism of the city’s own light pollution, par-

ticularly during the holidays, as well as support for the promotion of dark skies. During the council meeting, Paul Thomas of Wenatchee Valley Astronomy Club advocated for the proclamation.

“Let’s preserve this resource that connects us to stars, for ourselves, for future generations, and for the entirety of our valley, by celebrating International Dark Sky week, and observing a

truly dark sky,” said Thomas.

The Wenatchee Valley Astronomy Club will be advocating through programs and events during International Dark Sky Week. On April 27, the club will have a booth with a solar telescope during the Earth Day Fair in Enchantment Park, which takes place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. That evening, the Wenatchee Valley Astronomy Club will host a Hatchery

Star Party, located at the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery, from 9:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. The stargazing event is free and open to the public. Donations will be accepted, with all proceeds going to Friends of the Hatchery for the installation of a Sky Quality Meter to quantify light pollution growth.

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

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Chelan County Sheriff's Report



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

- April 5**
09:29:49 Harass/Threat, 12735
Prowell St, Leavenworth
09:33:29 911, Alice Ave & Us
Hwy 2, Dryden
11:50:33 Burglary, 525 Pine St,
Leavenworth
12:51:56 Suspicious, 500 Alpine
Pl, Leavenworth 14:24:29
Hazard, Us Hwy 2 & Front
St, Leavenworth 15:59:30
Juvenile Problem, W
Commercial St & Scholze,
Leavenworth
20:06:33 Assist Public, 15251 Us
Hwy 2, Leavenworth
- 15:28:26 Suspicious, 12688
Chumstick Hwy, Leavenworth
18:25:15 Property, 820 Front St,
Leavenworth

- April 6**
09:16:38 Property, 920 Front St,
Leavenworth
14:12:07 Property, 907 Front St,
Leavenworth
14:31:38 Trespass, 500 Alpine Pl,
Leavenworth
18:26:56 Accident Injury, Us Hwy
2 & 9th St, Leavenworth
20:19:46 Trespass, 7889 Blewett
Cutoff Rd, Peshstin
- April 8**
09:33:23 Theft, 147 W Whitman
St# 2, Leavenworth
14:22:22 At/Atc, 7500 Icicle Rd,
Leavenworth
15:39:01 Vehicle Prowl, Ingalls
Creek, Peshastin
22:10:09 Drugs, 16845 Second
Creek Rd, Leavenworth

- April 7**
05:05:16 Assist Agency, 8615
Larson Rd, Peshastin
11:32:01 Disturbance, 7375 Icicle
Rd, Leavenworth
12:49:28 Weapons Violation,
11025 Chumstick Hwy,
Leavenworth
15:14:13 Suspicious, 116 River
Bend Dr, Leavenworth
- 14:33:27 Trespass, 116 River
Bend Dr, Leavenworth
21:23:31 Assault, 990 Us Hwy 2,
Leavenworth
- April 10**
01:46:04 Dui, Chumstick Hwy
Mp, Leavenworth
10:03:19 Assist Public,
Leavenworth
10:14:21 Theft , 217 8th St,
Leavenworth
13:22:28 Littering, 18200blk
Chumstick Hwy, Leavenworth
13:49:34 Animal Problem,
10136 Main St, Peshastin
14:20:49 Traffic Offense, Us
Hwy 2 & River Bend Dr,
Leavenworth
14:29:55 Malicious Misch, 8453
Main St, Peshastin
18:10:10 Assist Public, 7569 Us
Hwy 97, Peshastin

Community Calendar

Wednesday

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

Thursday

Leavenworth Lions Club, Meetings are 1st Thurs. at 6:30pm and 3rd Thurs. at 9 am at Kristalls Restaurant. For more info contact president Tony Maffey at (509)470-6743.
Peshastin Community Council meeting, 7 p.m. Peshastin Memorial Hall. (2nd Thurs.)
Caregiver Support Group, 2-3:30 p.m. For Caregivers of those with Memory Loss. The Henry Building, 120 Cottage Ave. Cashmere. Contact Carmen Gamble, 509-393-0789. (1st & 3rd Thurs.)
Parkinson's Support Group Mountain Meadows Assisted Living 320 Park Avenue Leavenworth, WA 98826. Event Date, Last Thursday of every month, time 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., Contact Cascade Medical 509-548-3420 x 3873
Find strength in community. Join our People with Parkinson's Support Group for valuable connections, shared experiences, and support. Navigate challenges, celebrate victories, and empower each other on this journey. You are not alone. Join us.
Senior exercise taught by Rehab staff FREE Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11-12 at the LDS Church, 10170 Titus Rd.

Friday

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

Monday

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

Tuesday

Peshastin Water District, 5:30 p.m. For meeting location, contact Steve Keene, 509-548-5266. (2nd Tues.)
Icicle & Peshastin Irrigation Districts Meeting Current meeting time is 8 a.m. at 5594 Wescott Drive. Call Levi Jantzer, cell 509-607-0278, 509-782-2561, or levi.ipid@nwi.net (2nd Tues.)
Cascade Education Foundation, Contact: CEF@cascade.org
LWSC Alpine Committee, 7 p.m., Ski Hill Lodge. Call 509-548-5477. (1st. Tues.)
Leavenworth Masons, 7:30 p.m., Zarthan Lodge No. 148, Leavenworth Senior Center upstairs. www.leaveworthmasons.org. (1st Tues.)
Cascade Garden Club, 1 p.m., at a member's home or other venue. Call President Claudia, 509-662-7706. (3rd Tues.).
The Chelan County Cemetery District #2 (Peshastin) meets monthly at 6 p.m., at the Memorial Hall, located at 10204 Main Street. (2nd Tues.)
Senior Center, Exercise, 11 a.m-Noon. Tues & Thurs. 509-548-6666. Facebook & Website: leavenworthseniors@gmail.com
Greater Leavenworth Museum board meeting 5-7 p.m. Everyone is invited as a guest. Contact info@leavenworthmuseum.org for meeting information. (1st Tues.)
Senior exercise taught by Rehab staff FREE Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11-12 at the LDS Church, 10170 Titus Rd.

NCW Libraries

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

OBITUARY

Karen D. Strom

Karen D. Strom of Leavenworth, WA passed peacefully on March 27, 2025 at the age of 89, attended by her niece, Karen, a long time resident of Leavenworth, loved music and travel, and was very involved with her community, with Faith Lutheran Church, and with Holden Village. She had many friends and

would hike and ski in the area with them.
Karen is survived by her nieces Karen Berge and Kirsten Scarseth, her three great-nephews, and her two great-great nieces.
A memorial service will be held on April 26, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church in Leavenworth, WA.

Chelan-Douglas Regional Port Authority's Trades District recognized for innovation in economic development



An architectural rendering shows the interior of one of the Trades District's 12 incubator spaces, featuring an open floor plan with large windows allowing natural light, suitable for various trade-based, retail or service businesses. The spaces range from 1,584 to 2,175 square feet.



An aerial view rendering of the complete Trades District development showcases the layout of the 12 business incubator units arranged in clusters with shared access, landscaping and parking. The project is designed to support a diverse mix of businesses in a campus-like setting.

NCW News
Ward Media

OLYMPIA — The Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority received recognition for its innovative Trades District Project at the 2025 Washington Economic Development Association (WEDA) Awards held in Olympia on March 26.

The project, which features 12 incubator spaces ranging from 1,584 to 2,175 square feet, was honored with one of two Innovation in Economic Development awards presented at WEDA's Winter/Spring Conference.

According to WEDA officials, the Trades District represents a pioneering approach to economic development, reimagining how communities cultivate business growth and entrepreneurship by focusing on trade-based, retail and service businesses rather than pursuing large-scale business recruitment.

"The Trades District is more than just a collection of buildings—it's a launching pad for entrepreneurs, a catalyst for local business growth and a long-term investment in the economic vitality of our region," said Brooke Lammert, Economic Development Specialist at the Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority. "We are honored to receive this recognition from WEDA and proud to support small businesses with the space, resources and partnerships they need to succeed."

The project's success stems largely from its collaborative approach, partnering with organizations including the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and the Hispanic Business Council. These partnerships ensure entrepreneurs with historically underserved communities receive mentorship, resources and guidance needed to navigate the challenges of

business ownership. WEDA, Washington's only trade association focused exclusively on economic development, presents its awards annually to recognize outstanding achievements in the field. This year, the organization's Awards Committee noted they received a record number of nominations from communities across the state.

"WEDA's Economic Development Awardscelebrate outstanding achievement in economic development at the highest level," said WEDA Board Chair Betty Capestany, who also serves as the Director of Economic Development for Pierce County. "There are

Conservation District announces April board meeting

WENATCHEE — The Cascadia Conservation District has scheduled its regular board meeting for Friday, April 18, at 1:30 p.m. The meeting will take place at the district's office located at 1350 McKittrick St., Suite B, in Wenatchee.

The meeting will be conducted in a hybrid format, offering both in-person attendance and remote participation options via telephone or Zoom videoconferencing.

Due to limited space capacity at the venue, individuals planning to attend in person are required to contact the district office in advance to secure a spot. More information and instructions for the Zoom meeting will be available on its website at cascadiacd.org or by calling the district office at 509-436-1601.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHELAN DOUGLAS REGIONAL PORT AUTHORITY



A conceptual drawing depicts the outdoor communal area planned for the Trades District Project, featuring picnic tables and planters to create a collaborative environment where entrepreneurs can gather and network. The design reflects the Port Authority's emphasis on creating a community-oriented business ecosystem.



Brooke Lammert (in red), Economic Development Specialist at the Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority, accepts the 2025 WEDA Innovation in Economic Development Award for the Trades District Project at the organization's Winter/Spring Conference in Olympia on March 26. The award recognizes the Port Authority's pioneering approach to cultivating business growth and entrepreneurship.

leaders across our entire state working tirelessly to grow jobs and strengthen economic vitality in their communities. These awards honor leaders and projects that are excelling in this impactful work."

Amanda Wallner, WEDA Awards Committee Chair and Economic Development Manager for the City of Richland, added, "We received a record number of impressive nominations from communities across Washington. The nominations reflect a unique array of the breadth and diversity of important work taking place by economic developers statewide. These projects are

often complex and require extensive collaboration and creative partnerships."

The Trades District Project was one of two recipients of the Innovation in Economic Development Award, sharing the honor with the Clallam Forest Product Innovation Program from the Clallam County Economic Development Council.

The awards ceremony recognized achievements across multiple categories, including business recruitment, business retention/expansion, diversity and inclusion, and economic response and recovery efforts.

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CASCADE SCHEDULE

Boys Varsity Baseball				
Sat, Apr 19 11:00: AM	Cascade vs.	Omak	Away	
Wed, Apr 23 1:00: PM	Cascade vs.	Liberty Bell	Away	
Boys Varsity Track				
Sat, Apr 19 11:00 PM	Cascade vs.	Cashmere Invitational	Away	
Boys Varsity Tennis				
Mon, Apr 21 4:00 PM	Cascade vs.	Manson	Away	
Tue, Apr 22 4:00 PM	Cascade vs.	Chelan	Home	
Girls Varsity Tennis				
Tue, Apr 22 4:00 PM	Cascade vs.	Chelan	Home	
Girls Varsity Softball				
Sat, Apr 19 11:00: AM	Cascade vs.	Omak	Away	
Wed, Apr 23 4:30: PM	Cascade vs.	Liberty Bell	Away	
Girls Varsity Golf				
Thu, Apr 17 2:00 PM	Cascade vs.	Okanogan	Home	

CASCADE SCOREBOARD

Boys Varsity Soccer					
Tue, Apr 8	Cascade	0	Wahluke	3	Loss
Thu, Apr 10	Cascade	3	Bridgeport	0	Win
Girls Varsity Softball					
Tue, Apr 8	Cascade	23	Bridgeport	26	Loss
Thu, Apr 10	Cascade	28	Manson	11	Win

Kodiak boys tennis falls 5-0 to Cashmere



CASHMERE - The Kodiaks had a tough go of it at Cashmere last April 7, losing 5-0 in girls and 5-0 in boys matches.

➊ Miles Porter reaches for the sky, like that sheriff in Toy Story, during his match against Tony Bumgarner from Cashmere. Porter fought hard, but Bumgarner ultimately took the match in two sets.

➋ Adan Vargas delivers a shot against a Cashmere doubles team last April 7.

Vargas and Melvin Northrup lost in two sets.

➌ Melvin Northrup in action against Cashmere last April 7. The duo of Northrup and Adan Vargas lost to Quentin Christensen and Kamren Meloy 3-6, 0-6.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Arlo Gibbs
Boys Soccer
Junior

the embodiment of what our soccer program is all about. Although only a junior, Arlo is excited to continue playing soccer at the collegiate level.



Arlo is a captain and displays all the characteristics that make him an excellent leader. He is positive, always looks out for other people, and leads by example. He works hard in practice and in games. He also has excellent soccer skills and sees the field well. Arlo is our center back and directs the team from his defensive position. Arlo is a player that makes everyone around him better. He is

Cascade girls tennis falls to Cashmere Bulldogs

CASMERE - Cascade's girls team fought hard but could not break through and ended up losing to the Cashmere Bulldogs on the road.

➊ Hazel Eschen serves against the Bulldogs during her doubles match on April 7. Eschen and Harper Baker lost to Mandy Barba and Hadley Westlund 3-6, 6-3, 6-7.

➋ Anna Reichlin readies her backhand during her singles match against Cashmere's Freya Dronen. Reichlin lost 4-6, 1-6.



UPPER VALLEY CHURCH GUIDE To Place Information in The Church Guide Call 509-548-5286

Leavenworth

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Office: 509-548-4331 • 11025, Chumstick Hwy.
• Please join us Sunday mornings, 9 a.m., Sunday School, 10:30 a.m., Worship Service

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418 Evans Street • 509-548-5619 • 10 a.m. Sunday Service,
Pastor Jo Dene Romeijn-Stout • Leavenworthumc.org
• leavenworthumc@outlook.com

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
10170 Titus Rd. (across from middle school).
Church: 509-548-7667
• Meetings: Sunday - 10 a.m

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA
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• 509-548-7010 • Worship 9:30 a.m. w/coffee following
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429 Evans Street, 509- 470-7745
• Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.
• www.leavenworthbaptist.com
• Email: info@leavenworthbaptist.com

LEAVENWORTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
111 Ski Hill Drive • 509-548-5292 • Sunday Worship 9 a.m.
• Lead Pastor: Greg Appleby • Youth Pastor Paige Derosssett
• Worship Pastor-Jacob Mitchell • www.LCN.org

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
10600 Ski Hill Drive • 509-548-4345 • Saturday Services • Bible Study 9:30 a.m. • Worship 11 a.m. • 509-860-3997

SPIRIT LIFE CENTER
210 Benton Street • 509-548-7138 • Sunday Worship 10 a.m., Prayer 6 p.m. • Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m. • Pastor Russell Esparza

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DRYDEN COMMUNITY CHURCH
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• Sunday Worship at 11 am.
Prayer Meeting Wed. at 6 pm. Pastor Bill Clem

MID-VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH
8345 Stine Hill Rd. • 509-782-2616
• Worship Service, 10 a.m.,
Sunday School, 9 a.m. • Pastor Mike Moore
www.midvalley baptist.org

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LIGHT IN THE VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH
8455 Main Street • Sunday Worship 10 a.m. • Pastor John Romine
www.lightinthevalley.org

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7591 Hwy. 97 • 509-548-4222 • Sunday Worship, 10 a.m.
• Pastors, Darryl and Mindy Wall
• newlifeleavenworth@gmail.com
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303 Maple Street • 509-782-2431
• Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Call for activities: Pastor Charles Clarke • www.cashmerepres.org

CASHMERE COMMUNITY CHURCH
213 S Division St - 509-782-3811
• Worship Service at 11:00 AM, Sunday
• Office Hours: Mon-Thurs., • 10 AM to 1 PM
• Pastor Lilia Felicitas-Malana

CHRIST CENTER
Sunday Worship Service at 10 am
• Lead Pastor Steve Haney
• 5800 Kimber Rd., Cashmere
• 509-295-8006 christcentercashmere.com

Monitor

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
3799 Fairview Canyon - 509-782-2601
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Washington Legislature approves requirement for clergy to report child abuse

By **JERRY CORNFIELD**
Washington State Standard

OLYMPIA - Washington is poised to require clergy members to report child abuse or neglect, even when it is disclosed in confession. Nearly two-thirds of state House members approved a Senate bill on Friday night to make religious leaders mandatory reporters of abuse and neglect, adding them to a list that includes school counselors, police, and nurses. With passage of Senate Bill 5375 on a 64-31 vote, the legislation now goes to Democratic Gov.

Bob Ferguson for signing. “It’s long past time for this protection for children,” said state Sen. Noel Frame, D-Seattle, the bill’s sponsor, following the vote. “Members of the clergy play such an important role in the lives of children, like teachers and doctors do, and just like those other trusted adults, clergy should be mandatory reporters.” More than half the states make clergy mandatory reporters, but most exempt what is heard in a confessional. If the Senate bill is signed, Washington would join the

handful like New Hampshire and West Virginia where such conversations are not exempt. Removing that privilege played a large part in the House floor debate on Friday. “This bill is an attack on the Catholic and other faiths,” said Rep. Jeremie Dufault, R-Selah. Some Republicans said they could support making clergy members mandatory reporters as long as the confessional privilege was maintained. “I have anger at people that do this because it is so wrong. I want something that will work,” said Rep. Tom Dent, R-Moses Lake. “There is no

way we can enforce this.” Rep. Carolyn Eslick, R-Sultan, said she was abused as a five-year-old by a 16-year-old family friend. But, she said, similar laws in other states didn’t reduce child abuse and neglect. “If I thought for one minute it would help our children, I would vote for it,” she said. Supporters said the bill will help protect children by ensuring that if they confide to a religious leader that they are being mistreated, they can trust that person will do something to help. Rep. Monica Stonier, D-Vancouver, said as a survivor of childhood sexual abuse, “what makes a difference is when it stops. It stops when it becomes known.”

State law requires teachers, police, registered nurses, social service counselors and members of several other professions to report to law enforcement or the state Department of Children, Youth and Families if they have reasonable cause to believe that a child has suffered abuse or neglect. The bill adds clergy to the list, but it retains their privilege to not be compelled to testify in a court case or criminal proceeding. A “member of the clergy” is defined in the legislation to cover any regularly licensed, accredited, or ordained minister, priest, rabbi, imam, elder, or similarly positioned religious or spiritual leader. The Washington State Catholic Conference opposed the legislation. They said it



LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES
State Sen. Noel Frame, D-Seattle, seen here in an undated photo, has pushed for three years for legislation to set new requirements for clergy to report child abuse. Her bill won final approval in the Legislature on April 11 and is headed to the governor’s desk.

Senate approves \$7.3 billion capital budget



MARY FEUSNER/WASHINGTON STATE JOURNAL
Cherry blossom trees in full bloom behind the Legislature Building on March 31.

By: **MARY FEUSNER**
Washington State Journal

OLYMPIA - The state Senate, which often hears a wide range of opinions between Democrats and Republicans, gave rare unanimous approval March 5 for a \$7.3 billion capital budget. “It was important to be responsive to the needs of all Washingtonians, regardless of the district they live in,” Sen. Yasmin Trudeau, D-Tacoma, said. The budget allocates \$2.25 billion to natural resources, \$1.2 billion for higher education, \$1 billion for K-12 schools, and \$770 million to housing projects. Funding for natural resources will go toward a variety of projects, including repairing the Yakima-Tieton irrigation systems damaged by the 2024 wildfires and restoring the natural

floodplains in Chewelah. Other projects will clean up contaminated areas around the Puget Sound, transforming them into affordable housing developments while creating jobs and stimulating economic growth. Trudeau praised Sen. Mark Schoesler, R-Ritzville, for collaborating on the legislation. Schoesler’s work helped her better understand the needs of districts east of the Cascades, Trudeau said. “What we have is a capital budget for the entire state,” Schoesler said, prior to Saturday’s vote. “...We looked at this budget and saw fewer resources, so we made tougher decisions every step of the way.” The K-12 funding will dedicate \$563 million to school construction projects, \$201 million to modernize facilities in tribal schools and small

districts, and \$143 million for seismic safety updates at schools near active fault lines. According to Sen. Perry Dozier, R-Waitsburg, the state has a duty to ensure there is enough financial support for K-12 education. The budget also includes a reserve of \$222 million for the second year of the biennium. Due to economic fluctuations and emerging needs, the reserve is important to address unforeseen issues during next year’s session, Schoesler said. The House is considering a \$7.6 billion capital budget similar to the Senate version. Once voted on, the two chambers will converge to create one final version. *The Washington State Journal is a nonprofit news website operated by the WNPA Foundation. To learn more, go to wastatejournal.org.*

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Valley MEND

Continued from page A1

doing, and it's certainly right now showing us that people are struggling," said Executive Director Kaylin Bettinger. "People just can't quite make their budgets work, with the cost of groceries and the cost of rent being kind of the two primary drivers of that."

While the Community Cupboard receives food from a variety of sources, such as state and federal funded programs, a grocery rescue program, individual donations, and its gleaning program, it also sets aside a food purchasing budget to supplement the pantry with staple items.

According to Bettinger, the nonprofit increased its food purchasing budget from about \$30,000 to \$75,000 last year to maintain its services.

While it aims to remain near \$75,000 this year, increased demand and cost of groceries has required the pantry to reconsider its strategies.

"I think if we continued to just buy what we've been buying, we would probably be spending about \$150,000 this year on food based on the first few months of 2025," said Bettinger.

The Community Cupboard's most-needed items include store-bought eggs and dairy products, low-sodium and low-sugar canned goods, fresh fruits and vegetables, bread and tortillas, and pet food. Non-food items needed include deodorant, toothpaste, diapers, soap, feminine hygiene products, and toilet paper. A full list of the Cupboard's most needed items can be found on Upper Valley MEND's website.

As the gardening season ramps up, the food pantry also encourages fresh fruits and vegetable donations from home gardens. However, due to regulations, it cannot accept homegrown eggs or home-processed food.

"I want people to know how much their support, in whatever way – volunteers, donors, people who donate to the thrift store or bring their produce – it all really does make a huge difference in people's lives...It is really helping their neighbors in a big way," said Bettinger.

During the April 19 food drive, volunteers will be collecting donations from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., located at tables set just inside the door closest to the produce at Safeway.

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

Washington apple license plate program marks five-year anniversary, raises \$142,000 for students

NCW News
Ward Media

WENATCHEE — The Washington Apple Education Foundation announced Thursday that its specialized license plate program has raised more than \$142,000 for student scholarships over the past five years.

Since its 2020 launch, the apple-themed license plate has gained popularity throughout the state, with 1,239 plates currently on Washington roads. The program directs \$28 from each plate purchase and annual renewal toward scholarships for students from families working in the state's tree fruit industry.

"This milestone is not just about the number of plates—it's about the students whose lives have been changed through the generosity of those who choose to support WAEF in this unique way," said Rolando Martin, WAEF Chairman. "We are grateful to individuals displaying this plate on their personal and company vehicles. You are making higher education possible for hardworking, deserving young people."



COURTESY OF WASHINGTON APPLE EDUCATION FOUNDATION
The Washington apple specialty license plate features a red apple with a "WASHINGTON" banner, the words "APPLES" down the left side, and "World's Finest Apples" at the bottom, all on a navy blue background. Since its introduction in 2020, over 1,200 of these plates have raised more than \$142,000 for scholarships supporting students from Washington's tree fruit industry families.

The license plate program was developed through a collaborative effort between the Washington Apple Commission and the Washington Apple Education Foundation. It has become a visible symbol of the state's agricultural heritage while providing financial support for education.

The Washington Apple Education Foundation serves as the charitable arm of Washington's tree

fruit industry. According to foundation officials, WAEF provides over \$1 million in scholarships annually and offers professional and career development training throughout the year for student recipients.

Interested individuals can learn more about obtaining a Washington apple license plate through the foundation's website at <https://waef.org/get-a-washington-apples-license-plate/>.

Easter

Continued from page A1

truck. The event will start at 11 a.m. at the LWRC clubhouse, located at 14400 Chiwawa Loop Road. The event is put together in partnership with Plain Community Church, Ponderosa Social committee, and several other locals.

Easter Brunch at Sleeping Lady Mountain Resort's Kingfisher Restaurant
Kingfisher Restaurant will celebrate with a special Easter Brunch menu from Chef

Micah Windham and the team on April 20. Seating will be at 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 2 p.m., with reservations highly recommended. The brunch is \$55 for adults and \$20 for children under 12 years of age, not including tax or gratuity.

Community Easter Egg Hunt at Alpine Lakes Elementary
The Leavenworth Lions Club will host an Easter egg hunt for ages one to 12 years old in the lower field of Alpine Lakes Elementary School, located at 500 Pine Street. The egg hunt will be accompanied

by an Easter Bunny. The event starts at 1 p.m. on April 20. It is free and open to all.

Hunt for "mystery eggs" inside Leavenworth Rocks shop
From now until Easter, the rock and gem shop Leavenworth Rocks will have an Easter egg hunt inside its storefront. Visitors can shop for a large mystery egg for \$15, or a small egg for \$5. The eggs will contain surprise stones and other goods.

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

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· Animal Control Duties: In addition to maintenance tasks, you will perform Animal Control Officer responsibilities specified and trained.
· Certification Requirement:
o DOH Water Operator Certification: Must be obtained during the probationary period. The employer will provide study time and materials to help secure this certification.
o Valid Washington State CDL Class B: This is a mandatory requirement for the role.
Overall, the role is designed to support essential public works functions, ensuring the City's infrastructure remains safe, efficient, and operational.
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https://bridgeportwashington.net/cat_doc/employment-opportunity/ or stop by their office at 1206 Columbia Ave. in Bridgeport for an application

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Legals

Public Notices

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR KING COUNTY In the Matter of the Estate of
BRENDON C. LYNCH, Deceased.
No. 25-4-00240-1 SEA
AMENDED PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the Decedent that arose before the Decedent's death must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Personal Representative or the Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court. The claim must be presented within the later of: (a) Thirty (30) days after the Personal Representatives served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (b) four (4) months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim will be forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.
Date of First Publication: April 16, 2025.
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: KIRSTIN LYNCH
ATTORNEY FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: ERIN ALBANESE
ADDRESS FOR MAILING OR SERVICE: Peterson Russell Kelly Livengood, PLLC
Attn: ERIN ALBANESE
10900 NE 4th Street, Suite 1850
Bellevue, WA 98004-8341
COURT OF PROBATE PROCEEDINGS AND CAUSE NUMBER: King County Superior Court, No. 25-4-00240-1 SEA.
Attorney for Personal Representative: PETERSON RUSSELL KELLY LIVENGOOD, PLLC
By: /s/ Erin Albanese
ERIN ALBANESE, WSBA #46235
Published in The Leavenworth Echo/Cashmere Valley Record April 16, 23, 30, 2025 #9774

Public Notices

CITY OF LEAVENWORTH

On the 8th day of April, 2025, the City Council of the City of Leavenworth, Washington passed the following ordinances. A summary of the contents provides as follows:
Ordinance 1707: An ordinance of the City of Leavenworth, WA, amending certain revenue and expenditure appropriations in the 2025-2026 Budget and Ordinance #1704 for the city of Leavenworth.
Ordinance 1708: An ordinance of the City of Leavenworth, WA, adopting amendments to the Sanitary Sewer Use Charges.
A full copy of these ordinances are available at Leavenworth City Hall or will be mailed to you upon your request to Andrea Fischer, City Clerk, City of Leavenworth, PO Box 287, Leavenworth, WA 98826
Published in The Leavenworth Echo/Cashmere Valley Record April 16, 2025. #9784

Public Notices

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR CHELAN COUNTY In the Matter of the Estate of
BONNIE D. REEVES, Deceased.
No. 25-4-00146-04
NONPROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
RCW 11.42.030

The notice agent named below has elected to give notice to creditors of the above-named decedent. As of the date of the filing of a copy of this notice with the court, the notice agent has no knowledge of any other person acting as notice agent or of the appointment of a personal representative of the decedent's estate in the State of Washington. According to the records of the court as are available on the date of the filing of this notice with the court, a cause number regarding the decedent has not been issued to any other notice agent and a personal representative of the decedent's estate has not been appointed.
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 11.42.070 by serving on or mailing to the notice agent or the notice agent'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 notice agent's declaration and oath were filed. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the notice agent served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.42.020(2)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.42.050 and 11.42.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.
DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: April 16, 2025
The notice agent declares under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington on the 4th day of April, 2025, at Wenatchee, Washington, that the foregoing is true and correct.
Signature of Notice Agent
Notice Agent:
John D. Longenecker
Attorney for the Notice Agent:
David J. Bentsen
Address for Mailing or Service: Speidel Bentsen LLP
7 North Wenatchee Avenue, Suite 600
P.O. Box 881
Wenatchee, Washington 98807
Court of Notice Agent's Oath and Declaration and Cause Number: Chelan County Superior Court Cause No. 25-4-00146-04
Prepared By: SPEIDEL BENTSEN LLP
By: David J. Bentsen
WSBA No. 42107
7 North Wenatchee Avenue, Suite 600
P.O. Box 881
Wenatchee, Washington 98807
(509) 662-1211
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