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# The Times

Thursday  
January 22, 2026  
Vol. 148 No. 48  
www.waitsburgtimes.com

SERVING WAITSBURG, DAYTON AND THE TOUCHET VALLEY Published Since 1878 ONE DOLLAR



Karen Huwe

This year's Bluewood Ski and Snowboard Team members are ready to hit the slopes. See the full story on page 3.

## THIS WEEK



Boys Basketball  
(see page 5)



Girls Basketball  
(see page 5)



Pioneer Portraits  
(see page 6)

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## City to honor Mindy Betzler with a week of remembrance

By Justin Jaech | THE TIMES

DAYTON — Mayor Roger Trump called the Dayton City Council to order at 6 p.m., on January 13, 2026. The mayor and all council members were present: James Su'euga, Michael Smith, Glenn Hagfeldt, Kyle Anderson, Joann Patras, Shannon McMillen, and new member, Dave Harvey.

After clearing administrative items, including the consent agenda, the regular meeting was closed for two consecutive executive sessions, the reasons stated on the agenda as personnel issues and contract negotiations. The council voted on a change to the utility tax after the first executive session but did not disclose the details during the public session.

After the second executive session closed, the mayor said the session was held for personnel issues, with no action taken.

The mayor's report began with residents' concerns over city expansion. Trump said that because of growth management laws, nothing could be done unless a big contractor came in with a lot of money, which he thought was improbable.

Trump then announced a week of remembrance for Mindy Betzler, who passed away on December 4, 2025. The week of remembrance will be held from February 9 through 15, 2026. The city will coordinate with the Chamber of Commerce for the remembrances. A memorial at the Fair Pavilion is also being planned.

Public Works Director Ryan Paulson said there has been an uptick in sewer backups in the past few months. He said most were caused by flushable wipes accumulating in the system. Paulson implored residents to flush only human waste and toilet paper. He said that flushable wipes wreak havoc on the lift station pumps in particular.

Paulson said residents have complained that the sensors controlling the traffic lights on Main Street and Second Street are not functioning correctly after the recent windstorm. The Washington Department of Transportation controls the light. State officials said vehicles need to stop directly over the buried sensors located behind the stop line for 3-5 seconds to trigger the light. The D.O.T. engineers who monitor traffic lights remotely from Yakima said the light was working normally. However, they consented to reset the light, which restored it to the functionality the drivers in Dayton have long been accustomed to.

Some business owners on Main Street have expressed strong opinions that the trees pose a threat of damage from branches and roots. They want the city to remove or aggressively prune the trees. Other citizens are very protective of the trees, making removal controversial.

The recent windstorm, in addition to confusing the traffic light and dropping branches liberally around town, "completely thrashed the cemetery," according to Paulson. At least four large trees were lost, and some headstones were damaged. Paulson will notify plot owners whose headstones were affected. Paulson described one of the trees, snapped off from its five-foot-diameter trunk.

There was no public comment during the last opportunity. The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.



Lane Gwinn

Dayton's Main street lined with shade trees.

## ABSENCE MAKES THE HEART GROW FONDER

Whiskey C has reopened.

THE TIMES

WAITSBURG — After a kitchen fire in November, Whiskey C is open with a remodeled kitchen and new menu items. The hours are limited as staffing is built back up to pre-fire levels. Owners Corben Ketelsen and Tommy Long reopened last week, and the parking lot was full. Hours are Wednesday and Thursday from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Closed Sunday through Tuesday.



Crispy Chicken Cutlet Sandwich with a lemon-garlic sriracha aioli on fresh dressed arugula.

## Spring selected Port Commission Chair

By Justin Jaech | THE TIMES

DAYTON — The Columbia Port Commissioners held their regular meeting at 5 p.m. on January 14, 2026, in the Port conference room. Commissioners Mike Spring, Johnny Watts, and the new member, Scott Hudson, and Executive Director Jennie Dickinson were present.

As the first order of business, Hudson nominated Spring as Board Chair, replacing Seth Bryan. Spring was elected unanimously. Hudson was elected secretary.

The commissioners handled several administrative items, including reviewing the monthly budget report and reviewing leases. The commissioners also conducted an annual review of 2026 policies.

Dickinson said she was flying to Olympia the following day to present a request to CERB (Community Economic Revitalization Board) for matching funds for the Lyon's Ferry pull-through project.

Dickinson said Cedar Rain was vacating their space at Blue Mountain Station.

The Mainstem Malt owners joined the meeting via Zoom for the official lease signing with the commissioners. Spring commented that the completed lease was a big deal, and a lot of work went into reaching the agreement. Hudson said the lease was very exciting. Phil Neumann, the owner of Mainstem, said he will meet with Dickinson next week to sign the lease.

Though lease negotiations between the port and Columbia Railroad are still ongoing, Dickinson said the first grain shipment from Prescott to Wallula occurred this past week, and shipments could increase to 1,000 carloads annually.

Port Economic Director Shane Laib said the Dayton Quilt Shop is open for business while its building at the corner of Main and Fourth Streets is being renovated. He said that, with the closure of Pioneer West, Dingles True Value is considering stocking chicken feed, as no other source is available in Dayton. Pioneer West closed due to the sale of the building it leased. The sale fell through, leaving it available for lease or purchase.

Laib reported that Columbia County received a \$250,000 grant from the Washington Department of Agriculture for repairs to the East grandstands at the Fairgrounds.

The regular meeting was adjourned to an executive session to discuss personnel matters. After reconvening the regular session, Watts moved to give the Director a 3% Cost of Living Adjustment and a 7% raise. The raise was approved unanimously. There were no public comments, and the meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be on February 11, 2026, at 5 p.m., in the Port office conference room and on Zoom.





AT THE LIBERTY:  
“Avatar: Fire and Ash”

January 23-27

THE TIMES

DAYTON — In “Avatar: Fire and Ash,” James Cameron goes back to Pandora for a new adventure following Jake Sully (Sam Worthington), who is a U.S. Marine turned Na’vi leader, Na’vi warrior Neytiri (Zoe Saldana), and the Sully family. It is rated PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action, bloody images, some strong language, thematic elements, and suggestive material. Runtime is 195 minutes.

With the audience rating the movie 90% on RottenTomatoes.com, the audience said they enjoyed the film, saying, “Fantastic. Phenomenal. Absolutely adored this film; it had me sitting on the edge of my seat the whole time. A wonderful finale to a great film series.” The critics are not as enthusiastic, with a rating of 66%. One critic wrote, “‘Avatar: Fire and Ash’ continues to offer striking visuals and compelling storytelling and should more than satisfy fans of the series.”

Mark your calendars for the Washington State premiere of the live comedic performance of “Doc Franklin Escapes Cambridge (An Artificial Intelligent’s Adventure)” by Barbara Pease Weber.

Dr. Otis Franklin, played by Mark Franklin, accompanies his brilliant doctoral candidate, Lizzie, to a scientific symposium in Atlantic City. They stop by to visit Lizzie’s nana, which leads to an evening of mayhem and misadventure. Bev Startin directs this comedy, which features an entirely local cast. The show runs from January 30 to February 1. Tickets are now on sale at libertytheater.org and at the theater’s box office on Tuesdays and Fridays, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The Liberty Theater is hosting a special Valentine’s Day event. It will present the classic film “Roman Holiday” (1953) on Saturday, February 14. What could be more romantic than a movie starring Audrey Hepburn and Gregory Peck? This is a free showing that will begin at 7 p.m.

Included on this special evening will be flowers available for sale from Paige’s Floral, adult beverages, and sweet treats, with our regular concessions available for purchase—more details to come, including how to reserve your spot for this romantic evening.

**THE LIBERTY THEATER - DAYTON**



**THRIFTY \$6 TUESDAYS**

Friday 7:00 pm  
Saturday 7:00 pm  
Sunday 3:00 pm  
Tuesday 6:30 pm

**JANUARY 23-27**

RATED: PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action, bloody images, some strong language, thematic elements and suggestive material

RUNTIME: 195 minutes

**AVATAR: FIRE AND ICE**

Rated: PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action, bloody images, some strong language, thematic elements and suggestive material

Runtime: 195 minutes

**THE LIBERTY THEATER - DAYTON**



**WASHINGTON STATE PREMIERE**

**DOC FRANKLIN ESCAPES CAMBRIDGE**

(An Artificial Intelligent’s Adventure)

Comedy by Barbara Pease Weber

Directed by Bev Startin

FRI JAN 30 7pm  
SAT JAN 31 7pm  
SUN FEB 1 3pm

**Tickets \$12-\$15-\$18**

Info & tickets available online at libertytheater.org

Or Box Office Tues & Fri 2-5 509-382-1380

WASHINGTON STATE PREMIERE

**DOC FRANKLIN ESCAPES CAMBRIDGE**

FRI JAN 30 7pm  
SAT JAN 31 7pm  
SUN FEB 1 3pm

Tickets \$12-\$18, online at libertytheater.org Or at the box office Tues & Fri 2-5 pm

BLUE MOUNTAIN GRIEF AND LOSS FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES FOUR SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA — Blue Mountain Grief and Loss Foundation is offering four grief and caregiver support groups for the first quarter of 2026. The sessions will be held at the Foundation’s grief center on Isaacs Ave in Walla Walla.

The following programs are designed to provide compassionate, guided support to individuals and families navigating loss, trauma, and complex caregiving:

- Journey Forward, an adult grief support group, is a professionally facilitated, 12-session series for adults who are grieving the death of a loved one. The group will begin on Wednesday, March 4, 2026, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Participants must RSVP before attending the first session.
- After the Unthinkable, a suicide loss support group, offers a safe and understanding space for individuals who have lost someone to suicide. This group is structured as a drop-in series spanning over 11 sessions. The first session begins on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Participants must RSVP before attending the first session.
- Journey Forward – Senior, a 12-session grief support group specifically for adults aged 65 and older who have experienced the loss of a spouse or partner. The date and time for this group are to be announced later. A waitlist is available for those interested in participating.
- Dementia Caregiver Support group is designed for individuals who have someone in their life living with dementia. This drop-in group will be offered as a 10-session series, with dates and times to be determined. A waitlist is now forming as plans are finalized.

For more information or to add your name to a waitlist, please contact Blue Mountain Grief and Loss Foundation at [www.griefandloss.care](http://www.griefandloss.care), via email at [info@griefandloss.care](mailto:info@griefandloss.care), or call 509-386-4750.

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CLASSIFIEDS  
WANTED

Theater Assistant Needed at The Liberty Theater

The Liberty Theater in Dayton is seeking a Theater Assistant. A part-time position for approximately 6-20 hours per month, primarily weekends and evenings. Duties include concession, ticket sales, working with volunteers, preparing films for presentation, greeting patrons, introducing films, and maintaining and cleaning the theater. Pay range is \$19-23 per hour depending on experience.

Will train the friendly and reliable candidate. Send resume and cover letter to: The Liberty Theater Re: Theater Assistant Position PO Box 233, Dayton, WA 99328, or email to [manager@libertytheater.org](mailto:manager@libertytheater.org).



JoAnn Kay Gagnon

August 15, 1952 – January 19, 2026

JoAnn Kay Gagnon, longtime Dayton and Waitsburg area resident, passed away Monday, January 19, 2026, of congestive heart failure at the Dayton General Hospital. She was 73. A graveside service will be held Monday, January 26th at 11:00 am at the Waitsburg Cemetery, followed by a memorial service at 1:00 pm at the Community Bible Church in Dayton. Pastor Dewayne Ramsey will officiate.

JoAnn was the second of four children born to Donald and Barbara James Lenhard. She was born August 15, 1952, in Spokane, Washington, and grew up in the Deer Park area. She graduated from Deer Park High School in 1970 and attended Washington State University in Pullman. JoAnn received her degree in Home Economics Education from WSU in 1975. During her college years, she held leadership positions at local, state, and national levels in the Home Economics Association.

JoAnn was a home economics teacher for the Harrington School District from 1974 to 1975. She met Joseph Gagnon of Waitsburg through mutual friends, and the couple was married on June 12, 1976. They made their home on the Lower Hogeys, and she kept busy as a homemaker, wife, and mother. She worked as a teacher for some years and then began homeschooling their two children. She was an extremely talented seamstress and ran her own home-based business, “JoAnn’s Sewing & Drapery,” from 1977 to 1996. She also was a Shaklee Distributor.

JoAnn was very active in her church and served in many capacities over the years. For a number of those years, she served as the church secretary. She designed and made large church banners for Community Bible Church, also windowsill dressings, and table runners. She was a group leader and administrator for the Awana Program, and she led the young women’s married groups at the church. She taught bible study and life skills classes – cooking, canning, gardening, menu planning, and she initiated couples’ activities and dinner and movie nights.

In a project known as Hope 4 Women; JoAnn personally sewed over 80 dresses for “Dress A Girl Around the World”. She wrote and published numerous sewing books. She sewed bright and fun pillowcases for children; which were given through the Shriners Children’s Hospital in Spokane for their patients.

JoAnn is survived by her husband, Joe, at their home; her two children, Justin (Julleen) Gagnon of Waitsburg and Corrie (Daniel) Berneking of Sequim, WA.; 11 grandchildren, Riley, Jacob, Alaina, Luke, Ruth, Hannah, Peter, Caleb, Zaedock, Lydia and Adam; and by her siblings; Scott Lenhard, Gordon Lenhard, and Karen Tripp. She was preceded in death by her parents.

The family suggests memorial gifts in her memory be made to the Community Bible Church in Dayton. On-line guest book is at [www.corbeillfuneral-homes.com](http://www.corbeillfuneral-homes.com). Corbeill Funeral Home in Dayton is caring for the family.

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The Times

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The newspaper welcomes news tips and information about community activities. An independent newspaper, The Times welcomes expressions of opinion and commentary in Letters to the Times column.

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# Ski Bluewood: Bringing Powder to the People Since 1979

By Karen Huwe & Lane Gwinn | THE TIMES

COLUMBIA COUNTY — Bluewood Ski Resort offers a variety of racing programs, skiing and snowboarding, and accessible programs. Pete Korfiatis, Bluewood’s general manager since 2021, has extensive experience in alpine racing and coaching. He was a nationally ranked alpine ski racer by his late teens and later held multiple positions with the U.S. Ski Team, including coaching for the men’s team at the 2010 Vancouver Olympics.

Korfiatis brings a wide range of winter sport experiences to the mountain with the help of Bluewood’s race team head coach and local nonprofit Skyline Adventures.

In 2023, Korfiatis asked Lizzy Sherry to take over the Bluewood Alpine Race Team (BART). She follows in the footsteps of her Uncle Rusty Lyons, one of the original coaches for Bluewood’s race team, which began around 1982. The program is transitioning to its new name, Bluewood Ski and Snowboard Team (BSST).

Sherry began skiing at just two-and-a-half years old. By age six, she wanted to become an Olympic skier, and at 15, she was ranked nationally in the top five in slalom and giant slalom.

Attending the University of Utah, Sherry was on the ski team from 1999 to 2001 and qualified for the NCAA championships. She was an All-American and All-Conference athlete and received the Toril Forland Outstanding Skier Award from the team.

After ending her racing career in 2002, she began coaching for teams in Minnesota, Park City, Utah, and at Timberline Ski Resort on Mt. Hood in Oregon. She moved to Walla Walla in 2020, and now Bluewood’s ski team program is benefiting from her racing and coaching experience.

The BSST offers three programs: the Blazers, the Youth Ski League Team, and the Junior Race Team. Kids aged 6 through 15 build snowboarding and skiing skills in the non-racing Blazers. The YSL team provides introductory race training for kids five through 11, and the Junior Race Team provides advanced race and competition training for skiers age 12 through 17.

The skiers and snowboarders in the Blazers pro-



Karen Huwe

Members of the 2026 Bombers ski team practice (l-r) Israel Ramsey, Coe Richards, Andrea Fulbright, Rachael Gradwohl, Shawn Ahmann, Robert White, and Enrique Ramsey.

gram meet on Saturdays and some holidays. The assistant coaches take the kids on groomed runs, through trees, and on the terrain park. The young boarders and skiers rip around the mountain as they learn lifelong skills. The Blazers must have at least a year of skiing or snowboarding and be able to get on and off the lift. Participants will have the opportunity to compete in a non-sanctioned ski race at Anthony Lakes Mountain Resort in February.

The YSL and junior ski teams train on Friday afternoons, Saturday, Sunday, and some holidays. They travel every other weekend to competitions within the Eastern Pacific Northwest Region. Training continues through the season, including race day and special events to support the programs.

“I am very proud of all the ski racers on this team as they continue to grow and excel in a very challenging, competitive sport,” said Sherry.

This season, everyone on Sherry’s coaching staff is a former participant in the program, a member of the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association, and either holds their level 100 coaching certification or is working toward it. Sherri said she loves that they are young, former racers, and that they understand what it takes to become good skiers. The coaching staff prioritizes safety, technique, and sportsman-

ship.

Bluewood has expanded access to its winter sports and activities through a partnership with Skyline Adventures, a Dayton-based nonprofit. The outreach program makes skiing and snowboarding at Bluewood available to people who might not otherwise have access, including those experiencing economic hardships, disabilities, or special needs.

Skyline Adventures sponsors a Veterans’ program and the Touchet Valley Bluewood Bombers, a local Special Olympics winter sports team of athletes with disabilities representing Southeast Washington.

Coaches for the Bombers are from Waitsburg, Dayton, and Walla Walla. This season, Audrey Ahmann, Brad Graham, Wendy and Brian Richards, Jody Gradwohl, Casey Potts, and Jeri Fulbright assist eight athletes on Saturdays.

In past years, Bombers athletes competed in slalom, giant slalom, and Super G at the Special Olympics Winter Games in Wenatchee, Washington. Unfortunately, this year, Special Olympics Washington cut skiing from its winter programs.

Visit [Bluewood.com](http://Bluewood.com) or [SkylineAdventures.com](http://SkylineAdventures.com) to learn how to join a ski team, be a volunteer, or donate to transform lives through outdoor adventures.

## OBITUARIES

### David Leon Molesh

November 16, 1943 – January 10, 2026

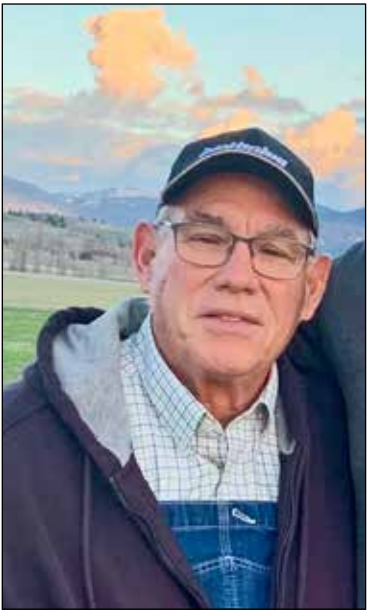
David Leon Molesh passed away on January 10, 2026, after a long and courageous battle with ALS. He was born the first of four children on November 16, 1943, in Grand Rapids, Michigan to parents Dorothy and George Molesh. He and his sisters, Sherry and April, grew up in the nearby small town of Greenville, Michigan.

He often spoke of an idyllic 40s and 50s childhood of neighborhood playmates and friends, Saturday matinees, sledding, snow forts, and snowball fights in winter, a paper route, mowing lawns, and generally just being a kid. He spent summers with the family, vacationing at the beloved Big Blue Lake.

Every other year, the family traveled west to Ferndale, Washington, to visit his grandparents with stops in Glacier and Yellowstone NPs along the way. In high school, he received decent grades, participated in choir and jazz choir, and competed in three sports - baseball, football, and track.

Upon his graduation in 1961, he attended Western Washington University in Bellingham, Washington and later at Skagit Valley Community College. At Western and Skagit, he pursued an English degree while also playing baseball and football. He spent a summer working at Glacier National Park, where he started out washing dishes at Many Glaciers Lodge, but when a singer didn’t show up in the lounge, he stepped in and enjoyed that job throughout that summer.

In 1964, he joined the For-



David Leon Molesh

est Service Job Corps in Randle, Washington, as a youth leader, where he led trail crews in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. It was here in 1966 that he met an office worker who became the love of his life, Donna Blakley. A whirlwind courtship and a short engagement later, they were married in Packwood, Washington, on April 22, 1967. In 1968, they welcomed son David to the family, and in 1976, they welcomed daughter Melissa as well.

Dave loved sports, family, and the great outdoors. He was an avid golfer, fisherman, and hunter who had many an adventure with family and friends pursuing fish and game throughout Washington State. He also loved camping and took the family on an almost yearly trip to the Chewuck River outside of Winthrop, Washington. There they enjoyed the warm and rain free weather, fishing, and campfires full of storytelling and watching shooting stars.

Dave and Donna loved to garden together and took pride in maintaining extensive vegetable and flower gardens in every house they lived

in. They enjoyed travelling and had many adventures, road tripping, and camping throughout the US. They also took trips to Mexico, the Bahamas, the Caribbean, Hawaii, and Fiji.

Dave spent his working years logging countless miles as a traveling sales rep in Washington, Oregon, and Alaska. He applied his gift of gab and charm to being a sales representative for about everything - medical equipment/supplies, veterinary equipment/supplies, toys, puzzles, games, wine, and baseball cards.

In 2010, they retired to Dayton, Washington. It was in Dayton that, when not gardening, keeping deer out of his garden, reading, or taking extensive daily walks around town, he became involved with the Liberty Theater. The theater rekindled his passion to perform for an audience. Dave performed in many musicals, plays, and variety shows, and involved Donna as well behind the scenes, modifying or sewing full costumes. The connection and love of this extended theater family and community rounded out a full retirement.

Dave leaves behind his beloved wife Donna, brother Jeff, daughter Melissa, son David (Kathy), and grandsons Kale, Bryce, Blake, Dakota, and Patrick, and many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents, George and Dorothy, his sister, Sherry, and his nephew, TJ.

The family asks that all remembrances be donated to the Liberty Theater in Dayton, Washington.

Corbeill Funeral Home of Dayton, Washington, has been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be sent to [www.corbeillfuneral-homes.com](http://www.corbeillfuneral-homes.com)

### Darlene Ann Norman

July 22, 1939 – January 6, 2026

Darlene Ann Norman, 86, of Esmond, North Dakota, passed away on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, at The Heart of America Medical Center in Rugby, N.D.

Darlene Ann Peck was born on July 22, 1939, in Bottineau, N.D., the daughter of Lyle and Louise (Lauckner) Peck. She graduated from Bottineau High School and obtained her teacher’s certificate. On June 11, 1961, she was united in marriage to James Walter Norman in Bottineau, N.D. The couple resided in Walla Walla, Wash., for a year. In 1962, they moved to Prescott, Wash. Walter and Darlene retired in 2000 and moved to Esmond, N.D., where they purchased their forever home.

Darlene started doing family genealogy research in college and continued throughout her life. It brought her great joy to be able to visit with her relatives, allowing her to be closer to her family. Darlene loved plants and flowers, especially irises, of which she had many different colors.

She is survived by her daughters, Janelle Meier of Waitsburg, Wash. and Leslie Beckman (Robert) of Prescott, Wash.; five grandchildren; Ryan Meier Sr. of Waitsburg, Wash., Jessica Meier of Baker City, Ore., Clayton Beckman (Jessica) of Prescott, Wash., Cody Beckman (Heidi) Milton-Freewater, Ore., and Amanda Beckman of Prescott, Wash.; great-grandchildren: Ryan Meier Jr, Boston Lager, Raven Beckman, Violet Smith, Juca Beckman, Kolton Dufar, Silas Dufar, Mabel Beckman and LillyAnn Beckman; brother, Ron Peck (Toni) of Bottineau, N.D.; sister, Linda Brown (Allen) of Des Lacs, N.D.; sister-in-law, Charlotte Peck of Gresham, Ore and Helen Johnson of Fargo, N.D.; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, and her brother, Lyle Peck Jr.

A graveside service will be held on Thursday, January 22, 2026, at 1:00 p.m., at Ivy Cemetery in Prescott, Wash.

Services in Care of Herring-Groseclose Funeral Home, Walla Walla, Washington.






# LEGALS & EVENTS

## Events, Library, and Levy


### AT THE COLUMBIA COUNTY LIBRARY

**Terrific TUESDAYS!** 

Every Tuesday **@5:30**

**BOARD & CARD GAMES**

**TABLETOP RPG**


**MAGIC MEET UP** 

### AT THE WELLER PUBLIC LIBRARY

**WHAT'S FANNY READING?**

This week, Fanny is reading **The List** by Steve Berry








**REPLACEMENT EP&O LEVY**  
ELECTION DAY FEB. 10


Waitsburg School District has a two-year Educational Programs & Operations (EP&O) replacement levy on the Feb. 10, 2026 ballot.


Levy dollars are used to support school programs and services that are not fully funded by the state, including:


**Athletics**


**Preschool**


**Music**


**Maintenance & Operations**


**Transportation**

**STEM**

**Food Services**

**Technology**

**Extracurriculars**

**Student Support**

**LEVY QUICK FACTS:**

Year	Total Collection	Projected Tax Rate
2026 (current)	\$837,434	\$2.50
2027	\$837,434	\$2.50
2028	\$880,731	\$2.50

Ballots must be postmarked or returned by election day on Tuesday, Feb. 10.

A levy is a locally-approved tax based on property values.

This replacement levy is not a new tax. It will replace the existing EP&O levy expiring at the end of 2026.





Register to vote or find more information online at [VoteWA.gov](http://VoteWA.gov).

Tax exemptions and deferrals are available for senior citizens and individuals who are disabled. For more information, contact the Walla Walla County Assessor at 509-524-2560 or the Columbia County Assessor at 509-382-2131.

If approved, the district will receive an additional **\$487,946** across 2027-28 in state matching funds.

*\*estimated rates per \$1,000 assessed property value*

Learn more at [www.waitsburgsd.org/levy](http://www.waitsburgsd.org/levy) or contact the Waitsburg Superintendent's Office at 509-337-6301



### BIRTHDAYS

**January 22:** Betty Bruce, Tammie Huwe.

**January 23:** Kurt Baker, Brittany Zuger, Daniel Moser.

**January 24:** John Liebermann, Faith Mayberry, Barbara Huff, Darryl McCauley, Bill Davis, Treavor Zuger, Barbara Brown and Kynde Kiefel.

**January 25:** Matt Schiermeister, Markeeta Little Wolf, Lula Mae Cameron, Nick Baumann, Matt Frohreich, J. C. Picton.

**January 26:** Hirut Senter, Marie Hayes, Rebec-

ca Wilson, Christopher Brunton, Peter Jones, Deanne Donovan, Kimberly Huwe, Zach Brown.

**January 27:** Diane Estes, Micki Box, Gayle Broom, Casey Acevedo.

**January 28:** Tana Lynch, Ronan Hackersmith, Jennifer Thames.



Hibertnating Waitsburg Businesses will reopen on the following dates:

Bar Bacetto reopens Feb. 3

Gaudy Gals on Main reopens Feb. 4

The Pressroom reopens Feb. 5

Nancy's Dream Garden reopens Feb. 28

Simply Sawdust reopens March 4

### LEGAL NOTICES

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON**  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF COLUMBIA  
NO: 25-4-00024-7  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
RCW 11.40.030  
In the Matter of the Estate of: MARY LIEBERMANN PHILLIPS, Deceased.  
The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(3); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.  
DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: January 15, 2026  
Administrator:  
Kathy Somers Schirm  
Attorney for Personal Representative:  
Julie E. Karl, WSBA #45950  
Address for Mailing or Service: Karl Law Office, PLLC  
PO Box 66, Waitsburg, WA 99361  
(509) 382-3137  
The Times  
January 15, 22, 29, 2026  
1-15-a

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON**  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA  
NO: 26-4-00005-36  
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
RCW 11.40.030  
In re the Estate of: JANE CORONADO, Deceased.  
The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against

the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and RCW 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.  
DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: January 22, 2026  
Personal Representative: Christopher Domingo Garza  
Attorney for Personal Representative: Courtney Lawless, WSBA #57415  
Basalt Legal PLLC  
6 1/2 North Second Ave., Suite 200  
Walla Walla, WA 99362  
509-529-0630  
The Times  
January 22, 29, February 5, 2026  
1-22-a

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON**  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CLARK  
NO: 26-4-00042-06  
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
RCW 11.40.030  
In the Matter of the Estate of: DONNA MARIE McALLISTER, Deceased.  
The Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of the estate of Donna Marie McAllister. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim

with the Clerk of the Court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of the 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: January 22, 2026  
Personal Representative: Louise McKenzie  
Attorney and Resident Agent for Personal Representative: /s/ Robert E. Kabacy, WSBA #23745  
Address for mailing or service: Kell, Alterman & Runstein, L.L.P.  
1899 SE Spinaker Way  
Vancouver, WA 98661  
The Times  
January 22, 29, February 5, 2026  
1-22-b

**CALL FOR BIDS THE WAITSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
No. 401, Waitsburg, Washington, hereby invites sealed bids for the purchase of athletic bleachers.  
Bids will be received by the Waitsburg School District at the District Office, located at 184 Academy Street, Waitsburg, WA 99361, until 3:30pm on February 4, 2026, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.  
Bid documents and specifications may be obtained by contacting Brian Seagraves at (509) 337-6301 or by email at [bseagraves@waitsburgsd.org](mailto:bseagraves@waitsburgsd.org)  
All bids must comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations. The Waitsburg School District reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive informalities or irregularities, and to award the bid in the best interest of the District.  
The Waitsburg School District is an equal opportunity employer and encourages participation from minority- and women-owned businesses.  
The Times  
January 22, 29, 2026  
1-22-f

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON**  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA  
NO: 26-4-00015-36  
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
RCW 11.40.030  
In re the Estate of: SUSAN ANN HAYES Deceased.  
The Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Personal Representative, or the Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below, a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty (30) days after the Personal Representative served or mailed the Notice to the Creditors as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) Four (4) months after the date of first publication of the Notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever 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 non-probate assets.  
DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: January 22, 2026  
Personal Representative: /s/ Thomas Edward Hayes  
Attorney for the Personal Representative: Shelby L. Stevens of Minnick-Hayner, PS  
Address for Mailing or Service: Minnick-Hayner  
P.O. Box 1757  
Walla Walla, WA 99362  
(509) 527-3500  
The Times  
January 22, 29, February 5, 2026  
1-22-c

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON**  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA IN PROBATE  
NO: 26-4-00014-36  
NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS  
In the Matter of the Estate of: HAROLD D. GANZ, Deceased.  
The Personal Representative named below has been ap-

pointed as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Personal Representative or the Personal Representative's attorney at the addresses stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the Personal Representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(3); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of this 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 is against both decedent's probate and non-probate assets.  
DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: January 22, 2026  
Personal Representative: Wendy Ganz Dean  
Attorney for personal representative: Christine M. Wallace, WSB # 20134  
Attorney at Law  
801 S. Main Street  
Milton-Freewater, OR 97862  
(541) 938-3379  
The Times  
January 22, 29, February 5, 2026  
1-22-d

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
The City of Prescott is taking applications/letters of interest from interested Citizens who wish to fill a vacant position on the Prescott City Council. Interested Citizens are required to live within the Corporate City Limits of the City of Prescott as well as be a register voter in the Prescott District. A complete overview of the duties and regulations is available at City Hall. Applications/Letters of interest must be received at City Hall by 4 pm on Monday, January 26, 2026. For questions, contact City Hall at 509 849-2262 during normal business hours.  
Nathaniel Murphy  
Prescott City Clerk & Treasurer  
The Times  
January 8, 15, 22, 2026  
1-8-a

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON**  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA  
NO: 26-4-00012-36  
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
RCW 11.40.030  
In re the Estate of: WILLIAM G. ALLEN, Deceased.  
The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative, or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below, a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) thirty (30) days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditors as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four (4) months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time-frame, the claim is forever 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 non-probate assets.  
DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: January 22, 2026  
Personal Representative: Andrea L. Valentine  
Attorney for the Personal Representative: Lenard L. Wittlake, PLLC, WSBA #15451  
PO Box 1233  
Walla Walla, WA 99362  
(509) 529-1529  
The Times  
January 22, 29, February 5, 2026  
1-22-e



CARDINAL SPORTS with Karen Huwe

HANKINS PLACES 3RD AT BATTLE OF THE BLUES

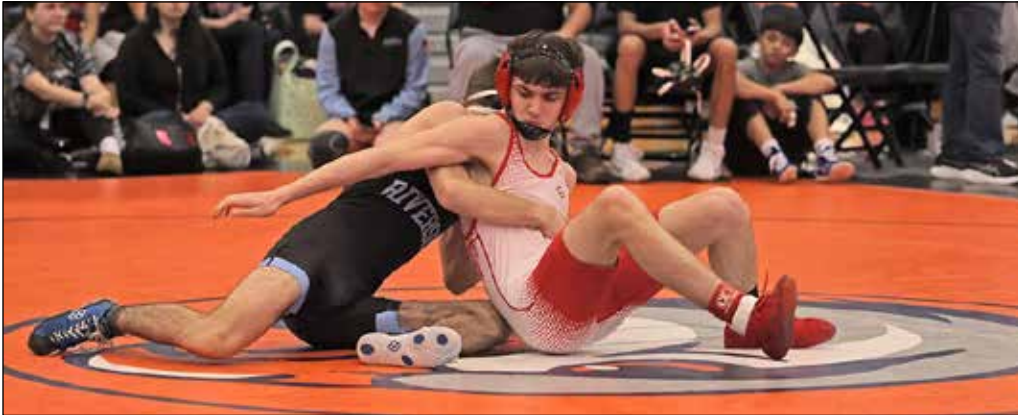
WAITSBURG — Waitsburg High School had four wrestlers attend the Battle of the Blues Wrestling Tournament at College Place High School on Saturday, January 17.

The Cardinal wrestlers faced some big schools at this tournament, which hosted 18 schools with 190 boys and 78 girls at the all-day

event.

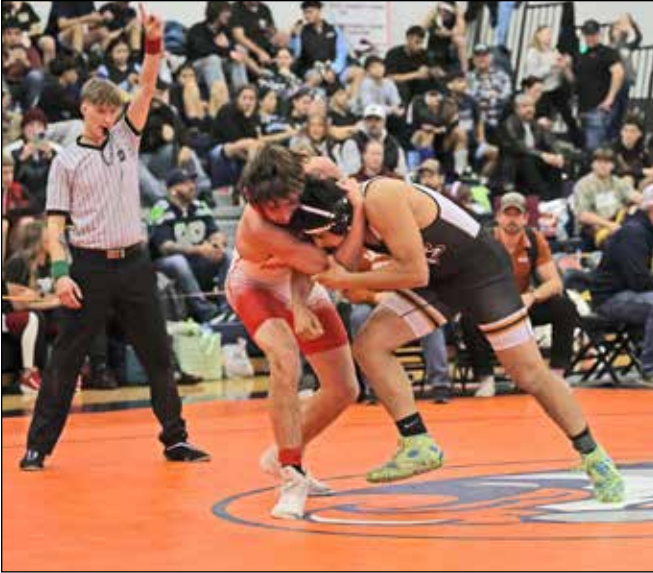
Jarod Hankins won four matches by pin and lost one by pin in the third round. He ended the day with a third-place medal. Graycen Teal won one match and lost two. Sophomore Dylan Gutierrez and eighth-grader Flynn Richardson both went 0-2.

Seniors Hankins and Teal will join the senior basketball players and cheerleaders to be honored on Senior Night at the basketball game on January 23. The team's next match will be at Kittitas on Saturday, January 24.



Dylan Gutierrez works to get out of a hold in his first match

Karen Huwe



(above) Eighth grader Flynn Richardson has improved in his first season.  
(left) The referee signals a point for Graycen Teal.  
(far left) Jarod Hankins ends his first match by pinning his opponent.

CARDINAL BOYS WIN IN OT AT COLTON

The Waitsburg boys' varsity basketball team lost to Garfield-Palouse 75-29 on Friday, January 16. Coach Wallace said the boys gave up too many offensive rebounds, and on offense, his team forced up shots.

"As a team, we need to say enough is enough. We have to board," said Wallace.

Blake Benevides scored 12, and Liam Kiefel had six points in the loss.

The JV team lost 34-7 in two quarters of play against Garfield-Palouse. The coaches are grateful for them and happy they are on the team, as they can and do make a difference for the basketball program.

"The JV team is young, and they have to learn that no one is going to play soft against us, so we can't play soft against them," said Wallace.

Waitsburg traveled to Colton on Saturday, January 17. The JV team lost 22-10 in two quarters, and the varsity won 55-52 in overtime.

"A nice varsity win. We have played a really hard schedule this half of the season, and we have been through the gauntlet with injuries. It is nice for the boys to see that faith and hard work pay off. Rebounding has been the biggest thing keeping us from taking that next step, and this game was better, and we got a better result. Paco Kenney played his best basketball of the season and really boarded like a machine," said Coach Wallace

Benevides led the team with 20 points. Landen Henry scored eight. Carter Barron hit two-3-point shot in the second quarter. Alex Zuniga hit his first 3-point shot of the season with twelve seconds left in overtime to secure the win.

The JV team had players playing in different roles because only six players were available. The team has four games left this season to gain more experience.

The Cardinals will host Oakesdale on Friday, January 23, and Coach Wallace hopes to see the town out to support the seniors in their last home game on Saturday, January 24.

LADY CARDINALS LOSE TO GARFIELD-PALOUSE



Karen Huwe

WAITSBURG — The Waitsburg girls basketball team lost to Garfield-Palouse, 52-24, on Friday, January 16, on Kison Court.

"We played their JV, but they brought one varsity player, and she scored 32 of their points. Our girls fought really hard that game and were working on a new defense," said Coach Kira Waggoner.

Cheri Mathews, Joslin Nodine, and Olivia Kiefel score six points each. Kay-

la Kuykendall had 4 and Emerson Underwood contributed with two points.

The Lady Cardinals will host Oakesdale on Friday, January 23. Senior Addison Crenshaw will be honored on Saturday, January 24, at her last home game when the team plays Tekoa-Rosalia.

(above photo) Audrey Kiefel shoots against Garfield-Palouse.



Karen Huwe

Rollin Carpenter shoots over the Garfield-Palouse defense

RED CROSS IN NEED OF IMMEDIATE BLOOD AND PLATLATE DONATIONS

THE TIMES

KENNEWICK — The American Red Cross is facing a severe blood shortage due to an approximate 35% drawdown of blood products in just the past month. The Red Cross urges individuals to give now so patients don't face delays in lifesaving care. The need for platelets and blood types O, A negative, and B negative is especially dire.

High flu activity this year has slowed efforts to rebuild the Red Cross's national blood supply. Without immediate action, patients who count on transfusions, including trauma victims, mothers in childbirth, and sickle cell disease and cancer patients, face serious risk.

There's no time to wait — book an appointment to give blood or platelets now by using the Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

As a thank-you to donors for helping tackle the blood shortage, those who come to give through Jan. 25, 2026, will be automatically entered for a chance to win a trip for two to Super

Bowl LX in the San Francisco Bay Area, including, access to day-of, in-stadium pregame activities, tickets to the official Super Bowl Experience, round-trip airfare, three-night hotel accommodations, and a \$1,000 gift card for expenses. See [www.redcrossblood.org/local-homepage/events/super\\_bowl.html](http://www.redcrossblood.org/local-homepage/events/super_bowl.html) for details.

Donors who give between Jan. 26 and Feb. 28, 2026, will receive a \$20 e-gift card to a merchant of their choice. Visit [www.redcrossblood.org/local-homepage/events/heart.html](http://www.redcrossblood.org/local-homepage/events/heart.html) for details.

About 400 blood drives were impacted due to extreme winter weather last month alone —more than three times the number of blood drives affected during the same time the previous year. As a result, thousands of blood donations have gone uncollected. With intense winter weather and freezing temperatures expected across much of the country in the coming weeks, more blood drives could potentially be delayed or canceled at a time when every unit of blood could be the difference for doctors facing difficult choices about which patients receive blood transfusions and who will need to wait.

"Winter always puts pressure on the blood supply, and this year widespread flu and rough weather are making it even tougher," said Paul Sullivan, senior vice president of Red Cross donor services. "If you're able, now's a great time to make and keep blood donation appointments, during National

Blood Donor Month. Every donation can be a lifeline for a patient who isn't able to hold off on critical care."

Below are blood drive dates and locations in Walla Walla, Kennewick, and Richland:

Walla Walla

- Jan. 22, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Providence St. Mary Medical Center, 401 W. Poplar St.
- January 28, from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Foundry Vineyards, 1111 Abadie St.

Kennewick

- Jan. 27, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Kennewick Seventh-day Adventist Church, 7105 W 10th Ave
- Feb. 2, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Cadwell Industries, 909 N Kellogg St.
- Feb. 3, from 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., St. Joseph's Parish, 506 S. Garfield St.
- And by appointment at Kennewick Blood Donation Center, 7202 W Deschutes Ave.

Richland

- Jan. 23, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Kadlec Medical Center, 888 Swift Blvd.
- Jan. 30, from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Richland High School, 930 Long Ave.
- Feb. 2, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 895 Gage Blvd.
- Feb. 3, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Consolidated Information Center, 2770 Crimson Way



# FUN & GAMES

## The Friendly Forest

By Jimmye L. Turner



## Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



## GRIN and BEAR IT



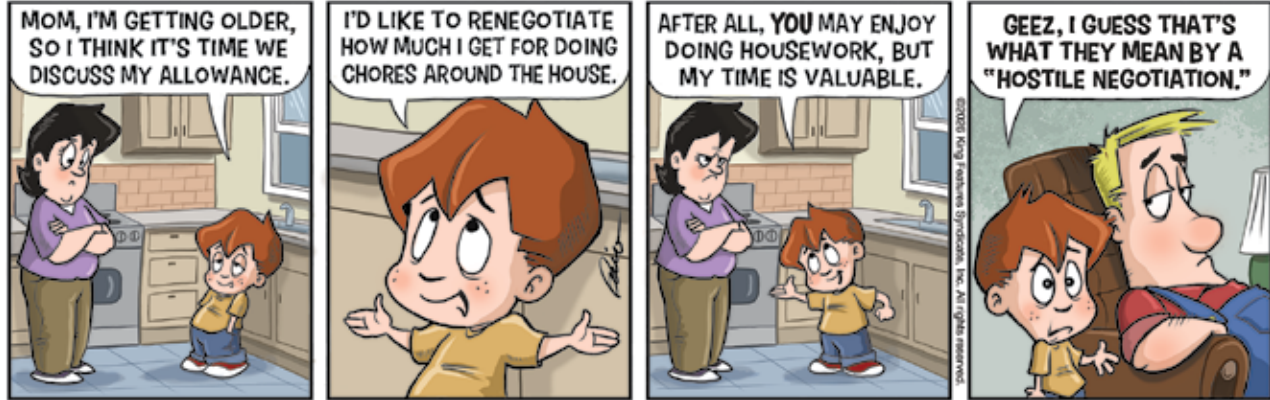
## Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



## The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



## PIONEER PORTRAITS

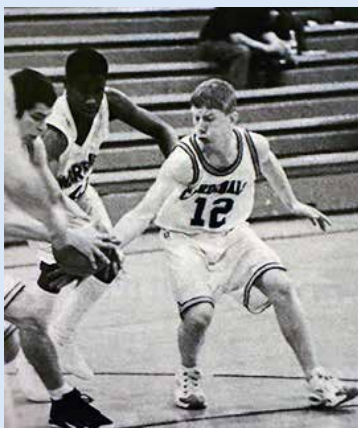
### Fifteen Years Ago

January 20, 2011

Hosted by Schweitzer Mountain Resort, the Chad Engstrom Memorial Race is traditionally the first race of the season for the Emerald Empire Youth Ski League (EEYSL). The Bluewood Alpine Race Team (BART) is one of seven Emerald Empire Youth Ski League (EEYSL) member teams. It fielded 12 athletes at this year's event, which featured Giant Slalom races both Saturday, January 8, and Sunday, January 9. Despite being a small part of the total of 152 racers competing, BART skiers finished well enough to set the team solidly in the middle of the team standings. The team's oldest two skiers, Reid Reininger and Colleen Gibbons, captured four first-place finishes, while the team's two youngest skiers, Mackenzie Davis and Evangeline Siess, both missed gates on Saturday but rallied to claim two top-ten and one top-five placing for the weekend. Reininger and Gibbons used this event as a warmup for the Junior Olympic Qualifier this week at Mt Spokane, where they hope to continue their early season success.

### Twenty-Five Years Ago

January 18, 2001



[photo caption] Picking pockets has been something at which Ryan Meier (12) has proven dexterous and deft, like in last Friday's game against Jubilee. Meier salvaged Waitsburg's loss of the opening tip, stealing the ball and scoring the first two points on a solo lay in. He later swiped the ball and went coast to coast for another two of his 14 in the game.

### Fifty Years Ago

January 15, 1976



[Photo caption] Installed as officers of Waitsburg Lodge No. 16 in public ceremonies last Monday night were Master Carl Smith (center), Senior Warden Walt Norman (right) and Junior Warden Ben Bloor (left).

### Seventy-Five Years Ago

January 19, 1951

Half a flock of 80 New Hampshire chickens were stolen Saturday night from the Donald Harris ranch. The thieves apparently parked their car on the main road and walked across the field to the chicken house, where they carefully picked the best of the flock.

A new scoreboard has been installed this week at the high school gymnasium by Ernest Kison and his father-in-law, Jay Nesbit.

### One Hundred Years Ago

January 22, 1926

Nightwatch W. H. Dickeson is now "Grandpa". He received a telegram this week informing him of the safe arrival Sunday evening, Jan. 17 of a baby girl at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Mildred Kellough at Santa Ana, California.

The Kulawala group of Camp Fire Girls had an outdoor breakfast Saturday, Jan. 16. They left town at seven in the morning and hiked to the swinging bridge at the mill dam.

### One Hundred Twenty-Five Years Ago

January 18, 1901

We note with pleasure that Frank Cobb, of this city, has been selected as one of the six students of the Washington Agricultural College to represent this state college in the intercollegiate debates of the year.

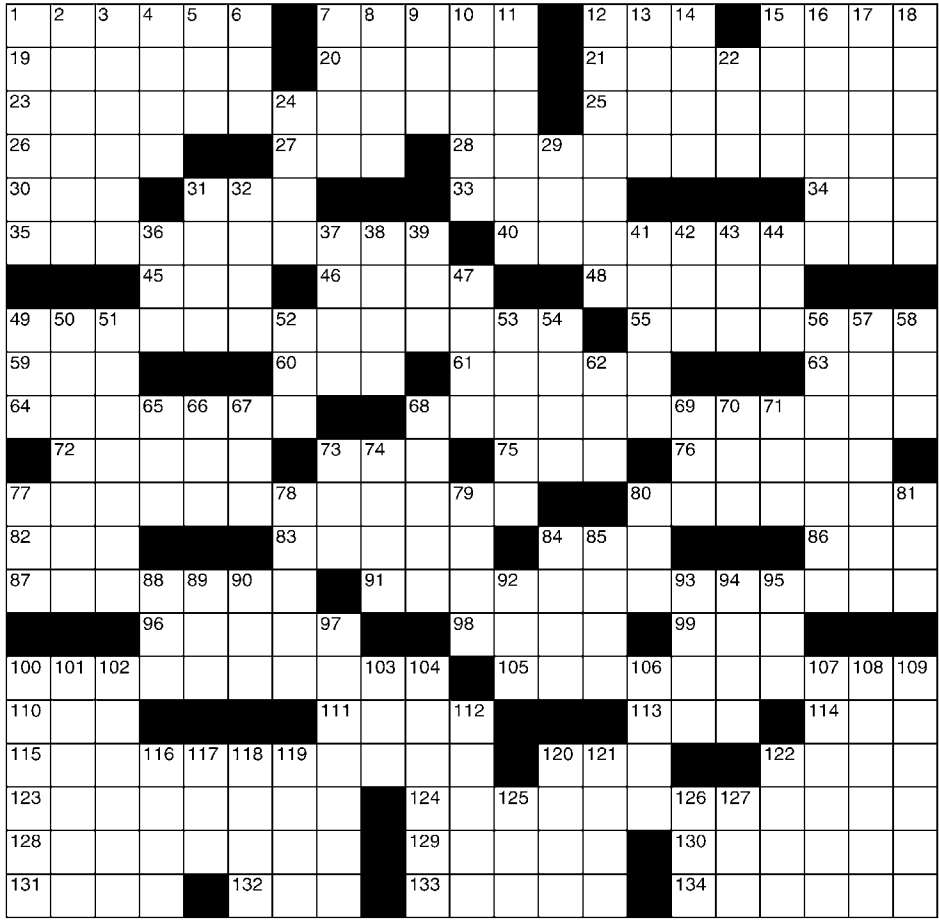
The Farmers Lumber Yard is the name of a new lumber yard which is being prepared on the plat of land formerly used as the M. Weller yard located between Main Street and Coppei Avenue. J.E. Abbot is to be manager of then new company. We understand the lumber is being furnished by sound parties.



PUZZLES & LIFESTYLES

Super Crossword THE THIRD PERSON

- ACROSS
- 1 Go to
- 7 Stooze who sometimes replaced
- 12 Sauna locale
- 15 Defeater of Gore
- 19 Time: Prefix
- 20 On the briny
- 21 Retained
- 23 Old foxtrot dancer makes a two-in-one chess move?
- 25 Makes lively
- 26 Flow blockers
- 27 Oct. preceder
- 28 "All I Wanna Do" singer boasts?
- 30 Prefix with propyl
- 31 Winter hrs. in Philadelphia
- 33 Lawman Wyatt
- 34 Falsehood
- 35 "The Finest Hours" co-star years deeply?
- 40 America's first female astronaut takes a bus?
- 45 Top-secret U.S. org.
- 46 Starting on
- 48 Sanaa locale
- 49 "Samson and Delilah" co-star devel-ops fully?
- 55 Conductor
- 59 Big 20th-cen. conflict
- 60 Actress — de Armas
- 61 Universal rule
- 63 "Eww, micel!"
- 64 Harry Potter's skill
- 68 "Play It as It Lays" co-star does a fusing job?
- 72 "Middle Child" rapper
- 73 In the past
- 75 Spain's El —
- 76 Really annoy
- 77 "Broadcast News" co-star feels sore?
- 80 Dirt Devil or DustBuster, for short
- 82 "Botch- —"
- 83 Former TWA competitor
- 84 Coll. in Columbus
- 86 NYSE debut
- 87 Rolo filling
- 91 Frontwoman of Hole has a deep fondness?
- 96 Cowboy rope
- 98 Italian money
- 99 A, in Munich
- 100 "Jerry Maguire" star goes sailing?
- 105 "Coma" novelist makes dinner?
- 110 "There — god!"
- 111 Barber's cut
- 113 Boise-to-Tucson dir.
- 114 "Dr." of music
- 115 Miami Heat great walks in water?
- 120 Potentially shocking fish
- 122 Writer Uris
- 123 Came through, as a radio signal
- 124 "Cheers" actress years?
- 128 Setting fire to
- 129 Shire of film
- 130 "Apparently!"
- 131 Throw easily
- 132 Golf gadget
- 133 "Geez, that's rough"
- 134 Recluses
- DOWN
- 1 Not alkaline
- 2 Defeat soundly
- 3 Quake
- 4 Vast spans
- 5 Dir. 135 degrees from 113-Across
- 6 G.P., for one
- 7 Postpaid enc.
- 8 URL start
- 9 Immigrant's class, in brief
- 10 Edwin of Reagan's Cabinet
- 11 Old Turkish officials
- 12 In a cutting way
- 13 Like a runt
- 14 Indigo dye
- 15 Wild pig
- 16 Innumerable
- 17 1-year-old on "Family Guy"
- 18 Steeds, in Westerns
- 22 Sierra maker
- 24 Sparkling 119-Down, for short
- 29 History topic
- 31 Exxon, once
- 32 Trade blows
- 36 Accrued qty.
- 37 Indian bread
- 38 This, in Peru
- 39 —wester
- 41 Subsidiary theorem
- 42 Singer Sumac
- 43 Singer Des'—
- 44 Officeholders
- 47 Munich Mrs.
- 49 Beetles and Golfs, in brief
- 50 Famed flag-raising site of 1945
- 51 Orbiting body, e.g.
- 52 Spring month
- 53 Firm bigwigs
- 54 "Yes, yes!" in Mexico
- 56 City in Israel
- 57 Procedural form-filling
- 58 Endorses
- 62 Quirky
- 65 Maj.'s superior
- 66 Yale student
- 67 "Stuck" actor Stephen
- 68 "Road —" (1947 comedy film)
- 69 In-favor vote
- 70 Pale
- 71 LAX takeoff guess
- 73 Throat-check sounds
- 74 Avocado dip, informally
- 77 Former female mil. group
- 78 Prefix with grain or color
- 79 Irrefutable
- 80 Color shade
- 81 Bus. entities
- 84 Other, to Jorge
- 85 Snooty type
- 88 Oval portion
- 89 Pre-2001 space station
- 90 It fills la mer
- 92 1921 Karel Capek play
- 93 Cravings
- 94 Pet pests
- 95 Artist Yoko
- 97 WikiLeaks founder Julian
- 100 Little goody
- 101 New York city or river
- 102 Yucatec speakers
- 103 Put a stop to
- 104 Noon nap
- 106 Atoll unit
- 107 Danish port
- 108 Big chain of food stores
- 109 Has a hunch
- 112 "Hogwash!"
- 116 French pals
- 117 After taxes
- 118 Correct copy
- 119 Pinot, e.g.
- 120 Filmmaker Kazan
- 121 Panache
- 122 Pork cut
- 125 Graceful tree
- 126 Fashion inits.
- 127 Lav in a pub



Weekly SUDOKU

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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MY RECIPES  
Luke Chavez

Sloppy Joes

Sometimes, while researching recipes, I am overcome by unexpected cravings. This week, I was reminded of the flavorful and messy childhood lunchroom classic, the sloppy joe sandwich. Always up for a challenge, I set out looking for an alternative to the overly sweet version that comes out of a can. Here, ground beef is simmered in a tangy homemade sauce that comes to life with a zesty combination of spices.



Ingredients:

- 1 tablespoon olive oil  
1 pound ground beef (80/20)  
½ yellow onion, chopped  
1 jalapeño, seeded and chopped  
2 garlic cloves, minced  
Salt and fresh ground black pepper  
1 tablespoon chili powder  
1 tablespoon paprika  
2 teaspoons dried oregano  
1 teaspoon onion powder  
¼ teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes, or to taste  
1 tablespoon tomato paste  
1 tablespoon apple cider vinegar  
1 cup chicken stock  
1 cup tomato puree  
¼ cup ketchup  
1 tablespoon plus 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce  
1 teaspoon Dijon mustard  
1 teaspoon molasses
- For serving:**  
4 buns or rolls, buttered and toasted  
Red cabbage, finely shaved  
Pickles

Directions:

In a large skillet, heat the oil over high heat. Cook the beef, breaking it up with a wooden spoon, until evenly browned but not cooked all the way through, about 6 to 8 minutes. Transfer beef to a bowl with a slotted spoon, leaving drippings in the pan.

Reduce the heat to medium and sauté the onion, jalapeno, and garlic, stirring frequently, until soft but not browned, another 6 to 8 minutes. Season to taste with salt and black pepper. Next, stir in the chili powder, paprika, oregano, onion powder, and pepper flakes, cooking until very fragrant, about 1 minute. Add the tomato paste, stirring for a few minutes until it incorporates with onion mixture and lightly darkens in color. Then add the cider vinegar, stock, tomato puree, ketchup, Worcestershire, Dijon, and the molasses, scraping up any browned bits from the bottom of pan.

Return the beef to the pan, along with any accumulated juices, and bring to a simmer. Continue to cook at steady simmer, stirring and scraping the bottom, until mixture is thick and saucy, about 15 minutes. Taste and adjust seasoning, adding more salt and pepper as needed.

To serve, spoon beef mixture onto buttered rolls and top with shaved cabbage. Serve with chips or French fries, and a pickle spear on the side.

Notes:

This easy and fun weeknight dinner can be made lighter by using ground turkey or chicken. You could also try making it vegetarian by using ground seitan or crumbled firm tofu. If using tofu, be sure to thoroughly drain and press out extra moisture before cooking.

For a slightly less spicy version, you could use ½ a green bell pepper in place of the jalapeño.

Have lots of napkins on hand if you attempt to eat this sandwich with your hands. Or, for the more refined, eat open faced with a fork and knife. Either way, this makes a satisfying meal. I served it this week with home-made sweet potato oven fries, and crisp dill pickle spears. Enjoy!

Super Crossword Weekly SUDOKU

Answers

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

Answer

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





Community Calendar

WAITSBURG MONTHLY MEETINGS

**Waitsburg City Council**  
Third Wednesday of each month @ 7 p.m. at City Hall.

**Planning Commission**  
Second Friday of the month @ 10 a.m. @ City Hall and on Zoom.

**Waitsburg School Board**  
Third Thursday of every month @ 6 p.m. at the Waitsburg Elementary School Library.  
Zoom info is available at Waitsburgsd.org by emailing waitsburgcc@icloud.com

**Waitsburg Home and School Association** – First Wednesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at the Waitsburg Elementary School Library. All parents, school district staff, and community members are welcome.

**Waitsburg Historical Society**  
Third Thursday of the month @ 6 p.m. @ Weller Public Library

**Waitsburg Booster Club**  
First Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m. @ High School Home Ec. room

**Waitsburg Parks and Recreation Public Meeting**  
First Thursday of the month, 6 p.m. @ Waitsburg City Hall  
Info email: info@waitsburgparks.org

**Weller Public Library Board of Trustees**  
Second Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m. @ Weller Public Library, 212 Main St.

**Friends of the Weller Public Library**  
Second Tuesday of the month, @ 7:15 p.m.

**Waitsburg Commercial Club**  
Last Thursdays of the month @ Ten Ton Art @noon. Zoom info is available by emailing waitsburgcc@icloud.com

**Waitsburg Resource Center Community Food Bank**  
Thursdays, 2 – 4 p.m. Food Donations  
106 ½ Preston Ave

**Waitsburg Christian Church**  
Drop-off and pick-up Clothing Donation Center upstairs at 604 Main Street



DAYTON & COLUMBIA COUNTY MEETINGS

**Board of Columbia County Commissioners**  
Regular meetings - First and third Monday of the month @ 9 a.m.  
Work sessions - Second and fourth Monday of each month @ 9 a.m.  
Call-in information available at <https://www.columbiaco.com/114/County-Commissioners>

**Dayton City Council**  
Second Tuesday of the month @ 6 p.m.  
Call-in information available at: <https://www.daytonwa.com/54-inside-city-hall/city-council>

**Dayton School Board**  
First and third Wednesday of the month @ 6 p.m. @ Dayton High School auditorium

**DHS Alumni Meeting**  
Every Third Thursday @ 6:30 p.m. @ Dayton High School Library.

**The Coalition for Youth and Families**  
Second Tuesday of the month @ noon @ The Port of Columbia - 1 Port Way, Dayton, Wash.

**Columbia County Public Hospital Dist. Board of Commissioners**  
Fourth Wednesday of the month @ 9 a.m. Call (509) 382-2531 for information.

**Dayton Memorial Library Board of Trustees Meeting**  
Third Monday of the month @ 7 p.m. Delany room and Zoom Meeting ID: 852 3836 3787  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85238363787>

**Columbia County Parks and Recreation Pool District**  
Regular Board Meetings are held on the last Thursday of each month, 5 p.m. @ Columbia County Fire District Conference Room

**Dayton Kiwanis Club Meeting**  
Second and fourth Thursday @ Noon  
Hybrid in-person meetings at the Delany Library with online Zoom available.



**PRESCOTT MEETINGS**  
**Prescott Joint Park & Rec District (PJPRD)** Monthly meetings for 2024 are 2nd Thursday of each month, @ 6 p.m.

**Prescott School District Board of Directors Meeting**  
4th Thursday of each month, @ 6 p.m. @ Prescott School Multi-Purpose, room 401, and on Zoom, Meeting ID: 846 7687 9995

**STARBUCK MEETINGS**  
Starbuck City Council  
2nd Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. at Starbuck City Hall



Lunches

WAITSBURG SENIOR CENTER

504 Main Street  
11 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
**Tuesday, Jan. 27**  
Pineapple ham  
Scalloped potatoes  
Cookie  
MOW: Vegetable, Bread  
IN HOUSE: Salad bar



WAITSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Thursday, Jan. 22**  
Breakfast  
French Toast & Sausage  
Lunch  
Pulled Pork Sandwich  
Coleslaw, Fruit & Veg.  
**Friday, Jan. 23**  
Breakfast  
Breakfast Sandwich

Lunch  
Crispitos  
Refried Beans  
Fruit & Vegetable

**Monday, Jan. 26**  
Breakfast  
Fruit Parfait  
Lunch  
Cheeseburger, Tater Tots  
Fruit & Vegetable

**Tuesday, Jan. 27**  
Breakfast  
Biscuits & Gravy

Lunch  
NEW! BBQ Chicken Breast  
Bread Roll, Baked Beans  
Fruit & Vegetable

**Wednesday, Jan. 28**  
Breakfast  
Breakfast Round  
Lunch  
Turkey Sandwich  
Something Crunchy  
Fruit & Vegetable



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**Waitsburg Commercial Club**  
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**Church Directory**  
**St. Mark Catholic Church**  
405 W. Fifth, Waitsburg Mass  
Friday, 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday, 5 p.m.  
382-2311  
Father O'Leary  
**Waitsburg Presbyterian Church**  
504 Main  
Sunday School 8:45 a.m.  
Worship 10 a.m.  
337-6589  
Pastor Heidi Lum  
**Waitsburg Chapel**  
320 W. 2nd  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
Worship 11 a.m.  
Evening Worship 6 p.m.  
Bible Study  
Wednesdays 7:30 p.m.  
337-6235  
Rev. Jimmie Daves  
**Waitsburg Christian Church**  
604 Main St  
Worship 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
Each Sunday  
337-8898  
Pastor Cameron Hedges