



The Times

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SERVING WAITSBURG, DAYTON AND THE TOUCHET VALLEY

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ONE DOLLAR



Lane Gwinn

July 4th was celebrated in Waitsburg with a Parade of Veterans followed by a flag raising, hot dogs, great salads, music, library fun at a community picnic at the Bruce Museum. Pat Gleason's parade float, complete with ponies, dogs, flowers, and flags enjoyed the attention they attracted at the Bruce Museum picnic.

THIS WEEK



Library news
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“We will not survive standing alone”

Bipartisan solutions are needed to address challenges to rural health care, said the CEO of CCHD.

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON — In June, flyers from a west-side political action committee landed in the mailboxes of residents in the Columbia County Hospital District. In the flyers, the committee charged the GOP U.S. House of Representatives and Rep. Michael Baumgartner(R) with harming health care access for millions of people after H.R.1, known as “The One Big Beautiful Bill Act,” became law on July 4, 2025.

Columbia County Hospital District CEO Shane McGuire offered his thoughts, noting that healthcare is a complex industry with ever-evolving legislation and oversight, which adds to operational challenges.

“This happens regardless of which party controls the state and federal government,” he said.

A case in point was when rural counties saw the largest drop in health insurance coverage after the Republican-controlled Congress failed to extend the Affordable Care Act subsidies. The loss of ACA subsidies led to steep price hikes for some customers, with young and lower-income residents most likely to drop coverage.

In Washington, Garfield County had the largest loss in coverage, with 30.8 percent, and Columbia County lost 13.5 percent.

“For these people, their healthcare needs did not go away; their healthcare coverage did,” he said.

McGuire noted that people in rural areas already have higher mortality rates for heart disease, cancer, unintentional injuries, chronic lower respiratory disease, and stroke than do urban communities. These are predicted to increase as rural community members are set to lose health care coverage at higher rates than urban populations.

He said people enrolled in Apple Health, the state’s Medicaid program, could be caught by surprise when H.R.1 rules take effect on January 1, 2027. The delay in the bill’s 10-year implementation will likely create a disconnect between the legislation’s passage and its consequences.

H.R.1 will affect those covered through ACA Medicaid Expansion programs, which provided more people with access to the healthcare program. As the law is implemented, people who are eligible for Medicaid must prove they can meet the 80 hours-per-month work, community service, or school attendance requirements, and they must do so once every six months.

McGuire said even people with



CEO Shane McGuire.
cchd-wa.org

Tenth Annual Walla Walla Movie Crush begins July 10

By Lane Gwinn | THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA — This weekend, the Walla Walla Movie Crush returns with three days of American short films. Curated by co-founder Warren Etheridge, the films will be shown in thematic one-hour blocks beginning on Friday, July 10.

The festival has showcased narrative, documentary, animated, musical, and experimental films, over the past ten years. This year, the 100 shorts are from Oscar-winners, rising stars, professional, and student filmmakers.

In 2025, “Moviemaker Magazine” named Movie Crush as one of the world’s 25 “coolest film festivals.”

Visit themoviecrush.com to view the trailer, movie schedule, block themes, and to purchase tickets. The tickets are all-access weekend passes, from \$50.

Friday, July 10

- 6 p.m. – Reading is Fundamental
This block of five shorts celebrates literature, libraries, and the people who champion them while denouncing those who would violate these spaces and texts.
- 7 p.m. – A Noble Profession
Three films about educators who lead with patience, support, and compassionate redress.
- 8 p.m. – ...A Many Spintared Thing
In this hour, a man overthinks a digital connection, and an older woman struggles to keep pace while speed dating.

Saturday, July 11

- 11 a.m. – Disrupting Hollywood
Films to be announced.
- Noon – Mulligans
In golf, a player can get a do-over, but second chances are rarely granted in life. In this block are four exceptions to the rule.
- 1 p.m. – Pregnant Pause.
Strife begins at conception. Being a mom is the toughest, lowest-paying job in the world.
- 2 p.m. – This Must be the Place
In this hour, four films on home.
- 3 p.m. – Bye & Cell
Four films about people going into or returning from prison.
- 4 p.m. – Good Mourning
We die twice – once when life leaves our body, and again when our name is spoken for the last time.
- 7 p.m. – Life, Give or Take
Films about the existential implications of the afterlife, questioning how we spend our days or pay for our choices.
- 8 p.m. – Special Skills
Six films that are a tribute to the uniquely and mundanely talented.
- 9 p.m. – Stop the World, I Want to Get Off
This NSFW pleasure-seeking block includes the pass/fail based pursuit of carnal knowledge.

Sunday, July 12

- Noon – Sh!thole Country?
Those in glass white houses shouldn’t throw stones. Perhaps our government officials should tend to our needs and their own ethical conduct.
- 1 p.m. – Caring for Others
Caregivers of all kinds are featured in this hour.
- 2 p.m. – Help Us, Father...
...for you have sinned. Five bad dad



NEWS BRIEFS

NEWS BRIEFS

AT THE LIBERTY:

“Toy Story 5”

July 10-14

THE TIMES

DAYTON — The toys are back in Disney and Pixar’s animated “Toy Story 5,” and this time it’s toy meets tech. Woody (Tom Hanks), Buzz Lightyear (Tim Allen), Jessie (Joan Cusack), and the rest of the gang’s jobs are challenged when they come face-to-face with Lilypad (Greta Lee), a brand-new tablet device. Lilypad has her own ideas about what is best for the toys’ kid, Bonnie. Will playtime ever be the same? The “Toy Story 5” additional cast includes Tony Hale, Conan O’Brien, and Greta Lee. Rated PG for some thematic elements and rude humor, and has a runtime of 102 min.

The Rotten Tomatoes critics said, “Proving that old toys can learn new tricks while reckoning with an era of endless screen time, ‘Toy Story 5’ largely sidesteps franchise fatigue by reaffirming that children everywhere still have a friend in these lovable characters.” The audience agrees, rating “Toy Story 5” at 95%. Audience comments included, “Woody, Buzz, and Bonnie return to deliver yet another remarkable ‘Toy Story’ adventure -- one that’s thematically relevant, tugs at the heartstrings, and still makes you laugh to infinity and beyond.” Come watch “Toy Story 5” for a wonderful escape from the heat.

Missoula Children’s Theatre is bringing “Aladdin” to the theater August 3 through 8. Participation is free for children entering grades 1 through 12. Registration is required at the theater on Tuesday, July 28, and Friday, July 31, from 2-5 p.m. or online starting July 14 at libertytheater.org. Auditions will be on Monday, August 3, at 10 a.m., followed by rehearsals all week. Performances are on Friday, August 7, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, August 8, at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$5 and will go on sale mid-July. Please call (509) 382-1380 with any questions.

Upcoming Movies: “Toy Story 5” July 10-14, “Young Washington” July 17-21, “Minions & Monsters” July 24-28 The schedule is always subject to change.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT PROPOSES POST-SECONDARY LAUNCH COURSE

THE TIMES

OLYMPIA — Civic engagement, financial literacy, a completed resume, applying to college, joining the military, registering to vote, researching financial aid—despite their importance, Washington’s graduating seniors lack consistent access to these critical foundations for lifelong financial and educational success.

State Superintendent Chris Reykdal has a proposal to close that gap: a senior year postsecondary launch course. A year-long course taken by all graduating seniors, designed with their next steps in mind.

“Students are graduating from the K-12 system without consistent access to the tools needed to support their independence,” Reykdal said. “Young people are taking on loans and credit card debt without knowledge of the implications. They don’t always know what to include on resumés or how to register to vote. We can fix that.”

Superintendent Reykdal’s proposal would combine the existing semester-long civics requirement (0.5 credits) with another 0.5 credit in financial literacy and postsecondary readiness, giving Washington students the most successful and comprehensive postsecondary launch in the nation.

The course would be structured to ensure each topic is timely for students at that critical point in their senior year. For example, learning about financial aid in the fall, when students are applying and planning for college.

As part of the Postsecondary Launch Course, students would be required to complete their High School and Beyond Plan; build a resume; register or pre-register to vote; apply to a job, college, or the military; and apply for financial aid.

“In recent years, our state has seen a variety of proposed additions to graduation requirements, and my team and I have worked with stakeholders to understand and consider all of them,” Reykdal said. “The Senior Year Postsecondary Launch Course is a compilation of changes that we believe will truly improve outcomes without limiting students’ flexibility to take the courses that align with their postsecondary goals.”

In June, Superintendent Reykdal shared his Postsecondary Launch Course proposal with the State Board of Education (SBE) for their consideration as they continue a project to update the state’s graduation requirements. The Board’s goal is to develop a proposal with updated requirements that support students’ individual postsecondary plans for consideration in the 2027 Legislative Session.

Currently, the Board is grappling with whether to remove some of the required credits in career and technical education, the arts, and health and physical education. Superintendent Reykdal provided feedback encouraging the Board to retain these critical learning opportunities for all students as part of the state’s graduation requirements.

The Superintendent also recommended that the Board adopt the Postsecondary Launch Course, as well as create greater expectations for quantitative reasoning courses during students’ senior year. The Board is expected to consider formally adopting its draft recommendations to the Legislature during its August meeting.

In the 2027 Legislative Session, Superintendent Reykdal will request that the Legislature adopt the Postsecondary Launch Course requirement as part of any changes they make to graduation requirements.

For more information go to <https://sbe.wa.gov/our-work/futureready>.

WW LITTLE THEATRE AWARDED \$482,000 FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA — On June 30, 2026, the Allen Family Philanthropies announced \$5 million in new funding for ten organizations supporting creative youth development programs in Washington State.

The Little Theatre of Walla Walla was one of the funded programs, joining Hilltop Artists, Mi Chiantla, Schack Art Center, Spark Central, The Bridge Music Project, The Mockingbird Society, United Territories of Pacific Islanders Alliance, Whatcom Family YMCA, and Young Women Empowered.

The Little Theatre of Walla Walla received over \$482,000 to expand its theatre programs for rural youth in Walla Walla and Columbia counties, increasing access to creative youth development opportunities.

The organization was one of 10 organizations statewide to receive funding from Allen Family Philanthropies as part of an effort to increase access to creative youth development programs in Washington state. The \$5 million funding signifies the state’s largest single investment in community-led, out-of-school-time creative youth development programs for youth aged 13 to 26.

Creative Youth Development (CYD) is a structured approach to youth learning that combines hands-on artistic skill-building and life skill development. Program participants and alumni exhibit high rates of civic participation, self-expression, and youth leadership, with lasting benefits for individuals and the broader community.

The Little Theatre of Walla Walla’s funded project will support youth-led ensemble theatre programs, including youth productions, musical theatre, and professional development to enhance youth artistry and leadership across Walla Walla and Columbia counties.

The Allen Family Philanthropies selected awardees through a request-for-proposals process, which was the foundation’s first RFP in arts & culture. Proposals were reviewed by an external panel of CYD experts, whose experience includes working directly with young people as teaching artists, running organizations that serve artists, youth, and communities, and leading research in the field.

LETTERS

SCHRAM FOR SHERIFF

To the editor

It is with great pleasure that I endorse Richard Schram for Walla Walla County Sheriff. I met Richard eight years ago while making the transition from a neighboring agency and continuing my law enforcement career here in Walla Walla. I immediately recognized three distinct leadership traits embodied by Richard. First, he presented himself in a professional manner and carried himself with confidence. Second, Richard maintained a positive attitude and made me feel welcome. Lastly, Richard took pride in his uniform.

I served Honorably in the United States Marine Corps and value Honor, Courage, and Commitment. With that in mind, I look for and admire people who embody such values and possess leadership traits such as dependability, decisiveness, unselfishness, enthusiasm, and bearing. Richard’s leadership qualities make him the ideal candidate to lead the Sheriff’s Office. Through actions and words, Richard gained my respect while supporting my efforts to bolster outreach to our Hispanic community.

Throughout the eight years I have known him, Richard has demonstrated total devotion to the well-being of his fellow deputies. He wears his uniform with pride and holds himself and others to high standards. He remains courteous while making you feel valued. Richard Schram leads by example and instills confidence within the Sheriff’s Office.

As a Detective with this Office, I fully support Richard Schram for Walla Walla County Sheriff.

Federico Diaz
Walla Walla, Wash.

THE LIBERTY THEATER - DAYTON

KIDS SUMMER MOVIES

1:00pm - FREE ADMISSION
\$2.00 small drink (or water) with small popcorn

JUNE 10-14

Hook
JULY 7 & 10
SURF’S UP

MUPPETS RESCUE
JULY 14 & 17
July 21 & 24

Toy Story 5
Hi!

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

MCE-ALADDIN PERFORMANCES
AUGUST 7 at 7:00pm & AUGUST 8 at 3:00pm

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The Times

A PROUD TRADITION

The Times was founded in 1878 by C.W. Wheeler and has been produced every week since then. It is one of the oldest newspapers in the state of Washington.

The Times publishes news and information about Walla Walla and Columbia counties and their communities.

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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In County
(Available in Columbia and Walla Walla County, Wash.)
1-year subscription: \$40
2-year subscription: \$75
3-year subscription: \$105

Out of County
1-year subscription: \$45
2-year subscription: \$85
3-year subscription: \$120

Dayton's Friends of the Pool is sponsoring all-ages swim lessons

By Lane Gwinn | THE TIMES

DAYTON — To encourage Columbia County kids of all ages (including adults) to learn to swim, the Friends of the Pool Committee in Dayton has offered to pay for certified swimming lessons. This includes both basic and intermediate lessons through certified Red Cross programs at the Walla Walla YMCA or any comparable certified program. The offer also includes paying for lifesaving skills and lifeguard certification for advanced swimmers. This offer will extend throughout the year.

Families and swimmers will need to pay for the lessons themselves; then Friends of the Pool will reimburse their lesson expenses. Transportation costs are not reimbursed.

To be reimbursed, copies of the receipts for qualifying lessons should be sent to Friends of the Pool, P.O. Box 192, Dayton, WA. 99328.

Make sure to include a name, an address to which reimbursements can be sent, and a telephone number. If lessons were held outside the area, applicants must include proof of their Columbia County residency.

The Dayton School District has partnered with the Friends of the Pool to provide similar lessons for students during the school year. Friends of the Pool coordinates lessons with the Walla Walla YMCA and reimburses the school for transportation for grades 1 through 5. The YMCA has its own grant funding to help provide swim lessons for kids from regional schools, including those in Columbia County.

Friends of the Pool receives both grant funds and private donations toward these efforts. Funds on hand include grants from the Warren Community Action Fund and the Dayton/Columbia County/Dayton Fund, both managed by Blue Mountain Community Foundation. The organization has also received an Innovia Community Grant and a grant from The Exchange Club of Walla Walla. Substantial donations have come directly from a wide range of individuals and businesses in the area.

This offer to fund swimming lessons will remain in effect until a new community pool is built in Dayton and swim lessons become available locally. Friends of the Pool works closely with the Columbia County Parks & Pool District, which is working towards constructing a new community pool.



Times Archive

Dayton students taking swim lessons at the YMCA.

CRUSH - FROM PAGE 1

- stories.
 - 3 p.m. – The Block of Job
In a Capitalist society, work can feel more inescapable than death or taxes. Workers in these five films confront adversity and reconsider the almighty dollar's sovereignty.
 - 4 p.m. – Say What?
This last block in the festival focuses on people who use words to express themselves artfully.
- Movie Crush weekend passes are \$50 and include access to all 17 hours of programming and admission to the festival's Closing Night Awards Spectacular. Go to TheMovieCrush.com for more information and to purchase tickets.

LIBRARY NEWS

July's schedule for Columbia County and Weller Public Libraries

By Lane Gwinn | THE TIMES

DAYTON/WAITSBURG — It is summer, and there are plenty of events at the Dayton and Waitsburg libraries to entertain all ages.

At the Dayton Library

Repeating events include Terrific Tuesdays!, the library's game night at 5:30 p.m. On July 7 and 21, enjoy the tabletop role-playing game Dungeons & Dragons. The second Tuesday, July 14, is an evening of board and card games, and the last, on July 28, is Pokémon night.

Toddler Storytime is on every Wednesday at 10 a.m. A story or two is read aloud, followed by fun activities.

The Fiber Crafting Group meets on Fridays from 3 to 5 p.m. Join in to knit, crochet, and do other fiber crafts. The library has knitting and crocheting supplies. The staff and participants are happy to help. All ages and levels are welcome.

Yoga comes to the library on the last Friday of the month at 10 a.m.

July events have a prehistoric theme, starting with Dino Bath Bombs on Thursday, July 9, at 5:30 p.m. Even dinosaurs needed rest and relaxation, but they didn't have bath bombs. Take this opportunity to make bath bombs a T. rex would envy. The library has tiny dinos to add that Jurassic twist.

On Wednesday, July 15, explore geologic layers with Lego Duplo blocks at 11 a.m., after Toddler Story time.

A Jurassic Escape Room on Thursday, July 23, from 2 to 8 p.m., will challenge teams to solve puzzles in 30 minutes. Sign-ups are available at the library's circulation desk.

On Friday, July 24, the library will host "Detective Diggs - Interactive Theatre Show." The show will start at 1:30 p.m., and the audience can help Detective Diggs solve a mystery.

Wrap up July with the Dinolympics on Friday, the 31st from 1 to 4 p.m.

The library also connects patrons to online conversations and presentations by bestselling and award-winning authors. Register for a talk with Karin Slaughter,

the bestselling author of "Pretty Girls" and the "Will Trent" series.

The discussion will focus on her North Falls series, which includes "We Are All Guilty Here," in which two teenage girls vanish in rural Georgia, and her upcoming sequel, "The Secrets We Hide."

Offered by the library in partnership with the Library Speakers Consortium, the online conversations are offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Go to <https://library.org/ccrid/upcoming> for more information and the schedule of speakers.

At the Weller Public Library

This summer, through August, the library will be digging into all things dinosaurs and fossils with hands-on activities, crafts, games, sensory stations and family-friendly events. Wednesdays are workshop days, and in July, there are new take-and-make bags.

Alternating Thursdays are tabletop-role-playing-game days. July 16 is Jurassic Junction, and July 30 is Cretaceous Crown: Hunt for the Bone Relic.

On Fridays at 1 p.m., the library hosts story time and time to color at the library.

Saturday, July 25, is the Tar Pit Sensory Lab. Time to make and embrace the slime.

WAITSBURG FRIENDS OF THE POOL IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

Waitsburg — The Waitsburg Friends of the Pool, Rural Youth Enrichment Services (RYES) and Waitsburg Park and Recreation members continue to make a community survey's top priority a reality. The results of the 2022 survey put building a new city pool as the number one priority.

The previous pool was constructed in 1925, a period when small towns built public swimming pools for safe summer recreation and swimming lessons. The Waitsburg pool was a centerpiece of summer life, built to teach residents how to swim in a community surrounded by rivers and irrigation canals.

Water safety for kids was a priority for the late Dr. Roger and Mrs. Hevel, who donated funds to help Waitsburg children receive free swimming lessons.

Since the almost 100-year-old pool was decommissioned, Waitsburg Parks and Recreation and Friends of the Pool have completed work to make the project shovel-ready, including the design, site selection, and budget.

A new survey will be distributed to confirm that a public pool in Waitsburg remains a priority for residents. In addition to listening, volunteers share information about the project to ensure voters have the information they need to pass a maintenance and operations levy. Once a levy is passed, the group will be able to effectively apply for construction grants.

Friends of the Pool is collaborating with the Waitsburg School District to use contributions to give elementary school students swim lessons at the Walla Walla YMCA during the 2026-2027 school year.

In September, the Friends of the Pool will sponsor its annual Laurette McCaw Pie Contest at the Waitsburg Fall Festival. All proceeds from the pie auction go to the pool fund. Bakers can get entry forms for the pie contest at Waitsburg businesses beginning in mid-August or by contacting Karen Huwe at huwe.karen@gmail.com.

Friends of the Pool is looking for volunteers to bring their time and talents to the effort. Anyone interested can reach out to members Karen Huwe, Wendy Carter, Alison Ahler, Jillian Henze, Cheryl Hansen, or Sarah Paul for more information.

Also at Gesa Theater is the "Red Badge Project" on July 9

By Lane Gwinn | THE TIMES

On July 9, veterans who participated in The Red Badge Project will share their stories with the Walla Walla community. The project was established by former Army Captain Evan Bailey, and actor and Air Force Veteran Tom Skerritt to help improve the lives of veterans by giving them storytelling skills.

Storytelling can help participants manage challenges, including those stemming from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Traumatic Brain Injury.

The project offers classes for veterans through the Veteran Centers in Walla Walla, Seattle, Federal Way, Everett, and Spokane.

Gesa Powerhouse Theater will host The Red Badge Project on July 9 at 7 p.m. Audience members at this event will be among the first people to hear these stories outside of the Red Badge Project classroom.

There is no cost to attend, however, donations are welcome to help support this program and ensure it remains available to veterans.

CCHS - FROM PAGE 1

qualifying disabilities, like those on dialysis with kidney failure, will have to prove they are too sick to work by uploading documentation through complex state-run portals.

"Medicaid enrollees in our community already struggle with navigating the signup websites. Forgetting to attest to the work requirements means disenrollment and loss of coverage," he said. "Their care needs won't go away, but the ability to pay for them will."

This will create an inherent risk for CCHS and other healthcare organizations, as it increases uncompensated care.

The federal Rural Health Transformation Program is part of the H.R.1 budget reconciliation bill. It provides \$50 billion in nationwide funding to improve rural health care. Each state will share \$25 billion for rural healthcare over the next five years, and the remaining \$25 billion will be distributed over the last five years of the H.R.1 bill implementation.

McGuire said the RHTP funding will not address the shortfall. Those funds can't be used to hire staff, increase the building values, or offset lost revenue. They are strictly for transformative or sustainability projects that improve the efficiency of health care.

On Monday, June 29, the Associated Press reported that 25 states, including Washington State, and the District of Columbia are suing the Trump administration over its recent guidance on new Medicaid work requirements.

Washington state Democrats considered legislation to address healthcare budget shortfalls, including a business tax on companies with over 100 employees to help fund coverage for their workers enrolled in Apple Health.

Other possible legislation leans on nonprofit health carriers to fund the state's premium assistance program for people covered through the Washington Health Benefit Exchange.

Another proposal, backed by Governor Bob Ferguson, is rolling back a business and occupation tax break for some insurers, netting \$56 million in the current budget for healthcare.

In February, "Forbes" magazine published data from a Medicare & Medicaid Services cost report that listed 22 of 84 Washington state hospitals as financially at risk, including Dayton General Hospital.

McGuire said operating margins for rural hospitals are "razor thin."

"There is no slack in the system to absorb additional revenue cuts without cutting services," he said. "Any cuts made will directly impact patient care, and all patients will be impacted by Medicaid cuts."

"We will not survive standing alone," he added.

CCHD is relying on trusted partnerships with Rural Collaborative and the Washington State Hospital Association for support and direction.

McGuire said CCHD administrators are taking steps to shore up existing programs and services wherever possible.

"We continue to make improvements an inch at a time," he said. "This makes me hopeful and willing to fight for rural healthcare."

McGuire wants people to know it's in the best interest of both political parties to have healthy constituents and that a bipartisan effort is needed to change outcomes over time.

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

Weller Public Library has an opening for a volunteer position on the Board of Trustees. Board members meet on the 2nd Tuesday monthly. Being responsible for overseeing the

maintenance, operation and staffing of the library. Applications are available at City Hall and must be returned by July 20th. Please attach a letter of interest.

BIRTHDAYS

July 9: Michael Henze.

July 10: Bob Butler, Billie Leroue, Patricia Dunn, Roberta Osborne, Bob Swenson, Michael Kiefel, Rami Feryn, Al Thompson.

July 11: Susa Roberts.

July 12: Judy Townsend, Dick Surry, Lynette Newbill, Deandra Smith, Gayle Durkee, and Bruce Anderson.

July 13: Tom and Gracie Lyman, Terri Schuler, Ron Kessler, Tom John, Janis Austin, Steve Low, Gary Vaughn, Kimberly Williams, and Tucker Gleason.

July 14: Karen Gregutt, Brett Tuttle, Pat Davis, Megan Price, and Lauren Rohde.

July 15: Howard Hays, Steve Witt, Mary Duncan, Ray Clayton, and W.L. Clayton.



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LEGALS & EVENTS

Events, Film, Performance, Live Music

WAITSBURG

Mythical/Movable
Blue Mountain Bluegrass Jam
at TVAMP
141 Main St., Waitsburg
Friday, July 10, at 7 p.m.



WAITSBURG SUMMER CAMPS For 2026 \$15/CAMP

VOLLEYBALL JULY 21-23
CHEER JULY 28-30
FOOTBALL JULY 28-30

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR REGISTRATION LOCATION DETAILS

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\$15/CAMP

DAYTON

July 18, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
2026 Annual Foodstock
@ Blue Mountain Station, Dayton
Live music, great food, fun activities
Water Slide for kids to cool off
Beer garden for adults to cool off



Touchet Valley Ladies Golf Group
Hour-long golf lessons in July
July 20 @ 6 p.m. July 22 @ 6 p.m.
July 27 @ 6 p.m. July 29 @ 6 p.m.
No experience necessary and everyone is welcome!

YOU'LL LEARN:

- Basic golf etiquette
- How to grip and swing a club
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- Tips to help you feel comfortable and confident on the course

All for only **\$20**

For information or to register, text Barbara at (509) 591-8044

WALLA WALLA

eBike Winery Tours @ The FINCH



July 10
9:30am - 5:00pm
@ The FINCH
325 E Main St.
Walla Walla, Wash.
21+

www.kickstandtours.com
Explore a few of Washington's most exceptional wines and vistas. Sure, it can be done in a van, but why not slow down and feel the wind in your hair on an eBike? Kickstand Tours will visit three wineries and take approximately 5-6 hours. The eBikes will provide a casual, almost effortless riding experience, while guides take riders through the wine country to visit some of their favorite wineries. The tour cost includes your bicycle rental, lunch, guide for the day, and support vehicles for those who wish to purchase wine along the way.

June 22 - August 14

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LEARN MORE →
APRENDE MÁS →

YWCAWW.ORG / FUN-FACTORY

MONDAY	9:30am Ten Ton Studios, 216 Main, Waitsburg 1:00pm Dayton Library/Biblioteca 2:30pm* Starbuck Community Church <small>*By request: Call by 1pm/ Por solicitud: Llame antes de la 1pm</small>	LUNES
TUESDAY	12:45pm U-Play Washington Park 2:00pm St. Michael's Haven VA, Parade Loop	MARTES
WEDNESDAY	9:30am 275 Woodland Ave. 11:00am Prescott Library/Biblioteca 2:45pm Touchet Library/Biblioteca	MIÉRCOLES
THURSDAY	10:00am YWCA Walla Walla, 213 S. First Ave. 1:00pm 1627 Evergreen Commons 2:15pm Lincoln Terrace 534 S. 3rd Ave.	JUEVES
FRIDAY	10:45am Valle Lindo, Farmland Road Noon Lions Park, College Place	VIERNES

July 11, 2026

FARMERS MARKET
Waitsburg

This Saturday
Preston Park
9am - 1pm

Hosted by
@redbirdblooms
www.redbirdbloomsofwaitsburg.com

THE 10TH ANNUAL
Walla Walla
MOVIE CRUSH
AMERICA'S MOST INTOXICATING BLEND OF SHORT CINEMA

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA
Case No.: 26-2-00465-36
SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
CRAIG WOLD, an individual, Plaintiff,
vs.
BRANDON BLAINE HARDY and JANE DOE HARDY, individually and on behalf of their marital community; and also all other persons or parties unknown claiming any right, title, estate, lien, or interest in the real estate described in the complaint herein and located at 1116 Alvarado Terrace, Walla Walla, Washington, Defendants.
The State of Washington to all other persons or parties unknown claiming any right, title, estate, lien, or interest in the real estate described in the complaint and located at 1116 Alvarado Terrace, Walla Walla, Washington:
You are hereby summoned to appear within sixty days after the date of the first publication of this summons, to wit,

within sixty days after the 9th day of July, 2026 and defend the above entitled action in the above entitled court, and answer the complaint of the plaintiff CRAIG WOLD, and serve a copy of your answer upon the undersigned attorneys for plaintiff, CRAIG WOLD, at his office below stated; and in case of your failure so to do, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the complaint, which has been filed with the clerk of said court. The object of this action is for Quiet Title. Dated this 1st day of July, 2026.
s/ Kelby J. Derenick
Kelby J. Derenick, WSBA #42860
Attorney for Plaintiff
14 E. Main Street, Suite 214
Walla Walla, WA 99362
The Times
July 9, 16, 23, 30, August 6, 13, 2026
7-9-a

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to RCW 28A.505.050 and RCW 28A.505.060, that the Board of Directors of Waitsburg School District No. 401-100, Walla Walla County, Washington will meet for the purpose of fixing and adopting the proposed 2026-2027 Budget, the four-year budget plan summary and the four-year enrollment projection at a special meeting on July 16, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the Waitsburg Elementary School Library in the Waitsburg School District. All District residents are invited to attend the meeting and be heard for or against any part of the budget, the four-year budget plan, or any proposed changes to uses of enrichment funding under RCW 28A.505.240. Copies of the Budget will be available at the hearing or can be obtained after that date at the district office.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Monty Sabin
Secretary to the Board
The Times
July 2, 9, 2026
7-2-a

2026 BLUE MOUNTAIN STATION FOODSTOCK
JULY 18, 10A-3P DAYTON, WA

Groovy food & music

Eats & drinks
Co-op Market (Thai)
La Ramada (Mexican)
Shewa Ethiopian Cuisine
Baskin Robbins
Plus more!

Live music
10:00-1:00 CALICO BONES
1:00-3:00 LUCAS SIMPSON GROUP

Fun stuff to do
Splash down the water slide
Make tie-dye shirts, string beads, face painting
Beer garden
Shop arts & crafts vendors
Play lawn games
Plus other fun activities

Bring a chair or blanket to sit on.
Eat, drink & have fun!

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

Port Columbia, Pocket iNet, Maura Trainor Massage, Bank of Eastern Washington, Columbia REA

And special thanks to the volunteers who help make this event possible!

Give peas a chance

Make food, not war

Blue Mountain Station, 700 Artisan Way, Dayton, WA 99328
bluemountainstation.com

Flags, Flags Flags

Photos by Lane Gwinn



(above left) The Weller Public Library was open on the 4th, a reminder that public libraries are the bedrock of a healthy democracy. (above right) The sunlit flags at the Bruce Museum were waving in the wind during the July 4th picnic following the parade.



(above left) George Washington gave parade viewers flags. (above right) The Waitsburg scout troop 337 raised the American and the 250th anniversary flags after the parade.

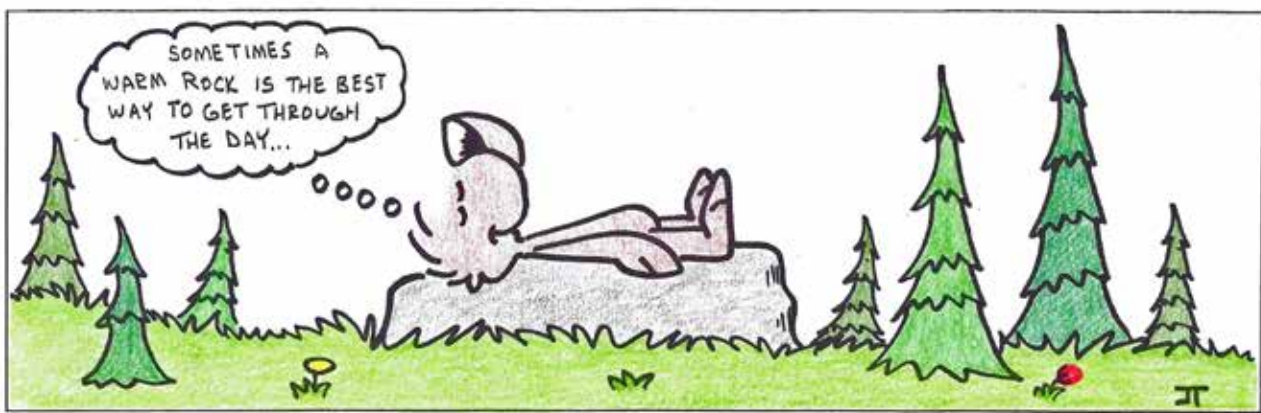


Veterans led the parade down Main Street to the Bruce museum for the afternoon festivities.

PIONEERS & FUN

The Friendly Forest

By Jimmye L. Turner

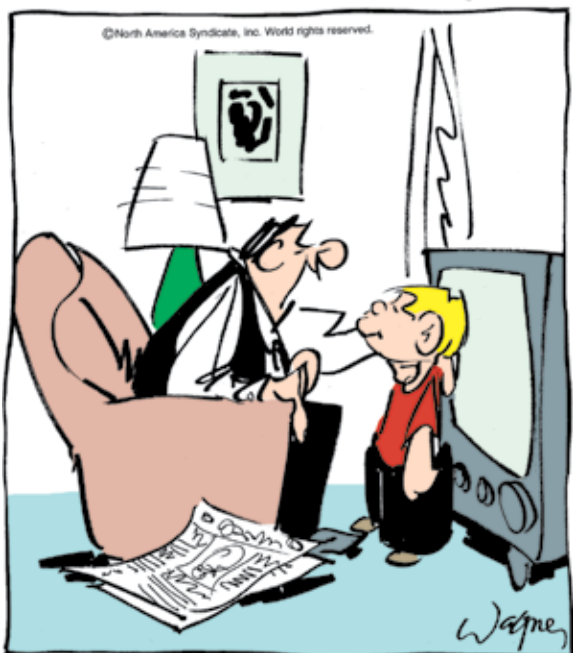


Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



GRIM and BEAR IT



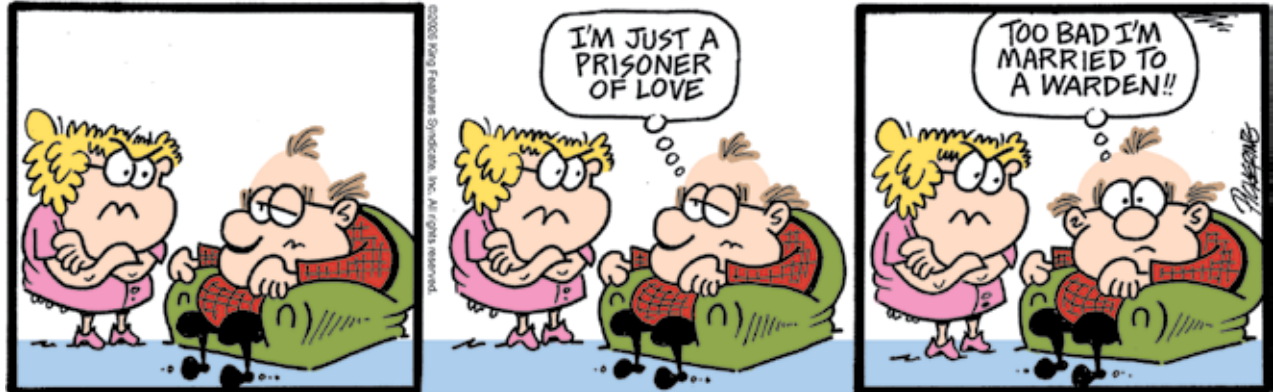
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



PIONEER PORTRAITS

Fifteen Years Ago July 14, 2011

The Bulldogs may have won the first Touchet Valley Ryder Cup, but the stage is set for a new tradition in a longstanding rivalry with the ball in the court of Waitsburg and Prescott. Dayton beat the "WP" contingent of community golfers 27.5 to 23.5 after three days of golf one player said "made for a very interesting format." The event featured players from Waitsburg/Walla Walla County against Dayton/Columbia County in a European-style men's golf tournament. Three formats were used and no handicaps were assigned, said Kim Lyonnais of Dayton, who instigated the contest with fellow coordinator TJ Scott of Waitsburg.

Twenty-Five Years Ago July 12, 2001



[Photo Caption] Kimmie Hamann, 5, center, joins a long line of grandchildren of Waitsburg's Jan Cronkrite who have performed in WWCC Foundation summer musicals. The production "State Fair" opens tonight at the Fort Walla Walla Amphitheater. At left is Morgan Clark.

Fifty Years Ago July 8, 1976



[Photo Caption] Brenda Gales looks up for encouragement in a tense moment during the pie eating contest on the Fourth of July. Each contestant eats a whole pie without using arms or legs. The berry pies caused some messy faces.

Seventy-Five Years Ago July 13, 1951

Mrs. Frank Neace and Mrs. Marcia Weir returned from Europe Sunday where they had traveled in various countries for six weeks.

Deana Land and Patsy Perrichord left Monday morning for the Christian Church camp at Zephyr Lodge at Liberty Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Taylor and children left Wednesday for their new home in Arvin, California.

One Hundred Years Ago July 16, 1926

The cornerstone of the new high school will be laid next Tuesday, July 20 at 4 o'clock. The school board has invited the Masonic Grand Lodge to conduct the Grand Lodge to conduct the ceremony and Grand Master Walter Meier of Seattle will be in charge.

Born in this city Thursday, July 8, 1926 to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Roberts, a son.

Henry Vollmer has finished threshing 30 acres of barley on his home place from which he got 900 sacks. He is now harvesting his wheat on the Preston place.

One Hundred Twenty-Five Years Ago July 19, 1901

Ike Atkinson, proprietor of The Club, a few days ago received a double barreled, breech loading Remington shot gun with leather case which Ike obtained by sending in 5,000 star-tobacco tags. The gun is valued at \$50.00.

Miss Caroline Abbey gave a croquet party to a large number of her friends last Thursday evening. Luncheon was served.

The firm of Ingram and Patton is having their leased room in the Royal Block remodeled, painted, etc. preparing to open up their new dry goods store in a few weeks. Mr. Patton is still in the east purchasing goods.

PUZZLES & LIFESTYLES

Super Crossword

Q2 REPORT

- ACROSS**
- 1 Pet plagues
 - 5 Keg party dispensers
 - 13 Iranian city with a 1,200,000+ population
 - 16 Brainpower stats
 - 19 Cries of awe
 - 20 Having hay fever, say
 - 21 Italian "a"
 - 22 Bring to court
 - 23 More proficient than anybody else
 - 26 Tchr.'s union
 - 27 Figure skating leap
 - 28 Sauna setting
 - 29 Photo lab blowup; Abbr.
 - 30 Barbie or Ken
 - 31 "He wouldn't hurt —"
 - 33 Fairly often
 - 38 Kung — chicken
 - 39 Extremist sect
 - 40 Female graduates
 - 41 Ball hitter in a certain court
 - 47 Center or glottis lead-in
 - 48 Old JFK jet
 - 51 Tallinn locale
 - 52 — Christian Andersen
 - 53 She sang "Skyfall"
 - 55 Grandma, in Italy
 - 57 Sri Lankan monkey with a hatlike whorl of hair
 - 62 Nosy sort
 - 65 Yuletide poem opener
 - 67 Skip out (on)
 - 68 Business attire
 - 69 French "the"
 - 70 Dental buildup
 - 73 Joked around
 - 75 Cooler cubes
 - 76 Competent
 - 78 Gallivant
 - 79 Doubt-free
 - 80 Deep-seated
 - 82 Cartoon short featuring a bird who was a precursor to Tweety
 - 85 Lamp cover
 - 88 Sheer
 - 89 Goopy cheese
 - 91 Designer with the fragrance Lucky Wish
 - 95 Quaint suffix with poet
 - 96 Reply to "Are you?"
 - 99 Dropping extra work and "acting your wage"
 - 101 Wicca's realm
 - 103 Jethro — (rock band)
 - 104 Excavate
 - 105 NHL team that became the Colorado Avalanche
 - 111 Saintliness
 - 113 Draws upon
 - 114 Nutrition fig.
 - 115 Debt memo
 - 116 Tear apart
 - 117 — Lady of Fatima
 - 118 Algebraic statement graphed as a parabola
 - 125 Bi- plus one
 - 126 Poet's dusk
 - 127 Counterpart of digital (Var.)
 - 128 Norway port
 - 129 Kong, for one
 - 130 1950s prez
 - 131 Actor Clint
 - 132 "Sheesh, close call!"
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Hitter Gehrig
 - 2 Tiny particle
 - 3 "Calm down!"
 - 4 Suffix similar to "ish"
 - 5 Joan of folk
 - 6 Letter after kay
 - 7 English cathedral city
 - 8 Necessary; Abbr.
 - 9 Have faith in
 - 10 Visibly awed
 - 11 Relative of risotto
 - 12 — -fi
 - 13 Latin for "five"
 - 14 A single block of sugar, say
 - 15 Irate
 - 16 Playground comeback
 - 17 Subdue
 - 18 Serta rival
 - 24 Stage actress
 - 25 Have a hunch
 - 30 Genetic stuff
 - 31 Vaulted church area
 - 32 E-help pages
 - 33 Sacred book of Islam
 - 34 Suffix with form
 - 35 Hanker (for)
 - 36 Disloyal type
 - 37 Seminal '40s computer
 - 39 Goatee spot
 - 42 Top-shelf
 - 43 Pig's noise
 - 44 Doha locale
 - 45 Pizza chain, informally
 - 46 Atty.'s title
 - 48 Costume spangle
 - 49 Channel for excess water
 - 50 Move like a seesaw
 - 54 Govt. lawyers
 - 56 "Shaq —!"
 - 58 Lyft rival
 - 59 Makes lighter
 - 60 Sch. close to Harvard
 - 61 Heady drink
 - 62 Dental buildup
 - 63 Disproves
 - 64 Land specks in the sea
 - 66 Bank bought by Chase in 2008, in brief
 - 71 Financier Onassis
 - 72 "Apollo 13" director
 - 73 Andrews of Howard
 - 74 Failed to
 - 77 Dallas-to-Nashville dir.
 - 79 Assistant on iDevices
 - 81 Uncluttered
 - 83 In a — (very quickly)
 - 84 — Dhabi (emirate)
 - 86 Schleps
 - 87 Deep blue dye
 - 90 Dying rebuke from Caesar
 - 92 Course part, in an eatery
 - 93 Course part, in school
 - 94 — Azalea ("Fancy" rapper)
 - 97 Like built-up interest
 - 98 Ordinary
 - 99 Div. of an NBA game
 - 100 "— Sera, Sera"
 - 101 Drs. who deliver babies
 - 102 Washerful
 - 105 Sales target number
 - 106 Seize illegally
 - 107 Hair-raising
 - 108 Pop diva
 - 109 Teeny bits
 - 110 Thick cover
 - 111 Item in a pod
 - 112 Being pulled
 - 116 Regretted greatly
 - 118 End-of-proof abbr.
 - 119 TV actress
 - 120 Dairy beast
 - 121 Psyche part
 - 122 Status —
 - 123 Corrida cry
 - 124 This minute

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Weekly SUDOKU

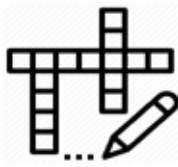
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
 ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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MY RECIPES

Luke Chavez

Apricot and Cherry Clafoutis with Basil Whipped Cream



Recently, a family friend presented us with a box overloaded with lovely, plump apricots from his yard. As they are one of my favorite fruits, and one that we don't have growing in our own yard, I was thrilled. After several jars worth of jam making, we still had some of these sweet stone fruits to experiment with in the kitchen. In my quest for effortless recipes for showcasing seasonal fruits, I had recently bookmarked a Julia Child master recipe for clafoutis, a classic dessert from the Limousin region of central France. In my version, with a summery mix of plump cherries and apricots, the resulting dish has a silky texture somewhere between a custard and a cake. For serving, I made whipped cream infused with some basil from our garden.

Ingredients:

For the Whipped Cream:

- 1 cup heavy cream
- ½ cup fresh basil leaves, torn
- 2 to 3 tablespoons confectioner's sugar

For the Clafoutis:

- Butter for greasing pan
- ¾ pound ripe apricots, halved and pitted
- ¾ pound ripe cherries, halved and pitted
- 3 eggs
- ⅔ cup granulated sugar
- 1 tablespoon vanilla
- ½ cup flour
- Pinch of salt
- 1 ¼ cups whole milk

Directions:

In advance, work on the whipped cream. Pour the heavy cream into a small saucepan and set over medium-high heat. When the cream just starts to simmer, remove from the heat and stir in the basil leaves. Set aside and let the basil steep in the cream for 30 minutes. Then strain out the leaves and place infused cream in the refrigerator to chill for at least 1 hour.

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. Lightly butter a 9- or 10-inch ceramic pie or tart pan. Decoratively arrange the fruit, cut side up, in the pan, covering the bottom. It is okay to overlap the fruit a bit.

In a medium mixing bowl, beat the eggs with the sugar and vanilla. Add the flour and salt, whisking until smooth. Next, add the milk a little bit at a time, whisking between each addition, until smooth. Make sure the batter is completely free of lumps. The mixture will be very wet, like crêpe batter. Pour the batter over the fruit, being careful that all the fruit is submerged. Use a rubber spatula to get all the batter from the bowl.

Bake in preheated oven for 40 minutes, until the clafoutis has puffed up and the top has turned a light golden brown. If needed, bake for an additional 5 to 10 minutes. The clafoutis will still have a slight jiggle but should be just set and firm in the middle.

Remove from the oven and allow to cool on a wire rack. While cooling, pour basil infused cream into a chilled mixing bowl, preferably a metal bowl. Add the confectioner's sugar, then use a whisk or an electric hand-held mixer to whip the cream until soft peaks start to hold. Don't over whip the cream. Taste and add more sugar if needed. Serve the clafoutis slightly warm or at room temperature with a dollop of basil whipped cream.

Notes:

This versatile recipe can be made with any seasonal ripe fruit that you have available. In southern France, the traditional version of clafoutis is usually made with just black cherries. Plums, nectarines, or peaches would all be divine. Ripe berries, such as marionberries, huckleberries, or raspberries would all be lovely in any combination. You could add a little orange zest to the fruit for a slightly brighter flavor.

Bon appétit! Enjoy!

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Super Crossword

Answers

B	A	R	B	R	A		O	B	A	M	A		M	I	S	O		L	A	B			
M	A	N	I	A	C		E	R	R	O	R		A	T	T	I	T	U	D	E			
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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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



LAST PAGE

Community Calendar

WAITSBURG MONTHLY MEETINGS

Waitsburg City Council

No meeting in July

Planning Commission

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

Waitsburg Parks and Recreation Public Meeting

First Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m. @ Waitsburg City Hall
Info email: info@waitsburgparks.org



Waitsburg School Board

Third Thursday of every month @ 6 p.m. at the Waitsburg Elementary School Library. Zoom info is available at Waiatburgsd.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 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

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. Weller Public Library, 212 Main St.

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 1/2 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 info at 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 2026 are 2nd Thursday of each month, @ 6:30 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.

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

Lunches

WAITSBURG SENIOR CENTER

504 Main Street
11 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, July 14

Spaghetti & Meat Sauce
Garlic Bread
MOW: Vegetable
Fruit, Coleslaw
IN HOUSE: Salad Bar

WAITSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

FREE SUMMER MEALS

Waitsburg Schools will provide free meals to any child 18 years and younger during the summer break at the Elementary multi-purpose room starting June 24.

The program ends on July 19, and meals will not be served on July 4.

Breakfast will be served Monday through Friday, 8:30 to 9 a.m., and lunch from noon to 12:30 p.m.



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