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OF
VIEW

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NEWS

Connecting communities across North Central Washington
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Music with a mission: Cascade Crescendo Campaign concert to fill Snowy Owl with song May 31

By CAROLINE MENNA
Ward Media Intern

The Snowy Owl Theater at Icicle Creek Center for the Arts will come alive on Saturday, May 31 at 7 p.m. with the voices and talents of local musicians, students, and performers during the second annual Crescendo Campaign Benefit Concert. The evening promises unforgettable music and community connection — all for a cause that resonates deeply throughout the Cascade School District (CSD).

Launched in response to budget-driven cuts to middle and high school choir programs, the Crescendo Campaign is a community-led effort to fund choir instruction and ensure students from grades 6–12 continue to have access to vocal music education

This year's concert, hosted by Cascade PTSA and the Performing Arts Boosters, features an impressive lineup of local performers including Amy Edwards, Ernest Palmer, Jon Vandel, Rhia Foster, and Angela Wagoner. Attendees will also enjoy performances from the CSD Choirs, solos from student singers Hazel Gilkinson, Kiriana Ross, and Caroline Menna, and a special appearance from the cast of Alice in Wonderland, Cascade High School's (CHS) spring musical.

All proceeds from ticket sales — \$25 for adults, \$10 for students — as well as funds raised from a bake sale, raffle, and silent auction at the event, will benefit the campaign's



CAROLINE MENNA/WARD MEDIA
The Snowy Owl Theater at Icicle Creek Center for the Arts will come alive with music on May 31 during the Crescendo Campaign Concert to support Cascade School District's choir programs.

current goal: raising \$51,000 to fund choir programming for the 2025–2026 school year. This figure was adjusted down from the original \$65,683 thanks to the recent passage of a local levy, which will take effect in spring 2026 and eventually provide direct district

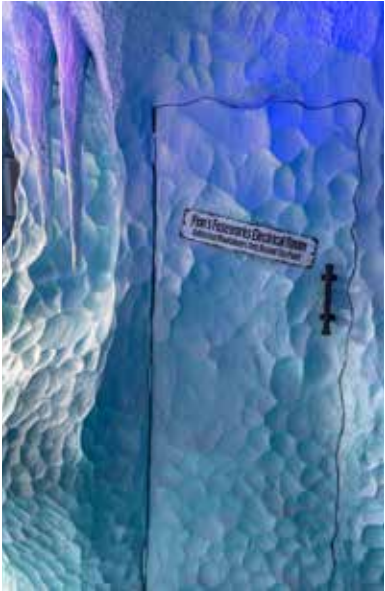
funding for music programs.

The campaign has already raised approximately \$73,000 toward its two-year \$116,000 goal. It recently unlocked its first matching grant and is just \$12,000 away from earning a second \$20,000 match.

“The response has been extraordinary,” said Amy Edwards, who is both a performer and a PTSA committee member. “Hundreds of community members have stepped

See CASCADE CRESCENDO Page B4

Der Snow Cave delivers sweet treats inside an icy wonderland



Rather than “Employees Only,” the sign nods to the creative storyline behind the shop, a detail that speaks to Burpee's imagination.

The Burpee family came together to help make Der Snow Cave a reality. Pictured from left to right: John, Ethan, Makenna, Analia, and Melissa Burpee. Included but not pictured: Zoie Burpee.



PHOTOS BY TAYLOR CALDWELL / WARD MEDIA



The immersive cave experience is a culmination of John Burpee's “imagineering” personality and creative execution from Gibbs Graphics. Look close enough, and yeti footprints will appear in the marbled, ice-like floor.

By TAYLOR CALDWELL
Ward Media Staff Reporter

LEAVENWORTH – The co-founders who brought pizza cones to life with Coned Bros. are introducing a new world of imagination through Der Snow Cave, an immersive snow cave experience offering “frosty and toasty” sweet treats.

When imagining the concept of Der Snow Cave, owners John and Melissa Burpee wanted to create more kid-oriented experiences in Leavenworth, while still offering a take-and-go option similar to the pizza cone.

“Coned Bros. was designed to be more family oriented, and we wanted to do that with a unique treat shop that was more kid and family focused, but yet attracted all age categories...Also, we're big fans of, I guess, “fun foods” is what we call it,”

See DER SNOW CAVE Page B4

Leavenworth city council discusses code of ethics and social media presence

By TAYLOR CALDWELL
Ward Media Staff Reporter

LEAVENWORTH – The Leavenworth City Council made updates to its code of ethics and discussed social media presence during its May 13 city council meeting.

The city council voted to make updates to its code of ethics based on recommendations from the ethics officer Danielle Marchant, presented by City Clerk Andrea Fischer over the April 22 study session. The changes included adding specificity to the gifts and favors section, clarifying that meals or coffee are not considered gifts,

and removing language about boards and committees related to political campaigns that is not applicable to city business.

The change updated the financial disclosure statement requirements, noting that F-1 forms are not required with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) until the city reaches 2,000 registered voters. The city was at nearly 1,900 voters in the November 2024 election. Lastly, the council updated the complaint process so that complaints are sent to the city clerk first for review before sending them to the ethics officer.

“I'll let her know that we have received a complaint, and that we're

investigating it...So we'll do our due diligence, and then we'll hand it off to her, and she'll do her due diligence,” said Fischer.

While not included in the change, the update prompted further discussion of social media use. City Administrator Matthew Selby iterated that engaging in online discussions was not prohibited, but could make the personal accounts of city council members subject to public records requests.

“I definitely had an interest in the parking discussion [on Facebook] a couple weeks ago, and I don't want to shy away from some of that,” said City Councilmember Travis McMaster. “I just want to have an open dialogue,

and listen to our constituents, but also explain what the realities are that the city is doing.”

However, while including a disclaimer was advised, others cautioned against commenting altogether, recommending in-person discussions and the encouragement of attending public meetings.

“If you are presenting a perspective that's informed by your time or your experience on the council, that enters a gray area, like Carl said, where you're putting yourself at risk,” said City Councilmember Clint Strand.

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

Wenatchee Valley Museum launches series of history focused caravan tours

NCW News
Ward Media

WENATCHEE — The Wenatchee Valley Museum & Cultural Center is inviting residents and visitors from across Washington to take part in a new slate of guided tours highlighting the history, geology and cultural heritage of North Central Washington.

The museum's “Adventure & History” series kicks off this year with three in-depth caravan tours, each featuring multiple stops and guided presentations by local historians and cultural experts. Participants drive their own vehicles between sites, a format museum officials say is designed to promote flexibility and broader participation from both Eastern and Western Washington.

“Whether it is taking a boat to Stehekin, learning about the Wellington Train Disaster, or basking in the beauty of Lake Wenatchee, the WVMCC has plenty to offer!” the museum said in a release.

The first offering, the “Stehekin: Heart of the Cascades Tour,” takes place Saturday, May 24. Led by Native storyteller Randy Lewis, the tour includes a boat ride to the remote village of Stehekin, treats from the Stehekin Pastry Company, and discussions on the region's Indigenous and cultural heritage. Participants will meet at the Chelan Boat Dock at 1418 N. Woodin Ave. in Chelan. Admission is \$225 for museum members and \$250 for non-members. Space is limited and pre-registration is required.

The second event explores the site of one of the deadliest avalanches in U.S. history. The “Wellington Train Disaster Lecture & Tour” begins with a public lecture by Randy Dasho of Port Orchard on Friday, May 30, at the historic Wells House in Wenatchee.

See MUSEUM Page B4



COURTESY OF PAUL TOMAS
The sun sets over Lake Wenatchee, casting a golden glow across the still waters and surrounding Cascade foothills.



COURTESY OF WENATCHEE VALLEY MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER
Cultural guide Randy Lewis shares stories about Indigenous history and the natural world during a stop on the Stehekin tour hosted by the Wenatchee Valley Museum & Cultural Center.

Inside The Echo this Week

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\$1.00



Phone:
509-731-4392

www.leavenworthecho.com

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Noon Friday

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Noon Friday

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6 Months

\$25.00

3 Months

\$15.00

1 Month

\$8.00

1 Week

\$1.50

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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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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!

Village Art in the Park

Village Art in the Park, Washington's longest-running outdoor art installment's Opening Day on May 23 from 9 a.m to 6 p.m at Front Street in Leavenworth.

"Explore vibrant paintings, photography, jewelry, and metalwork by emerging and professional artists. From May to October, all purchases help support scholarships and art programs in our school district."

For more information, visit villageartinthepark.org.

Stargazing at Lake Wenatchee

The Wenatchee Valley Astronomy Club will host a stargazing night on May 25 from 10:30 p.m to 11:30 p.m. at Lake Wenatchee South Park Beach.

Leavenworth Lions Breakfast in the Park

The Leavenworth Lions Club will host an all-you-can-eat community breakfast on May 24 from 7 a.m to 11 a.m. at Lions Club Park in Leavenworth.

"Enjoy a hearty breakfast of pancakes, eggs, sausage, and beverages, Satisfy your appetite and support vital programs for vision, hearing, diabetes, fighting hunger, and more."

Cost is \$10 for ages 10 and up, \$5 for ages 4-9. Children 0-3 and active military with ID eat free. For more information, visit facebook.com/LeavenworthLionsWA, call (509) 548-2228, or email leavenworthlionsclubwa@gmail.com.

Bingo Night @ Icicle Brewing Company

Icicle Brewing Company will host Bingo Night on May 26 from 6 p.m to 8 p.m. at their tasting room on the brew floor (downstairs bar).

"Join us for some sweet Bingo action, There's no charge to play—and you can win some goodies!"

Leavenworth Alphorn Festival

Alphorn players from around the world will join the Leavenworth Alphorns for a special outdoor concert at the Front Street Gazebo on May 24. The concert will take place from 5 p.m to 6 p.m. and is free to attend. "Experience the rich, resonant sounds of the traditional alphorn echoing through the mountains. This beloved concert brings global talent to the heart of Leavenworth for one unforgettable hour."

For more information, call (509) 548-3494 or email info@leavenworthalphorns.org.

For more information, visit iciclebrewing.com or email info@iciclebrewing.com.

POINT OF VIEW

They adopted a new budget without your input, and you’re paying for it



Sen. Keith Goehner/R-Dryden

By Sen. Keith Goehner

Washingtonians have good reason to be distrustful of the policies coming out of the state Capitol. While the legislation itself matters, how it's crafted is also important – and, increasingly, there is less transparency, bipartisanship, or accountability.

My goal as a state lawmaker is to work together and avoid partisanship, so I am greatly concerned that the new state operating budget was developed with little Republican input. Using the Senate as an example, our budget team was in the room for rounds one and two, then Democrats excluded our ideas the rest of the way.

During the final three weeks of this legislative session, Democrats from the Senate and House didn't just shut Republicans out. They shut the public out as well, drafting the final version of the new operating budget behind closed doors.

Committee hearings were held at the last minute on the Democrats' new tax bills. To say there was no bipartisan collaboration or transparency is not a political grievance, it's the reality of how this budget was drafted and passed.

Budgets are about priorities. They fund our schools, roads, public safety, and essential services. They shape the future of our state. Yet when it came to the largest of the three budgets lawmakers had to adopt this year, the majority party decided that only its priorities matter — and that the voices of millions of Washingtonians represented by Republicans don't deserve to be heard.

Worse yet, the Democrats didn't just craft the operating budget in secret — they based it on the largest tax increase in state history.

We're talking about billions in new taxes on families, homeowners, energy users, and small businesses. Even those aimed at employers will be passed down to consumers sooner or later – and at a time when families are already struggling with high housing costs, basic living expenses and increasing utility bills.

The majority party

claims these tax increases are necessary to fund state services. The truth is, Senate Republicans offered a better way. Our \$ave Washington budget was a responsible and sustainable alternative that would have met the needs of our communities without raising taxes or cutting any core services. Our plan would have boosted public safety, special education, and mental-health funding — all while protecting your paycheck, respecting your family budget, and keeping the size of government in check.

Democrats had two chances to join us in adopting this no-new-taxes budget. Instead, they rammed their own plan through. The budget they sent to the governor wasn't negotiated by anyone other than themselves. The majority party refused to listen, consider Republican amendments, or allow any real public input. They unveiled their final budget deal at the last minute, leaving no time for meaningful review or changes. The majority party didn't just ignore Republicans, they ignored you.

We expect open government and deserve to know how our money is being spent. We deserve a transparent, accountable budgeting process that includes all voices and reflects all communities, not just those in the majority party. That is why I'm speaking out.

I will continue fighting for transparency and fiscal responsibility. Better outcomes come from open dialogue, not closed doors.

While we wait for the governor to either sign or veto the largest tax increase in Washington State history, remember, this is your government. You deserve a seat at the table, not just a larger tax bill in your mailbox.

Sen. Keith Goehmer represents the 12th Legislative District, which includes Chelan County and parts of King and Snohomish counties. Goehner is the Republican leader on the Senate Housing Committee, the assistant Republican leader on the Senate Transportation Committee, and serves on the Senate Local Government Committee.

Professional carvers show off chainsaw skills during month-long Maifest celebration

By Taylor Caldwell
Ward Media Staff Reporter

LEAVENWORTH – Coated in a layer of sawdust, Front Street buzzed with the sound of chainsaws over the May 18 and 19 weekend, as Maifest celebrations continued with live chainsaw carving.

Professional chainsaw carvers travelled from all over the Pacific Northwest to display their finest work and perform live demonstrations throughout the weekend, carving German-inspired creations near the Front Street Gazebo. The live demonstrations would draw a crowd of curious onlookers as the artists transformed a stump into a work of art in under 30 minutes.

"I don't know [what I'll carve] until I stand there and look at this little piece of firewood sitting in front of me," said Bob "The Chainsaw King" King. "I'm actually so focused on what I've got going on. Once in a while, I look up to see who's out there, and it's really cool to see the crowds."

Between demonstrations, AlpenFolk would balance the whirring of the machines with music of the alps, while carvers displayed their pieces for sale, ranging from small wall hangings to six-foot-tall award winning sculptures. The professional carvers often travel together to different competitions and shows throughout the PNW.

"We're all our own entity,

like each carver has their own product and stuff that we sell, but we all come together and put on a show," said carver Garret Aries, who learned to carve from his dad and fellow live carver, George Kenny.

Throughout the summer, the professional carvers will have their masterpieces up for auction and on display at various locations around town. The Leavenworth Chamber of Commerce's "Carving for Causes" silent auction will send all the proceeds to local nonprofits. Last year, the chamber directed its proceeds to Okandogs and the Royal Bavarians.

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



Chainsaw carver Alex Pricob transforms a log into an owl on a perch.



Bob King, "The Chainsaw King" stands beside one of his carvings, which will be included in the "Carving for Causes" silent auction.



King's Wizard of Oz inspired monkey won first place in a Northern California carving competition.



Spectators watch in awe as Pricob creates a piece of art in under 30 minutes.

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.)
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.

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.

May 9

02:40:00 Assist Agency,Us Hwy 97 Mp 180, Leavenworth
09:56:31 Assist Public,18595 Us Hwy 2, Leavenworth
11:12:54 Trespass, 12500 Wilson St, Leavenworth
12:33:15 Court Order Vio, 8352 Main St, Peshastin
13:28:34 Domestic Disturbance, 590 Us Hwy 2, Peshastin
13:33:34 Animal Problem, Main St & Pine St, Peshastin
14:21:03 Assist Agency, 7660 Icicle Rd, Leavenworth
15:40:01 Suspicious, 225 Central Ave, Leavenworth
20:45:16 Assist Public, 108 Central Ave, Leavenworth
21:23:48 Accident No Inj, 19003 River Rd, Plain
22:12:07 Traffic Offense, 116 River Bend Dr, Leavenworth

May 10

00:26:58 Vehicle Theft, 817 Commercial St, Leavenworth
09:01:28 Assist Public, 19160

Westside Dr, Plain
10:11:59 Suspicious, 301 Ward Strasse, Leavenworth
13:31:26 Trespass, 829 Front St, Leavenworth, Leavenworth
13:36:54 Scam, 18150 River Rd, Plain
15:50:02 Vehicle Prowl, 309 8th St, Leavenworth

May 11

11:35:17 911, 12862 Shore St, Leavenworth
12:19:00 Suspicious, 735 Front St, Leavenworth

May 12

07:02:44 Search And Rescue, Aasgard Pass, Leavenworth
09:24:16 Harass/Threat, 25219 Saddle St, Plain
13:14:46 Sex Offense, 100 Ward Strasse, Leavenworth
13:19:59 Civil, oblk Embroden Rd, Leavenworth
16:22:33 Assist Public, 8734 School St, Dryden
18:41:33 Suspicious, Coles Corner, Leavenworth

May 13

06:25:40 Diversion, 100 Ward Strasse # A304, Leavenworth
07:07:25 Theft, 116 River Bend Dr, Leavenworth
09:22:52 Welfare Check, Scotty Creek, Peshastin
10:46:16 Civil, 10171 Chumstick Hwy, Leavenworth
12:03:42 Harass/Threat, 10190 Chumstick Hwy, Leavenworth
14:43:18 Suspicious, 12800blk Ranger Rd, Leavenworth
22:12:35 Suicide Threat, 9630 Marson Dr, Leavenworth
22:22:18 Assist Agency, 505 Us Hwy 2, Leavenworth

May 14

05:49:10 Accident No Inj E Leavenworth Rd, Leavenworth
09:47:16 Welfare Check, Colchuck Lake Trail, Leavenworth
10:48:34 Traffic Offense Icicle Rd & E, Leavenworth
14:20:55 Welfare Check, 100 Ward Strasse # A328,

Leavenworth 14:53:48 Accident Injury Chumstick Hwy, Leavenworth
17:53:46 Welfare Check, 10835 Stemm Rd, Peshastin
19:02:20 Alarm, 72 Orion Ln, Leavenworth 19:07:10 Alarm, 18632 Beaver Valley Rd, Leavenworth 19:16:51 Welfare Check, Leavenworth
21:14:31 Trespass, 505 Us Hwy 2, Leavenworth

May 15

05:37:31 911, 320 Park Ave, Leavenworth
10:17:51 Accident No Inj, 9409 E Leavenworth Rd, Leavenworth
14:12:19 Accident No Inj, 940 Us Hwy 2 # A, Leavenworth
14:12:57 Court Order Vio, Icicle Rd & E Leavenworth, Leavenworth
15:57:27 Accident No Inj, 1505 Alpensee Strasse, Leavenworth
17:18:43 Suspicious, 12708 Us Hwy 2, Leavenworth
18:20:29 Alarm, 837 Front St



Historic Freestone Inn in Mazama listed for sale at \$5.99 million



COURTESY OF COLDWELL BANKER CASCADE REAL ESTATE

The main lodge of the Freestone Inn includes 12 rooms and five suites with lake and mountain views. Originally envisioned by outdoorsman Jack Wilson, the lodge opened in 1996 and remains a year-round destination for recreation in the Methow Valley.

Lake Chelan Mirror Ward Media

MAZAMA — A celebrated destination in Washington's Methow Valley, the Freestone Inn portfolio is now on the market, offering investors a chance to own a piece of North Cascades history. The property, located at 31 Early Winters Drive in Mazama, is listed for \$5,995,000. The portfolio includes 12 rooms and five suites in the main lodge, eight rental cabins, a manager's cabin, a commercial kitchen, a restaurant and

bar, Jack's Hut pizza pub, a community pool, and a hot tub. The site comprises 27,750 square feet of hospitality space across 11 buildings. "The Freestone Inn is a rare investment opportunity that blends scenic beauty, historic significance, and a thriving recreational market," said Adam Rynd, listing agent with Coldwell Banker Cascade Real Estate. Rynd can be reached at 206-799-1059 or adam@cbcascade.com for more information. The inn's origins trace back to the late 1940s, when Jack

and Elsie Wilson left San Francisco to settle in Mazama and built the original Early Winters cabins, a stock barn, and a one-acre lake. Jack Wilson, known for his passion for the outdoors, led packhorse excursions, hunting trips, and fishing tours, drawing guests from around the world, including celebrities and political figures. In 1996, Wilson's long-held vision for a full-service resort was realized with the construction of the Freestone Inn on the lake he had created decades earlier. The inn

has since earned accolades including recognition as one of Travel and Leisure magazine's "Top 25 Lodges in America." Situated near the Methow Valley Trail System and North Cascades National Park, the property remains a popular destination for outdoor enthusiasts throughout the year. The sale presents a unique opportunity to continue a legacy of rustic hospitality and wilderness adventure in one of Washington's most scenic regions.



COURTESY OF COLDWELL BANKER CASCADE REAL ESTATE

The Freestone Inn built on the original site of the Wilson Ranch, is now listed for sale at \$5,995 million.

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The Leavenworth Echo

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Boys Varsity Track			
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Girls Varsity Track			
Fri, May 23 2:00 PM	Cascade	WIAA District 5	Away

Icicle River Middle School honors April Motivated Mountain Lions for exemplifying forgiveness

The Leavenworth Echo
Ward Media

LEAVENWORTH — Icicle River Middle School has recognized eight students and two staff members as April's Motivated Mountain Lions for demonstrating the character trait of forgiveness.

Each month, the school highlights students and staff who embody key character values through its Motivated Mountain Lion program. April's trait, forgiveness, was defined by the school as "letting go of pain or resentment towards others or yourself," with an emphasis on understanding imperfections and accepting them.

Seventh-grader Amiyah Pulido-Sandoval was recognized for her maturity and self-regulation in emotional situations. "She considers other people's perspectives without compromising her own values," the staff wrote. "She takes full responsibility for her actions, making her a strong example of what forgiveness looks like in practice."

Jack Kitterman, also in seventh grade, was described as someone who listens with empathy and understanding. "Jack doesn't hold grudges, stay angry, or try to get even," the school noted. "Instead, he chooses to move forward rather than dwell on the past."

Fellow seventh-grader Jon Sires was commended for both seeking and offering forgiveness. "He is very quick to forgive others," the staff wrote. "Jon is such a happy guy, he loves school and enjoys his classes."

Eighth-grade student Sam Weinfurt was praised for his positivity and support of peers and adults alike. "You are always up for a challenge... and willing to go back and give it another try," the eighth-grade

team wrote in its nomination. "We can always count on you... to help out a classmate."

Sixth-graders Hailee Brackett and Olin Broom were also honored. Hailee was recognized for her growth mindset and respectful demeanor. "She always makes sure to show respect to all her peers and any adult she interacts with," the staff wrote. Olin was nominated for his collaborative spirit and emotional awareness. "When others in the classroom may argue or blame, Olin takes responsibility and faces challenges with a growth mindset."

Two staff members were named Motivated Mountain Lions for their demonstration of forgiveness in their roles. Nayeli Aguilar was cited for her dedication to student success, often spending her own money on incentives. "She goes above and beyond to help engage them," the nomination said. Lili Guzman was recognized for her kindness, patience, and perseverance in working with students, parents, and staff.

The school also released the full list of students and staff honored throughout the school year for previous monthly character traits, which have included relationship, empathy, gratitude, commitment, and patience.

September – Relationship:

Valuing connection with others, caring for each other, and allowing oneself to be known.

- 6th Grade: Henry Camburn, Jasper Lynn
- 7th Grade: Dakota Schober, Adele Terranella, Alejoandro Moreno
- 8th Grade: Serenity Wall, Axel Brennick, Violet Doherty
- Staff: Jason Kramer

- Soccer: Karmyn Nikolas, Brooke Bjorklund

October – Empathy:

The ability to take on another person's perspective and imagine their thoughts or feelings.

- 6th Grade: Shyloh Montgomery, Brayden Thompson
- 7th Grade: Olympia Haberberger, Hank Carlton
- Staff: Shannon Fallon
- Soccer: Mia Murillo

November/December – Gratitude:

The practice of noticing deep appreciation.

- 6th Grade: Elaine Pope
- 7th Grade: Ian Davelaar, Juliahna Tiegel, Angel Romero
- 8th Grade: Payton Smith, Ollie Freeland

January/February – Commitment:

Acting in alignment with one's values and showing perseverance toward individual and collective goals.

- 6th Grade: Rheya Wiley, Fausto Herrera Ramirez
- 7th Grade: Liv McIntyre, Violet Rieke, Spartan West
- 8th Grade: Keira Stablein, Luis Tapia-Martinez

March – Patience:

A collection of skills to manage discomfort without becoming dysregulated or causing harm.

- 6th Grade: Willa Asher
- 7th Grade: Karina Corbett, Lochlan Werdell
- 8th Grade: Margot Getsinger, Ben Klifton Kwon

The Motivated Mountain Lion program aims to foster a positive and inclusive school culture by recognizing individuals who model key values in their daily interactions.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Peter Roe, Boys Soccer Freshman

Although only a freshman, Peter has shown great maturity on and off the soccer field. He is a defensive wing in our 4-3-3 formation. He is one of our most consistent players. He is almost always in the right place. Peter is an exceptionally smart player who makes few mistakes.

It is unusual for a freshman to start on the varsity squad. As we move into the state soccer tournament, we expect Peter to play with the same smarts and tenacity he has played throughout the season. With time Peter will get better and better, he has a bright future.



Amiyah Pulido-Sandoval



Hailee Brackett



Jack Kitterman



Jon Sires



Lili Guzman



Nayeli Aguilar



Olin Broom



Sam Weinfurt

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Museum hosts “Four Minutes of Fame” for local writers to shine on stage

By **ANDREW SIMPSON**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

WENATCHEE — Write On The River, the group that just brought back their writing workshop after a 7-year hiatus, is teaming up with the Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center to present “Four Minutes of Fame: A Night of Wine and Spoken Word” on May 22 from 6-9 p.m.

The Museum has become known for hosting events that feature wine and beer from local vintners and brewers, but the spirits are secondary for one night to the spirit of creativity, as the partnership presents the winners of Write On The River's 2025 Writers Competition at the beginning of the evening, then moves on to showcase local talents.

Four Minutes of Fame is a free open mic for all local

writers. From 6-9 p.m., writers, poets, and spoken word artists will have a maximum of four minutes to share their first drafts or polished final pieces during a night of creativity and camaraderie.

This will be an opportunity to either grab the spotlight yourself for your own four minutes or just sip some wine and enjoy the massive talent that this Valley has to offer. Events like this one give the public a rare opportunity to hear writing in the tone of voice the author intended.

If you or someone you know is interested in reading at this event, you should register online no later than Monday, May 19, and only register if you actually plan to read, as they are building a roster as more people sign up.

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



After 30 years, Richard Beyer's “Coyote Reading a Candy Wrapper” is still the landmark everyone looks for when coming to the Museum & Cultural Center.

FOUR MINUTES OF FAME

A Night of Wine & Spoken Word

THURSDAY, MAY 22, 6-9 PM

This event is free and open to the public.



WENATCHEE VALLEY MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER
The event is sponsored by the Museum & Cultural Center and Write On The River.

Deputies recover stolen ATV, arrest Malaga suspect

By **ANDREW SIMPSON**
Ward Media Staff Reporter

MALAGA — According to a release from Chelan County Sheriff Mike Morrison, Wenatchee Police took a report on Saturday, May 3 of a stolen all-terrain vehicle (ATV) from inside Wenatchee city limits.

Later, a Chelan County Sheriff's Deputy was patrolling in the area of the Malaga Market on the Malaga-Alcoa Highway when he saw an ATV pull out and begin driving recklessly. He attempted to stop the vehicle when he saw that it had no license plate and the driver was continuing to operate it in an unsafe manner, but the driver refused to stop, eventually eluding him by driving into an orchard, which the deputy also saw.

In the orchard off Hurds River Ranch Road, the deputy located the ATV, but the driver was not present. It turned out to be the vehicle

from the stolen ATV report from Wenatchee, and it was returned to its owner.

However, a crime had been committed and the deputy stayed on the case. During the course of his investigation, he found probable cause to arrest Mitchell Plantillas of Malaga.

Five days after the initial theft report, deputies made contact with Plantillas at his residence in the 300 block of Hurds River Ranch Road. There, they took him into custody on charges of theft of the ATV and eluding law enforcement.

According to Sheriff Morrison's report, a search warrant was obtained for the property and other stolen items were located and recovered, including another ATV that had recently been stolen.

The 27-year-old Plantillas was booked into the Chelan County Regional Justice Center. Charges include two

counts of possession of a stolen vehicle, felony eluding, second degree possession of stolen property, second degree trespassing, second degree criminal trespassing and second degree burglary.

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



The Malaga Market, the scene of where a Sheriff's Deputy first spotted Mitchell Plantillas on a stolen ATV.

WA budget includes \$150M to maintain health coverage for low-income immigrants

By **JACQUELYN JIMENEZ ROMERO**
Washington State Standard

OLYMPIA - Thousands of people who are not U.S. citizens would continue to receive Medicaid-like health care coverage in Washington state under the budget plan the Legislature recently approved.

But the program could make the state a target for Medicaid cuts Republicans in Congress are pursuing.

Washington opened its Apple Health Expansion program for immigrants without legal status last year. Enrollment remains capped based on available funding, which is set to be maintained at roughly \$150 million in the next two-year budget. The budget bill is awaiting a signature from Gov. Bob Ferguson.

This week, Republicans in the U.S. House pushed ahead with legislation that would penalize states that have these kinds of health care programs for immigrants.

The federal government pays 90% of the cost of covering enrollees who qualify for Medicaid under expanded income eligibility guidelines in

the 2010 Affordable Care Act. That match would decrease to 80% if states choose to keep covering immigrants with programs like Washington's.

In total, Washington state received around \$20 billion in Medicaid funding from the federal government during the 2023 federal fiscal year, according to KFF, a nonpartisan health research organization. KFF data also show that, as of 2021, about 821,000 people were covered under the Affordable Care Act expansion where Republicans are looking to reduce the federal match.

Washington's Health Care Authority, which oversees the state's Medicaid program, said they are closely monitoring federal discussions about potential changes to Medicaid funding. But it wasn't immediately clear what the possible cut could mean for the state in dollar terms.

Local advocates have praised the Apple Health Expansion program for immigrants, saying it extends a critical safety net to a community that has been excluded.

See **WA BUDGET** Page **B2**

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CONNECTING COMMUNITIES ACROSS NORTH CENTRAL WASHINGTON

PHOTOS BY JACQUELYN JIMENEZ ROMERO/WASHINGTON STATE STANDARD



By JACQUELYN JIMENEZ ROMERO
Washington State Standard

OLYMPIA — Gov. Bob Ferguson signed three bills to protect immigrant rights last week. These included measures to strengthen state power to inspect private detention facilities, prevent coercion in the workplace, and prohibit bail bond agents from enforcing immigration laws. Lawmakers put forward the legislation at a time when President Donald Trump is trying to crack down on people crossing into the country illegally and as his administration presses to deport immigrants already in the U.S. without legal authorization.

Here’s a look at what the new state laws would do.

Detention centers
State lawmakers have been pushing for greater transparency at the for-profit immigrant detention center in Tacoma. Previous efforts on this front have landed the state in court battles with the for-profit company that operates the facility, The GEO Group. House Bill 1232 is the latest attempt to pave the way for the state’s Department of Health to inspect the Northwest ICE Processing Center and enforce compliance with state and federal laws there. It establishes additional standards for such facilities in areas like sanitation, ventilation and medical care, along with new safeguards against abuse. The bill also expands the definition of private detention facilities to include those run by nonprofit organizations after The GEO Group, which runs the Tacoma facility, claimed to be singled out under existing law. The nonprofit Martin Hall

Juvenile Detention Facility, near Spokane, will now join the list of these facilities. Rep. Lillian Ortiz-Self, D-Mukilteo, sponsor of the bill, said she hopes this legislation demonstrates the state is not targeting a single facility. The law is effective immediately. **Workplace coercion**
There is often limited recourse for immigrant workers facing threats or being exploited by their employer. Senate Bill 5104, sponsored by Sen. Bob Hasegawa, D-Seattle, intends to give immigrant workers better tools when facing coercion in the workplace. The bill would require the state’s Department of Labor and Industries to investigate complaints of coercion and would allow the agency to impose civil penalties when violations occur. Coercion differs from retaliation because it happens before an employee raises an issue. Retaliation happens after the employee does so. During the complaint process, when a worker files a complaint, the department will notify the employer, but language in the bill was added to make a worker’s personal information confidential to anyone other than the department and the employee. “Every Washington worker can and should feel safe to report workplace injustices without fear of coercion or retaliation of any kind,” Ferguson said at the bill signing. The bill would take effect on July 1. **Bail bond agents**
Following an incident in January during a public meeting in Sunnyside, a person claiming to be a “bounty hunter” said that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement would soon use bail bond agents to arrest people in the U.S. without

legal authorization and pay them \$1,000 for every arrest. ICE had detained two people in Sunnyside around this time. Senate Bill 5714 would expand the list of unprofessional conduct for bail bond agents to include enforcement of a civil immigration warrant. The Department of Licensing could take disciplinary action against agents found to be in violation. Bail bond agents already largely lacked the authority to get involved in immigration issues. But Sen. Yasmin Trudeau, D-Tacoma, said she introduced the bill because “people can operate right on the boundaries.” The law, she said, will provide clarification about those boundaries and the penalties for crossing them. It would also prevent agents from sharing a defendant’s immigration status with anyone outside their business. The bill would take effect on July 27. **Other legislation**
In addition to the laws the governor signed Monday, May 12, the Legislature approved a bill to allow immigrants to use paid sick time for immigration proceedings, which Ferguson signed in April, and a bill to have an expedited pardon process for those facing deportation, which is awaiting the governor’s signature. Lawmakers also maintained funding in the budget they approved for a state program that provides health care coverage that mirrors Medicaid to a limited number of immigrants without legal status. Ferguson has still not signed off on the budget legislation.

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Gov. Bob Ferguson signed Senate Bill 5104 on Monday, May 12, which intends to give immigrants better tools when facing coercion in the workplace.

Washington will offer special education to students longer under new law

By JERRY CORNFIELD
Washington State Standard

OLYMPIA — A new law triggered by a lawsuit will ensure public school students in Washington are offered special education instruction until they are 22 years old. Gov. Bob Ferguson signed legislation this week to extend the length of a student’s eligibility to the end of the school year in which they turn 22 or graduate high school, whichever comes sooner. The current age limit is 21. “As the son of a longtime special education teacher, I understand how important it is,” Ferguson said before putting his signature on Senate Bill 5253. The bill responds to a federal court ruling in 2024 that found Washington in violation of a federal law concerning how long states must provide “free appropriate public education” to students. Washington law now assures students with disabilities are eligible for special education services between the ages of 3 and 21. A federal law known as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, or IDEA, governs how states and public schools deliver special

education and related services to children and youth with disabilities. It does not require offering “free appropriate public education” to those aged 18 to 21. But, if a state offers free education programming for any adults, it needs to offer those services for students until they turn 22. In November 2024, a federal court issued an order against the state in the case of N.D. v. Reykdal, a class action lawsuit alleging that Washington’s law violates the IDEA. Washington allowed students up to 21 years old to enroll in its adult education programs and waived the tuition fee for those who could not pay. Making the programs free triggered a requirement to comply with the federal law. Superintendent of Public Instruction Chris Reykdal requested this year’s bill to align state requirements with the federal statute. It passed unanimously in the Senate and 93-1 in the House. It will take effect July 27, in time for the next school year. “Ensuring students have access to a free and appropriate public education through their 22nd birthday is a vital step toward equity and opportunity,” Reykdal said in

an email this week. When the law takes effect, it will continue providing education-related services to students with disabilities until the end of the school year in which they turn 22. These include free admission to the State School for the Blind and the Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth, and attendance in education programs at residential schools. OSPI estimated 300 to 1,200 students could benefit and said costs could range from \$6.8 million to \$27 million per school year to serve them. Sen. Adrian Cortes, D-Battle Ground, the bill’s sponsor and a special education teacher at Camas High School in southwest Washington, said he has two students who could eventually benefit if they choose to enroll in a transition program for young adults. “It is not a big population but it is a population that will now be served,” he said.

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A new law in Washington will assure students are offered special education services until they are 22. State Sen. Adrian Cortes, D-Battle Ground, a special education teacher, was the sponsor. He spoke of the need for increased funding and support for public schools at a February rally of educators, parents and students at the Washington state Capitol.

WA budget

Continued from page B1

“Immigrants came forward this session with the full knowledge that doing so could mean deportation — or worse,” Catalina Velasquez, executive director of the Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network, said in a statement. “These victories are the result of decades of movement-building, sacrifice, and visionary struggle to ensure all immigrants have the resources needed to thrive,” she added. Federal law prohibits noncitizens from accessing public benefits such as Medicaid, but states can use state dollars to create programs for this community.

About 1.8 million residents in Washington were covered by Medicaid or the related Children’s Health Insurance Program in December, according to U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services figures. Washington’s Medicaid program is called Apple Health. The Apple Health Expansion program for immigrants designed to mirror Medicaid and is funded solely by the state, whereas the traditional Medicaid program is funded with both federal and state dollars. The expansion launched on July 1, 2024 with enough funding to cover up to 13,000 people. Within the first 48 hours, all slots were filled, and

an additional 17,000 people signed up for the waiting list. Washington state Republicans have criticized the program and argue the state needs to be more careful with its spending, especially given a multi-billion dollar budget shortfall lawmakers just worked to solve. They’ve also said that the state shouldn’t be maintaining services for noncitizens while cutting services for others.

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Legals

Public Notices

The Chiwawa Mosquito District is beginning seasonal activities. Only when sufficient mosquito larvae are found will they use one of the following species-specific larvicides: VectoBac12AS EPA# 73049-38 (Bacillus thuringiensis [Bti]); VectoBac GS EPA# 73049-10 (Bti); VectoLex FG EPA# 73049-20 (Bacillus sphaericus [Bs]); VectoLex WDG EPA# 73049-57 (Bs); VectoMax FG EPA# 73049-429 (Bti & Bs), VectoPrime FG EPA# 73049-501 (Bti & S-Methoprene); Duplex-G EPA# 89459-93 (Bti & S-Methoprene) and BVA2 Larvicide Oil EPA#70589-1 (mineral oil) for late stage larvae and pupae on impounded water bodies. Only in areas where adult mosquitoes cause extreme annoyance or mosquito transmitted disease is present will the district treat using an adulticide with PBO in combination with one or multiple pyrethrin or pyrethroids, their synthetic derivatives. All would be applied via Ultra Low Volume (ULV) at less than 1 ounce per acre, at a time of day minimizing their affects on non-target organisms. Mosquito control activities will continue throughout the season until mid-September. Any person desiring to present their views to Ecology regarding this application may do so in writing within thirty days of the last date of publication of this notice. Comments must be submitted to Ecology. Any information provided is a public record. Comments can be submitted to: Department of Ecology Water Quality Program, Attn: Aquatic Pesticide Permit Manager P.O. Box 47696 Olympia, WA 98504-7696 For further information or to report mosquito problems, contact us at questions@chiwawadistrict.com or phone the district office (509) 888-3335.

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Public Notices

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR CHELAN COUNTY

In the Matter of the Estate of BRIAN EDWARDWOODS

Deceased. No. 25-4-00185-04


PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW11.40.030)

The Administrator named below has been appointed as Administrator of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Administrator or the Administrator's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the Administrator served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets. DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: May 21 st , 2025 ADMINISTRATOR: Samantha White ATTORNEY FOR ADMINISTRATOR: Ben Jordan ADDRESS FOR MAILING OR SERVICE: Overcast Law Offices Attn: Ben Jordan 23 South Wenatchee Avenue, Suite 320 Wenatchee, WA 98801 COURT OF PROBATE PROCEEDINGS AND CAUSE NUMBER: Chelan County Superior Court, Cause No. 25-4-00185-04 Overcast Law Offices By: /s/ Ben Jordan, WSBA No. 56306 Attorney for Administrator Published in The Leavenworth Echo/ Cashmere valley record May 21, 28 and June 4 2025 #9958

Public Notices

CITY OF LEAVENWORTH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that the Leavenworth City Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Amendments to City of Leavenworth Code, Section 18.36.035 Accessory Dwelling Units, and Chapter 21.90 Common Definitions, on June, 4, 2025, at 7:00 PM in the City Hall Council Chambers, 700 Highway 2, Leavenworth, Washington and via ZOOM (link available on City Calendar.<https://cityofleavenworth.com/your-city-hall/calendar/>). Interested citizens are encouraged to comment and/or attend the public hearing. Questions may be directed to Community Development within City Hall, phone 509-548-5275 or email mboles@cityofleavenworth.com. Published in the Leavenworth Echo/Cashmere Valley Record May 21, 2025 #9974



NCW News Network

Leavenworth Echo

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G E T O M Y X T I O T I C S W O H X N L
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DOWN TO BIZ WORD SEARCH

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WORDS

ACCOUNTING
ALLOCATION
ASSETS
BALANCE
BOND
CAPITAL
CASHFLOW
COST
EARNINGS
ECONOMICS
EMPLOYEE
ENTREPRENEUR
EQUITY
EXPENSE
FINANCE
INPUT
LIABILITIES
LOAN
MANAGEMENT
MARGIN
NET
OUTPUT
PAYROLL

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

Museum

Continued from page A1

Dasho will discuss the Great Northern Railroad and the 1910 Wellington Disaster. The lecture is free and open to the public.

The corresponding guided tour follows on Saturday, May 31, starting at 9 a.m. from the Nason Creek Rest Area along U.S. Highway 2. Participants will caravan through several historic locations between Leavenworth and Stevens Pass. Admission is \$75 for members and \$95 for non-members. Registration is required.

The final tour in the current lineup is the “PNW Treasures Tour: Lake Wenatchee,” set for Saturday, Sept. 13. Led again by Randy Lewis, this tour will

explore Indigenous cultural sites from Leavenworth to Lake Wenatchee and includes a lunch stop at the YMCA Camp at the lake. Cost is \$75 for members and \$95 for non-members. A Discover Pass is required for participants.

Tours are designed for adult audiences, and more information is available on the museum’s website at wenatcheevalleymuseum.org or by calling (509) 888-6240.

The Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center is a nonprofit organization supported by the cities of Wenatchee and East Wenatchee. Its mission is “to gather, engage, and educate people to celebrate and preserve the history, arts, sciences, and rich diversity of our region.”



COURTESY OF WENATCHEE VALLEY MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER
Tour participants pose at the Welcome to Stehekin sign during a Wenatchee Valley Museum & Cultural Center tour led by Native storyteller Randy Lewis, second from right.



COURTESY OF PAUL TOMAS
A double rainbow stretches across Lake Wenatchee after a passing rain shower, as seen from South Beach.



COURTESY OF WENATCHEE VALLEY MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER
Rainbow Falls, a prominent feature in the remote village of Stehekin, sends water cascading nearly 300 feet down a forested cliff.



COURTESY OF WENATCHEE VALLEY MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER
The Stehekin River carves through rugged terrain, fed by snowmelt from the surrounding North Cascades. The river is a major natural feature near the Stehekin community.

Der Snow Cave

Continued from page A1

said John Burpee.

The menu’s selection doesn’t fall short, offering creative combinations of shaved ice, slushies and Dippin’ Dots, aptly referred to as snowballs, slush, and ice bites. The Burpees obtained distributor rights to become the first Dippin’ Dots distributor in Chelan County, allowing them to distribute freezers and grab and go packs to other locations, in addition to featuring them on their own menu.

The tiny ice cream bites make appearances in a number of items, such as the Frostbite Freeze slushy and the dipped Yeti Cookie. In colder weather, the hot chocolate topped with peppermint Dippin’ Dots is expected to be a hit.

“We go to a lot of sporting tournaments, and Dippin’ Dots are a big staple at them. Whether kids win or lose... They’re always so excited to go get those. So I think bringing it here will be exciting for kids,” said Melissa Burpee.

At surface level, Der Snow Cave can be described as another downtown storefront offering decadent treats. However, step inside, and the shop becomes an immersive alpine fantasy world imagined and created by John Burpee.

“I feel like Leavenworth has a magical feel to it, in a sense, you know, it’s kind of enchanted. I just wanted to bring back the family enchantment part of it,” said

John Burpee.

From floor to ceiling, Der Snow Cave lives up to its name. Burpee collaborated with Gibbs Graphics to create snowy, concave walls complete with icy stalactites. The floor is a one-of-its-kind turquoise marble, subtly embedded with yeti footprints. The execution is also in the details, with old-fashioned mountaineering gear hanging on the walls, blue and purple accent lights, and cave sound effects.

Yet, Burpee takes the imaginative world a step further, tying its origins to the story of two Der Snow Cave characters named “Eddie the Yeti” and a young Bavarian mountaineer named “Finn.” The story, which Burpee is working to publish as a children’s book, follows an adventure that ensues after two outcasts meet in the Enchantments and become unlikely friends.

“He’s kind of more like an “Imagineer,” and always is thinking of stuff that the town was missing out on...And I

think this just kind of unfolded and came to life,” said Melissa Burpee.

While imagining the world came naturally, the permitting process was no easy task. Compared to other businesses that may put up standard drywall and fixtures, Burpee was installing stalactites, ice floors, and a giant yeti. Explaining his concept, and convincing officials, took some time.

“It’s not ordinary, so it was hard to communicate...At the end of the day, the city ended up being very supportive, and the health department was very supportive. So, we were lucky that everybody got excited about the cave, because they helped us push it through,” said John Burpee.

After two years of development, Der Snow Cave opened its doors to the public on May 17. The cave is located at 703 US-2, just below Coned Bros.

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



TAYLOR CALDWELL / WARD MEDIA
The shop’s concept is based on a children’s book Burpee wrote about unlikely friends “Eddie the Yeti,” pictured here, and “Little Finn.” The Der Snow Cave owner hopes to eventually publish the book and sell it in house.



TAYLOR CALDWELL / WARD MEDIA
Der Snow Cave offers an array of treats that combine unique textures and flavors. For instance, the Frostbite Freeze, pictured right, brings together a berry slushy with rainbow Dippin’ Dots and whipped cream.

Cascade Crescendo

Continued from page A1

up — from kids organizing letter-writing campaigns to donors giving what they can. Every dollar helps preserve something truly meaningful.”

Last year’s concert drew a standing-room-only crowd and helped push the campaign past its initial year-one goal of \$65,683. That funding made it possible for the CHS program to continue under the leadership of Mindy Wall, a former choir director who returned to instruct; Wall’s husband Darryl was hired to

teach at Icicle River Middle School.

The stakes are high. Without choir at the middle school level, students face limited music options, and the band program risks overcrowding. According to organizers, once a music program is cut, it can be nearly impossible to restart — due to the costs, staffing needs, and time required to rebuild momentum.

“This is about more than music class,” said Rome. “Choir gives kids a sense of belonging. Not every student finds their place on a sports team or in a science lab. For some, music is home.”

Rome credits the campaign’s success to the collaboration between parents, students, teachers, administrators, and the wider Leavenworth community. Generous support has come from the City of Leavenworth, Cascade Education Foundation, Village Voices, Upper Valley Legacy Fund, Woods Family Music & Art Endowment, Confluence Health & Wenatchee Valley Medical Foundation, Munchen Haus, South, and Icicle Creek Center for the Arts — not to mention the legions of individual donors.

Tickets for the May 31 concert can be purchased

online or at the door, though last year’s concert sold out early. Attendees are encouraged to bring cash, checks, or Venmo for additional donations, auction bids, and treats. All donations above ticket prices are tax deductible.

To purchase tickets, follow the campaign’s progress, or donate, visit: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/cascade-choir-benefit-concert>

Caroline Menna is an intern for Ward Media and a senior at Cascade High School, where she serves as Editor-in-Chief of the school’s Publications Group.

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