



The Times

Thursday
February 5, 2026
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SERVING WAITSBURG, DAYTON AND THE TOUCHET VALLEY

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ONE DOLLAR



Lane Gwinn

The Mythical/Movable Bluegrass Jam has a new venue – Wolfing Coffee in Waitsburg. Over fifteen musicians, and more in the audience, came to the new coffee shop on Friday evening. The shop will be in the regular rotation, hosting the jam once a month with coffee, teas, and housemade baked goods. (l-r) Scott Smith on saxophone, Kelly McFarley on mandolin, and Jimmye Turner on guitar.

THIS WEEK



Alumni Spotlight
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Cardinal Sports
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Pioneer Portraits
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Walla Walla nonprofit awarded \$1m towards new treatment facility

By Lane Gwinn | THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA — Blue Mountain Heart to Heart has been awarded \$1,000,000 from a congressionally directed appropriation sponsored by Senator Maria Cantwell. The funds are to be used towards a new BMH2H facility in Walla Walla. The proposed project will convert a 14,000 sq. ft. warehouse at 3 W. Poplar to a state-of-the-art clinic, classroom, social services, and case management facility. Outpatient services at this site will include substance use treatment, individual and group counseling, a small food pantry, case management, STI, HIV, and hepatitis C testing, and prevention education.

BMH2H has broken the project into three phases:

Phase I – Completing the first floor with clinical and prevention services, the food pantry, patient lab, workroom, breakroom, mechanical room, and parking for the mobile clinic.

Phase II – Second floor with elevator, classroom suite, and case management and administrative offices.

Phase III – Exterior facelift and roof upgrade.

When completed, BMH2H will consolidate its Walla Walla staff and services to the S. Poplar building, closing the Alder Street and S. Second Avenue locations.

In 2022, Washington State Representative Skyler Rude and State Senator Perry Dozier sponsored a \$500,000 capital budget award for use in the Poplar Street building's exterior renovation.

"We are thrilled to have this support to expand our care practice in Walla Walla," said Everett Maroon, BMH2H's Executive Director. "This facility will offer our



Submitted photo

Senator Maria Cantwell and BMH2H Executive Director Everett Maroon.

model of integrated care with greater capacity to provide walk-in and same-day service for opioid treatment, hepatitis C treatment, and to get people connected to care. I'm excited to see what good we can do with the building."

BMH2H and the City of Walla Walla are nearing the end of the construction planning and permitting phase. Bidding is likely to be announced by mid-March.

Cantwell has been aware of BMH2H's clinical work since it began a pilot project in conjunction with the University of Washington. Findings from that study led to the Health Engagement Hub model for all-in-one locations where drug users can access a range of medical, harm reduction, and social services.

The Washington Health Care Authority has contracted with BMH2H to offer two Health Engagement Hub sites in the pilot program.

Blue Mountain Heart to Heart is a community-based nonprofit 501(c) organization serving marginalized communities in rural areas. It celebrated its 40th Anniversary last year. For more information, visit bluemountainheart.org.

An icy winter campout for Waitsburg Troop 337

By Karen Huwe | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG — From January 23 to 25, eight members and four leaders of Waitsburg Scout Troop 337 spent their annual winter campout weekend in below-freezing temperatures. There was no snow, as the group had hoped, only temperatures from 13 degrees to the low 20s.

Scouts Ameilia Alleman, Natalia Alleman, Shylo Hedges, T. J. Hollingsworth, Kaitlynn Miller, Katherine Roberts, Victoria Roberts, and Sidian Stegall braved the cold temperatures, sleeping in tents at Lady Bug Campground. Troop leaders Justin Stegall, Tim Hollingsworth, Jon Roberts, and Sarah Roberts also shared the cold camping experience.

The troop arrived on Friday afternoon, made a campfire, set up tents, and prepared their evening meal. Before heading home on Sunday, the scouts endured the cold while working on rank advancement, cooking merit badges, and identifying plants and animal signs on nature walks.

The kids worked on first aid skills, including building a litter for evacuating patients. They also worked on a scoutcraft challenge to build a bridge without using any knots.

After hearing stories about coats frozen to boards at winter scout camps, Sidian Stegall conducted a scientific experiment during the weekend. He dunked a T-Shirt in the creek, laid it out on the picnic table, and timed how long it would take to freeze; it only took about 10 minutes.

Victoria Roberts is the newest troop member after attaining her Arrow of Light rank in December to cross over from Cub Scouts. All current 5th graders are eligible to join in March.

The Waitsburg Troop 337 was reestablished in April 2023 by Sarah Roberts, Jon Roberts, Justin Stegall, and Tim Hollingsworth. The troop has benefitted from the Waitsburg Lions Club's continued support. The troop members are involved in community service, including volunteering at the library and the Lions Club Rib and Salmon feeds.

The Waitsburg troop is a Scouts BSA program for ages 11-17 through Scouting America. Troop 337 is a "family troop" for boys and girls under one scoutmaster. Anyone interested in joining or wanting more information about Waitsburg Troop 337 can email bs.troop.337@gmail.com.



Courtesy photo

An emergency litter was made to transport a volunteer "patient."



Sidian Stegall's frozen T-Shirt.

NEWS BRIEFS

NEWS BRIEFS

AT THE LIBERTY:

"Hamnet"

February 6-10

THE TIMES

DAYTON — From Academy Award winning writer and director Chloé Zhao, "Hamnet" is the story that inspired Shakespeare's timeless masterpiece, "Hamlet". In 16th-century England, Agnes and William Shakespeare grapple with grief after losing their son, Hamnet, to the plague.

A healer, Agnes must have strength to care for their surviving children as she grieves her devastating loss. Jessie Buckley won a Golden Globe for Actress in a Drama Motion Picture and is nominated for an Oscar. She is joined by Paul Mescal as William. It is rated PG-13 for thematic content, some strong sexuality, and partial nudity. Runtime is 125 minutes.

"Hamnet" has positive ratings from critics and the audience on Rotten Tomatoes. With a rating of 86%, the critics said, "Breaking hearts and mending them in one fell swoop, "Hamnet" speculates on the inspiration behind Shakespeare's masterpiece with palpable emotional force thanks to Jessie Buckley and Paul Mescal's astonishing performances." An audience member wrote, "Superb acting and cinematography. Engaging story. Memorable all around." The audience rates "Hamnet" a strong 93%.

The Liberty Theater is hosting a night of romance with a free screening of the 1953 film classic "Roman Holiday" at 7 p.m. on February 14—reserve tickets at libertytheater.org.

Enjoy a night out with your special someone or come with friends for a fun night of nostalgia. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. Regular concessions, including popcorn drizzled with real butter, will be available, along with the following specials: Gelato from Colville Street Patisserie, flowers by Paige's Floral and Gifts, and Champagne, wine, and sparkling cider. Hotel Hardware in Dayton is offering \$30 off any stay on Feb 14 when booked directly at www.hotelhardware.com. Hotel Hardware is the sponsor of the evening's movie, so admission is free.

THE LIBERTY THEATER - DAYTON
THRIFTY \$6 TUESDAYS
 Friday 7:00 pm
 Saturday 7:00 pm
 Sunday 3:00 pm
 Tuesday 6:30 pm
FEBRUARY 6-10
 Rated PG-13 for thematic content, some strong sexuality, and partial nudity
 Runtime: 125 minutes
HAMNET



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RED CROSS ASK FOR DONORS AFTER WINTER STORMS WORSEN BLOOD SHORTAGE

THE TIMES

KENNEWICK — The American Red Cross urges people to immediately take action to help offset the severe impact of recent winter storms on the nation's already depleted blood supply from an ongoing blood shortage. Dangerous ice and snow conditions have disrupted the ability to collect and transport lifesaving blood products for patients in need.

More than 500 blood drives have been canceled since the beginning of the year, resulting in more than 20,000 blood and platelet donations going uncollected. In addition to disrupting blood drives, severe weather conditions affect the transport of vital blood products, potentially delaying deliveries to hospitals.

Shortfalls in blood and platelet donations from recent winter storms strain the national blood supply, forcing some hospitals to cancel elective procedures due to shortages. When supplies are critically low, trauma surgeons and other doctors face the real possibility that blood could run out when it's needed most.

The Red Cross is asking eligible donors to make an appointment to give blood or platelets as soon as possible. As an encouragement, the Red Cross will give donors through February 28, 2026, a \$20 e-gift card to a merchant of their choice. Visit RedCrossBlood.org/Heart for details.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities Feb. 10-28 in Walla Walla:

- 2/10/2026: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Walla Walla Presbyterian Church, 325 S 1st Ave
- 2/11/2026: 11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Foundry Vineyards Walla Walla, 1111 Abadie Street
- 2/18/2026: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Providence St. Mary Medical Center, 401 W. Poplar
- 2/19/2026: 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Walla Walla Community College, 500 Tausick Way
- 2/23/2026: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., YMCA Walla Walla, 340 S Park Street
- 2/27/2026: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Walla Walla, 1821 S 2nd Ave
- 2/27/2026: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., St Pauls Episcopal Church, 323 Catherine Street

WAITSBURG BOOSTER CLUB
BID FOR THE BIRDS
 SILENT AUCTION
 SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2026
 6:00PM TO 8:00PM AT THE ROYAL BLOCK
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COLUMBIA P&R POOL DISTRICT UPDATE

THE TIMES

DAYTON — The regular meeting of the Columbia County Parks and Recreation Pool District was held Jan. 29 at the fire station in Dayton. Discussed was the 2026 Legislative grant submitted by grant writer Elsa Watson. There are three additional grants pending submission.

On May 23, the district will be having a yard sale to benefit the pool. The commissioners are asking for donations of clean, usable items for the sale—contact Commissioner Terri Hessler at wt Hessler@gmail.com for more information or to donate.

In July, the district will host the Duck Derby during Alumni Weekend to raise funds for the Dayton pool project. Commissioner Katie Leid will spearhead the duck-filled activity.

The commissioners expressed appreciation to Columbia County voters for passing the recent levy and remain committed to building a municipal pool as soon as possible.

SYDNEY SMITH SWIMS TO TEN WINS AT COUGAR WINTER OPEN

By Karen Huwe | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG — Sydney Smith swam in her last meet as an eight-year-old on the Walla Walla Swim Team. She will move up to the 9-10 age group for the next meet, as her birthday is on February 9. The Waitsburg third grader competed in the Cougar Winter Open at WSU. Cougar Aquatics hosted the event at Gibb Pool on January 31 and February 1.

At the meet, Smith placed first in all 10 of her events, improved her time in seven events, and received the high-point award for the age 8-and-under group. This was a big win for Smith after missing numerous practices due to illness.

Smith's most improved times included 2.75 seconds in the mixed 100-yard individual medley and in the 50-yard backstroke, where she knocked off 1.91 seconds.

BIRTHDAYS

February 5: Tim Abel, Andrea Tuttle, Loretta Hunt, Janet Hart, Jack and Jim Hubbard, Helen Richardson, Chad and Nicholas Pearson.

February 6: Aidan Larsen, Jena Worth, Lorene Wood, Sueann Neace, Crystal Werner, Teresa Luders, George C. Robinson, Shawn Davis, Lloyd Walker, Jade Alleman, Mike Bergevin, and James Harri.

February 7: Wendy Cobb, Thomas Reese, Melvin and Michael Newbill,

and Connie Wyrick.

February 8: Talen Larsen, Doug Beckel, Betty Klundt, Karen Hansen, Jani Jansen, Judy White, and Judy Helm Gross.

February 9: Gabe Hofer, Thomas House, and Jasper Streeter Hubbard.

February 10: Susan Kenney, Betty Harpe, and Ryan Wertz.

February 11: Erika Heibrun, Jeff Christensen, Jill Bickelhaupt, Micki Payne, and Jean McCown.

CLASSIFIEDS FOR SALE

For sale: Community drop now open in Washtucna! Azure Standard, which currently serves Dixie and Dayton now has a community drop in Washtucna! Order health foods and natural goods online to be delivered in a refrigerated truck. www.azurestandard.com

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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. 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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OBITUARY

Betty Jean Johnson

July 23, 1933 – December 26, 2025

With great sadness, our family announces the passing of Betty Jean Johnson. Betty died at the age of 92 in the early morning hours of December 26, 2025, after having spent Christmas Day with her family at the home of Larry and Linda Conover in Waitsburg, Washington. It was a day filled with love and special moments.

She loved her family and appreciated the time she spent with them. One of the last things she said on Christmas Day was that she wished her children were little again, and that she was doing all of this for them.

Betty was born on July 23, 1933, in St. John, Washington, to her parents, Cora (Cody) and Cecil Swift. She started school in Grand Coulee and attended Lewis & Clark High School in Spokane, Washington, where she was a good student. She especially loved singing in the choir and playing the violin.

In 1948, when she was a sophomore in high school, she met the love of her life, Bobbie Lee Johnson, at a roller rink party. After dating for several months, they were married on August 22, 1948, in Cashmere, Washington. Shortly after they got married, they started their family. Their children were all born in Spokane. Their eldest daughter, Sherrie, was born in 1949; the twins, Belinda and Linda, in 1950; Bobby in 1951; and Mitzi in 1953. Betty was a loving wife and doting mother.

The family lived in Spokane for several years and enjoyed going to nearby Liberty Lake and Lake Coeur d'Alene with friends and family. Betty also enjoyed baking, cooking, and sewing. Through the years, she enjoyed making special birthday cakes for her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

As an ironworker, Bobbie often traveled out of town for work. It was difficult for him to be away from his family, so when the children were in grade school, it was decided that the family would travel with him. Over five years' time, the family lived in Oregon, Utah, Montana, and Arizona. They moved to Waitsburg, Washington in 1962, and decided to stay and call it home.

Betty and Bobbie enjoyed spending time with their children and their children's friends. Their house was always filled with laughter. For much of Betty's life, she enjoyed going to movies and plays, often taking her children and grandchildren with her. Later in life, she became a Gonzaga Bulldogs fan.

Betty lived in Waitsburg for several years after the death of her husband in 1973. She attended Walla Walla Community College, where she received her G.E.D. She then worked for DSHS in Dayton for several years. In 1982, she moved to the Seattle area to be closer to Mitzi, Sherrie, Bobby, and their children. She worked as a nanny for several years before she moved to Kennewick to be closer to Belinda, Linda, and their children.

She later lived in Dayton, Walla Walla, and College Place before moving back to Dayton. At the time of her passing, she resided at Rivers Walk Assisted Living.

She was preceded in death by her husband Bobbie, her daughter Sherrie Land, her mother Cora Hart, father Cecil Swift, stepmother Norma Swift, stepfather Pete Hart, sister Sammy Long, brother-in-law Gene Anderson, son-in-law Ron Sullivan, nephew-by-marriage Gene Crothers, and nephew Danny Anderson.

She is survived by her children, Belinda Garner (Terry), Linda Conover (Larry), Bobby Johnson (Nita), and Mitzi Sullivan.

She is also survived by her grandchildren Melanie Land, Justin Land, Dayne Johnson, Layce Silvey, Jillian Sullivan, Stephanie Williams, Ian Johnson-Williams, Kaylee Anderson, Cody Garner, Barb Cooper, Christie Primiano, Jennifer Garner, and Terry Garner, Jr.; great-grandchildren, Madilyn, Daniel, Christopher, Carter, Ellis, Nora, Emma, Dayton, Breanna, Jada, Anthony, Emily, Eli, Makayla, Sophia, Chase, Lyla, Cade, and Cole; and great-great-grandchildren: Elowin, Kendon, and Jaxon.

Betty's family would like to thank her good friends Jeanie and Dianne for the many hours they spent visiting her at Rivers Walk. They made her feel very special. We would also like to thank the wonderful staff at Rivers Walk Assisted Living in Dayton, Washington for the exceptional care she received while she was there.

Betty recently converted to the Catholic faith and was baptized on July 27, 2025. Her service will be held at the Waitsburg Catholic Church this spring, with a graveside service to follow at the Waitsburg City Cemetery.



Betty Jean Johnson

WAITSBURG ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Monte Pettichord, Class of 2023

THE TIMES

When the 8 lb. 9 oz., 21-inch boy arrived, no one guessed that a mighty Cardinal had just entered the world.

Monte Pettichord was born in Walla Walla on February 18, 2005, to Danny and Phoebe. Growing up, Monte enjoyed many outdoor activities, often involving a ball of some sort, other times a fishing pole.

Pettichord attended school in Waitsburg from second grade through high school.

At school, Pettichord's love of sports grew, and by high school, he was an accomplished athlete. He won all-conference honors in football as a quarterback and defensive back. He and the Waitsburg-Dayton basketball team made it to the state tournament in Pettichord's senior year.

Off the football field and the basketball court, Pettichord was a dedicated student with a GPA that approached 3.9.

After graduating from WHS in June 2023, Pettichord is continuing his education and athletic endeavors at Eastern Oregon University in LaGrande, Oregon. There, he plays football while pursuing a degree in accounting.



Courtesy photo

Monte Pettichord continues his athletic success at EOU.

This fall, Monte will enter the season as a redshirt junior playing safety.

Pettichord works as a delivery driver at a furniture company to help pay for his education.

The Waitsburg Alumni Association awarded Pettichord two scholarships, in 2024 and 2025, which he said helped meet his financial needs at school.

While Pettichord is busy juggling his academic, athletic, and work activities, he occasionally finds time to fish and hunt, a love passed down through his family. He also finds time to keep in close contact with his family, who are great supporters of his journey. He gave a shoutout to his Great-Grama Kay.

SNAKE RIVER LITTLE LEAGUE SIGN UPS

WAITSBURG — Spring baseball is back. Registration is now open to new and returning players, ages 4 through 12, for T-Ball and Little League. The deadline to register is February 15.

Scan the QR code below to register online:



Lane Gwinn

Landon Long and Adi Knighton playing T-Ball in Waitsburg last year.

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

Transportation

Extracurriculars

Preschool

Food Services

Music

STEM

Student Support

Maintenance & Operations

Technology

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

Estimated rates per \$1,000 assessed property value.

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

- 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.
- 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.

Learn more at www.waitsburgsd.org/levy or contact the Waitsburg Superintendent's Office at 509-337-6301

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Thursday, February 5, 2026 - THE TIMES | 3

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICES

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

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA
NO: 26-4-00016-36
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
RCW 11.40.030

In re the Estate of:
ZACHARY RYAN COLLINS,
Deceased.

The personal representative named below has been appointed as a personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time of 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 29, 2026
Personal Representative: /s/ Yvonne 'Lynn' Berry Attorney for Personal Representative: Peter J. Hess, WSBA #39721
Hess Law Office PLLC
415 North Second Ave.
Walla Walla, WA 99362
(509) 525-4744
The Times
January 29, February 5, 12, 2026
1-29-c

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 WALLA WALLA COUNTY
NO: 26-4-00022-36
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
RCW 11.40.030

In re the Estate of:
TROY G. VINYARD,
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 29, 2026
Personal Representative: /s/ William Aaron Vinyard Attorney for the Personal Representative: Mona J. Geidl of Minnick-Hayner, PS
Address for Mailing Service: Minnick-Hayner
P.O. Box 1757
Walla Walla, WA 99362
(509) 527-3500
The Times
January 29, February 5, 12, 2026
1-29-a

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA
NO: 26-4-00019-36
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
RCW 11.40.030

In re the Estate of:
STEVEN MICHAEL SUTHERLAND,
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 by RCW 11.40.070 by serving or mailing to 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 creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) Four (4) 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 bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: January 29, 2026
Personal Representative: /s/ Lanna Stemmer Counsel for Personal Representative: Michael E. de Grasse, Lawyer
59 S. Palouse St.
P.O. Box 494
Walla Walla, WA 99362
The Times
January 29, February 5, 12, 2026
1-29-b

ORDINANCE SUMMARY

Pursuant to RCW 35A.12.160, the Council of the City of Prescott hereby approves for publication the following Ordinance Summary: The Ordinance summarized is Ordinance No. 2025-06, adopted by the Council of the City of Prescott on November 24, 2025.

The Ordinance establishes the City's 2026 budget. The Ordinance is divided into four (4) sections: Section 1 adopts the 2026 Budget for the City of Prescott. Section 2 states the estimated resources for each separate fund of the City, totaling \$477,211.13 in revenue sources, and appropriates total expenditures in the amount of \$477,211.13, broken down by fund as follows: (a) General Fund (\$225,034.00); (b) Street Fund (\$101,700.00); and (c) Water Utility Fund (\$150,477.13).

Section 3 states that the City Clerk shall transmit a certified copy of the budget to the State Auditor's Office and to the Association of Washington Cities. Section 4 states that the Ordinance shall take effect five days after its publication. A copy of the entire Ordinance will be mailed upon request or may be examined at City Hall. This Ordinance was APPROVED by the Council of the City of Prescott on the 24th day of November, 2025. /s/ Karen Gleason
Mayor
The Times
February 5, 12, 2026
2-5-b

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 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 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

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

DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: January 29, 2026
Co-Personal Representatives: Carol S. Hopkins, and Louis E. Riley, Jr.
Attorney for Co-Personal Representatives: Christine M. Wallace, WSB # 20134
801 S. Main Street
Milton-Freewater, OR 97862
(541) 938-3379
The Times
January 29, February 5, 12, 2026
1-29-d

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS: ANNUAL ESTABLISHMENT OF SMALL WORKS

ROSTER
Agency Name: City of Prescott
Date of Notice: January 26, 2026
Notice is hereby given that the City of Prescott is updating its Small Works Roster for the 2026 calendar year. We invite all qualified and licensed contractors to submit a letter of intent for inclusion on the roster.

1. Project Scope The Roster will be used to select contractors for various public works projects, including but not limited to:

- General Construction & Tenant Improvements
- HVAC, Electrical, and Plumbing

- Roadway Maintenance & Paving

- Landscaping and Irrigation

2. Estimated Costs This roster applies to projects with an estimated cost of less than \$150,000, excluding sales tax.

3. Application Process Contractors must submit a completed application including proof of valid licensure, insurance, and a statement of experience.

- Digital Submission: Clerk@cityofprescottwa.com

- Physical Submission: PO Box 27, Prescott, WA 99348

4. Compliance The City of Prescott is an equal opportunity employer. Small, minority-owned, and women-owned businesses are encouraged to apply. All contractors must comply with prevailing wage laws and provide a performance bond when required by law.

Contact: Nathaniel Murphy | 509-876-6790/Clerk@cityof-prescottwa.com
The Times
February 5, 12, 2026
2-5-a

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA
NO: 26-4-00023-36
NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS

In the Matter of the Estate of:
JANICE RAE RILEY,
Deceased.

The Co-Personal Representatives named below have been appointed as Co-Personal Representatives 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 Co-Personal Representatives or the Co-Personal Representatives' 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 Co-Personal Representatives 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 29, 2026
Co-Personal Representatives: Carol S. Hopkins, and Louis E. Riley, Jr.
Attorney for Co-Personal Representatives: Christine M. Wallace, WSB # 20134
801 S. Main Street
Milton-Freewater, OR 97862
(541) 938-3379
The Times
January 29, February 5, 12, 2026
1-29-d



Palouse Outdoors: A Walk through the Understory

By Brad Trumbo | THE TIMES

It had been a minute since I last felt the forest's presence, and not the kind you experience on a typical sunny summer day. The ground was covered in fresh, soft snow, untouched by high winds throwing twigs and limbs or branches dripping from rising temperatures. While the evergreen forest often carries a solemn aura, nothing compares to the quiet, soothing heaviness of dark timber beneath a blanket of snow.

The creek tumbled behind us with the migrating waters of the unusually warm, rainy season we've experienced so far. The surrounding snow muffled the canyon's echo, soaking in the stream's rush like a sponge. The result was like walking through a gentle, soothing white noise chamber. The forest was entirely still, as if all life had been lulled to sleep, except for a few Oregon juncos.

We had come to hunt grouse, but the idea of shotgun fire breaking the tranquility seemed sinful. Still, I drew the over/under, stuffed an earplug in my left ear, and tucked a few shells into my left hip pocket. "We won't see anything, anyway, will we?" I asked cynically of my youngest setter, Zeta, who couldn't have cared less. She was ready to scorch the earth with speed and agility, jumping over windfalls, drifting through the corners, and possibly spooking every creature into the next canyon.

Zeta vanished in seconds, her orange vest flashing through the shrubbery. Her footfalls were quiet, but the occasional "thwap" of a branch hitting her vest straps let me track her without using the GPS.

Carrying the shotgun felt more customary than purposeful. Like grabbing a favorite hiking stick for a walk in the understory, the hunt isn't quite the same (or a "hunt" at all) without it, and grouse hunting is a different kind of bird hunt entirely.

Ruffed grouse are tricky critters that like to flush wild and throw a curveball when the odds are in the hunter's favor. Zeta and I hunted this same canyon on a similar day before and found a passel of grouse. Most flushed straight into the thickest cover, leaving no time for a shot. Others flushed right over Zeta's forehead, offering no shot. Then there are the birds that flush directly overhead into the tree branches above Zeta before I reach the scene. I find her tentatively on point with a puzzled look, which puzzles me until the big red male, looking nervously at both of us, flushes from just above Zeta.

Grouse hunting demands that the gunner be alert at all times. Past hunters like George Bird Evans and Burton Spiller wrote about this very necessity to succeed in the grouse woods. I can attest to that, since the only days I end up with a grouse in my vest are when my focus and reflexes ride a hair trigger, anticipating the slightest sign of a grouse flush. However, on this day, knowing I wouldn't find any grouse, I was able to relax and drink in the scene. I wore the forest like a cloak, shielded from the outside world.

The first thing I noticed was a sharp American red squirrel track scampering among tree-limb piles



An obligatory post-hunt photo of Trumbo and his youngest setter, Zeta. She has little patience for Dad's she-nigans while hunting.



Mosses and lichens are particularly vibrant when viewed against a snowy backdrop.



A young patch of Oregon grape boasts burgundy leaves that add a pop of color and texture to the forest floor in winter.

and ending at the base of a large ponderosa, where it climbed upward. It may have been watching us, but we would never see it. Red squirrels, like all other animals on the planet (humans included), have routines or at least favorite hangouts. You know you're in their dining room when you come across a log with a pile of pinecone scales spilling off in heaps on the ground.

Crimson rose hips and plump, white snowberries were scattered about the streambank, adding a splash of color and revealing some of the local wild-life's cuisine among the emerald evergreens and snow. The plant that always captures my attention is Oregon grape, *Berberis aquifolium*. This beautiful, low-growing, spiky-leaved plant is part of the barberry family, features a vibrant yellow, clustered flower in the spring, and displays stunning mahogany hues in winter. It bears a tempting purple berry that serves birds as well.

I've read that Native Americans used Oregon grape to treat ailments like arthritis and itchy eyes. Suppos-

edly, the berries act as a laxative, though I haven't tried them. Other uses include making a yellow dye from the roots or bark to color baskets and wool, and it still seems to be used today as a wool dye. Learning about the uses of native plants gives me ideas, but the simplest benefit is their beauty, especially in winter.

I've mentioned before that I believe the sands of time stop when we step outside to appreciate Mother Nature, and this day was no different. We enjoyed the silence of the forest, felt Mother Nature's presence all around us, and took in the fresh air and sense of freedom, protected by the blanket of snow that cleanses the landscape.

We capped the day with an obligatory daddy/daughter photo, then Zeta loaded up, cold, wet, and tuckered out. I tossed her a few cookies, then headed home. We didn't find any grouse, but that really wasn't the point. It was just an excuse to find ourselves and enjoy a moment of peace as we walked through the understory. As if anyone needs an excuse.

CARDINAL SPORTS with Karen Huwe

CARDINAL HS BOYS' BASKETBALL ENDS SEASON

Waitsburg High School boys' varsity basketball team fell to the St. John-Endicott Eagles on Friday, January 30, 80-71.

"Hard loss for us when you score 71, you expect to win, and it didn't happen," said Coach Westin Wallace.

High scorers for the Cardinals were Blake Benavides with 18, freshman Carter Barron had 15, Landen Henry had 10, Paco Kenney had 9, and Rollin Carpenter scored 8.

The JV team beat St. John-Endicott 30-27.

"Good to get a win. We got up by a bit, then played ugly and let SJE back into the game, but we won. It's important to be able to finish out games," said Wallace.

Jake Lynch scored 11, Victor Whitmore seven, Camdyn Vories 6, Carsyn Pennington 4, and Bryer Paul scored 3 points.

On Saturday, January 31, the Cardinals traveled to Dayton to play their last game of the season.

The varsity team lost to the Bulldogs, 66-51. Benevides had 18, Henry had 14, with Kenney, Barron, and Liam Kiefel scoring 4 each. Vories had 3, and Alex Zuniga scored 2 points.

Wallace said the team put in good effort, stepping up in the last game of the season.

"We took care of the ball better, moved better, played defense more confidently, which were all things we had been wanting to improve on this season," said Wallace.

Waitsburg's JV team beat Dayton 40-33 on Saturday.

"Everyone played hard, and it was a great way to end the season for the JV," said Wallace.

Lynch led the way offensively with 14 points. Whitmore had a great rebounding game and scored seven points. Vories played a good defensive game and scored four points. Paul scored seven, Pennington had five points, and Arrow Groom scored two points.

HS GIRLS' SEASON END GAMES

Waitsburg High School girls' basketball team played at St. John-Endicott on Friday, January 30, and played their last game of the season at Dayton on Saturday, January 31.

Against the SJE Eagles, the Lady Cardinals lost 56-19. Eighth grader Audrey Kiefel led the team with eight points and nine rebounds. Cheri Mathews scored five and rebounded seven, Addison Crenshaw, Emerson Underwood, and Joslin Nodine scored two points each. Kayla Kuykendall contributed nine rebounds, Olivia Kiefel rebounded eight, and Kaitlyn Paul had six rebounds in the loss.

The Cardinals struggled at Dayton, losing 62-17. Mathews led the team with five points and seven rebounds. Olivia Kiefel added four points and six rebounds. Crenshaw, Audrey Kiefel, and Nodine scored two points each. Kuykendall and Lilian Carpenter scored one point each.

"The girls worked hard this season. It was really fun to watch how much they improved from last season and over this season. The plan is to keep working in the off-season, so that next year we are even more of a threat," said Coach Kira Waggoner.

WAITSBURG MS GIRLS' BASKETBALL BEAT DAYTON

On Wednesday, January 28, the Waitsburg Middle School girls' basketball team defeated Dayton, 25-15. The Lady Cardinals led throughout the game, improved their defense, and

out-rebounded the Bulldogs.

Reagan Fabian led the team in scoring with 10 points, and four steals. Jaylynn Gleason scored 7 points, rebounded seven, and had three steals. Ryleigh Fabian scored 6 points, rebounded five, and had four steals. Peyton Childers scored 2 points, and Laila Long and Ava McCaw both rebounded strongly, getting five boards each.



Karen Huwe Peyton Childers reaches back for a rebound against Dayton; (l-r) #31 Shylo Hedges, #30 Ryleigh Fabian, Childers, #12 Emma Langford, and Ava McCaw

FUN & GAMES

The Friendly Forest

By Jimmye L. Turner



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



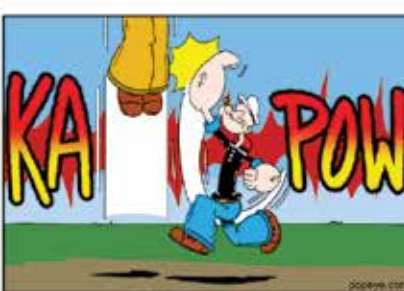
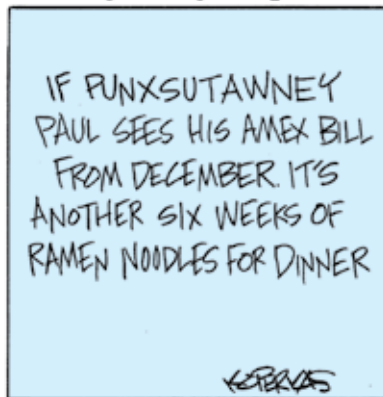
GRIN and BEAR IT



"You've got to stop putting your foot in your mouth, Senator!"

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



PIONEER PORTRAITS

Fifteen Years Ago

February 3, 2010

January's students of the month for Waitsburg Elementary are Brayden Miller 4th grade, Karlie Pettichor 5th grade, Haylee Crow 4th grade, and Chris Philbook 5th grade.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

February 1, 2001

"The Historical Walla Walla Valley" by Dr. Chester Collins Maxey, which has been out of print since 1998, is once again available. Last year Fort Walla Walla Museum was awarded a grant from the Yancey P. Winans Testamentary Trust through Baker Boyer Bank to republish the book. One of the missions of the museum is to assist in the dissemination of knowledge about the history of Walla Walla County and the Pacific Northwest. The book was originally published in 1934 on occasion of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the city of Walla Walla. This is the 4th printing of this popular publication.

Fifty Years Ago

January 29, 1976



[Photo caption] Nearing Completion is the new version of Ginny's Grill in Waitsburg. The new shake and cedar front is completed, and renovation and reflooring of the inside is nearly complete. The new front, with an attractive new sign, is a fine addition to Waitsburg's Main Street.

Seventy-Five Years Ago

February 2, 1951

Miss Doris Stvall was selected as Waitsburg's Good Citizen in the D.A.R. Good Citizenship Pilgrimage contest for 1950-51 by members of the senior class and high school faculty.

Mrs. Bob Collins and Mrs. Jake Smith entertained 16 high school students at a turkey dinner Sunday evening at the Collins home in honor of the 18th birthdays of their sons, Bob Collins and Howard Smith.

One Hundred Years Ago

February 5, 1926

The girls basketball team of the high school played a very creditable game in Clarkston last Saturday night winning by a score of 19-8.

The Waitsburg Commercial Club will observe Lincoln's Birthday Friday, Feb. 12 with a banquet and program at Pythian Hall.

D. W. Casey of Eureka, Wash., who recently purchased the Will Philip's place, east of town was up Saturday.

One Hundred Twenty-Five Years Ago

February 8, 1901

Lloyd and Marvin, and Sol Hardman filled up their icehouse this week with a fine quality of ice from the North Powder.

W. E. Abbey and P. I. Ludwig have pens of blooded chickens at the poultry show at Walla Walla this week.

U.S. Logsdon, of Alto, was in the city Wednesday and honored this office with a call. Mr. Logsdon informed us that he together with his partner A. McMillin had just finished drilling a well for Chris Ennis on his ranch 3 miles below Prescott. They reached a depth of 250 feet.

Lunches

WAITSBURG SENIOR CENTER

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

Tuesday, Feb. 10

Lasagna
Garlic Bread
MOW: Vegetable, Fruit
Coleslaw
IN HOUSE: Salad bar

WAITSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

Thursday Feb. 5

Breakfast
Waffle & Sausage
Lunch
Roasted Hot Dog
Chili
Fruit & Vegetable

Friday, Feb. 6

Breakfast
Scrambled Eggs & Yogurt
Lunch
Pepperoni or Cheese Pizza

Fruit & Vegetable

Monday, Feb. 9

Breakfast
Fruit Parfait
Lunch
Cheeseburger
French Fries
Fruit & Vegetable

Tuesday, Feb. 10

Breakfast
Biscuits & Gravy
Lunch
Fajita Chicken
Quesadilla
Refried Beans
Fruit & Vegetable

Wednesday, Feb. 11

Breakfast
Donut
Lunch
Turkey Sandwich
Something Crunchy
Fruit & Vegetable



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Lloyd's Insurance, Inc

Walla Walla
(509) 525-4110



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WITH YOUR MEDICAL BILLS**



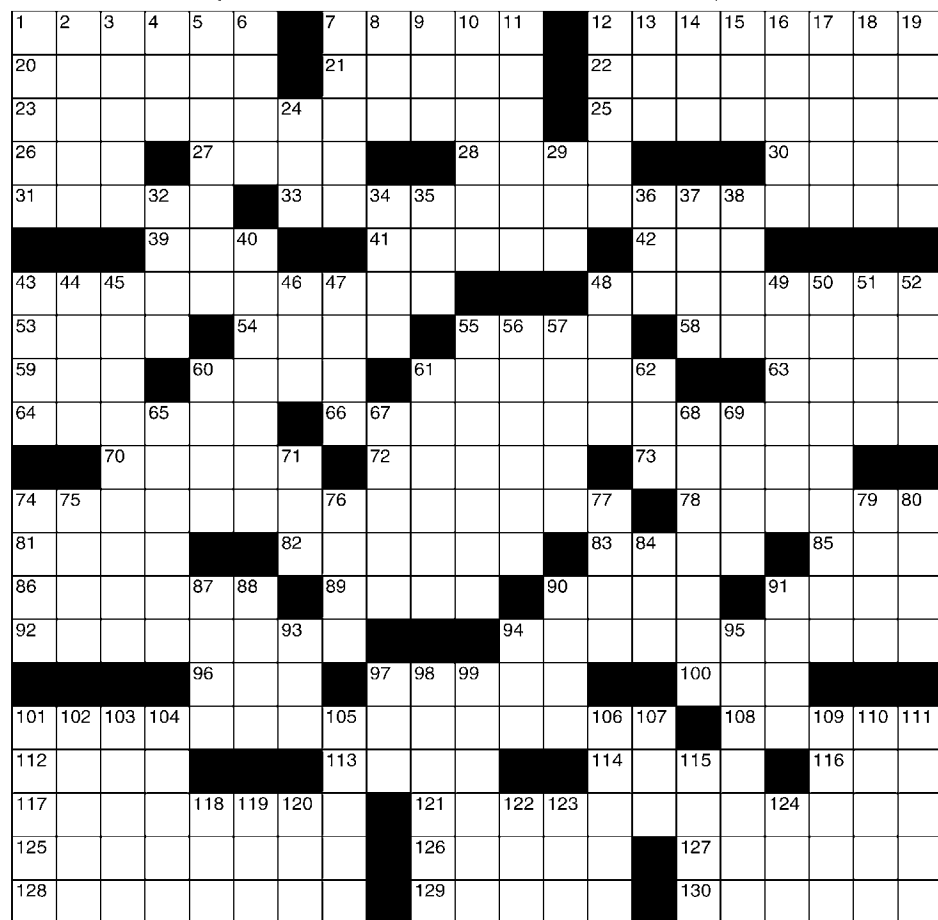
www.cchd-wa.org
509-382-2531

PUZZLES & LIFESTYLES

Super Crossword

FILLED FOOD

- ACROSS**
- 1 "Thank U, Next" singer Grande
 - 7 Yachts, e.g.
 - 12 Keto dieter's nutrient
 - 20 Right-rear bowling target
 - 21 Like Viking script
 - 22 Call to have food delivered
 - 23 Chief justice before William Rehnquist
 - 25 Runaway
 - 26 Fruity drink
 - 27 Reclined
 - 28 Actress Russo
 - 30 Chaplin of "Game of Thrones"
 - 31 Makeovers
 - 33 Application to improve blood flow
 - 39 Stew legume
 - 41 Glazer of "Broad City"
 - 42 Gold, in Italy
 - 43 Person not getting deserved acclaim
 - 48 Chilly tourist lodge
 - 53 New Mexico art mecca
 - 54 Old New York theater
 - 55 Whirled
 - 58 To a greater extent
 - 59 Phased-out cartoon
 - 60 Greek cheese
 - 61 Easels, e.g.
 - 63 Susa's ancient land
 - 64 Take care of
 - 66 Bikers' association
 - 70 Tunes for two
 - 72 Permissible
 - 73 Tiny bits
 - 74 Curveball that breaks over the plate at the very last second
 - 78 Wine vessel
 - 81 Wrinkly tangelo
 - 82 "Joan of Arc" actress Sobieski
 - 83 Acorn trees
 - 85 Grassy tract
 - 86 Wrecked
 - 89 Santa (some winds)
 - 90 Agra dress
 - 91 Feels ill
 - 92 Hip-hop band
 - 94 Thaw after winter
 - 96 Roadhouse
 - 97 Writer Wilde
 - 100 "Fancy that!"
 - 101 Pilot's heading indicator
 - 108 Newton who was knighted
 - 112 Met solo
 - 113 Fishing rod
 - 114 \$5 bills, slangly
 - 116 H.S. lab class
 - 117 "The Velvet Fog"
 - 121 Its menu might include the ends of seven answers in this puzzle
 - 125 Web pop-up, e.g.
 - 126 Be of help to
 - 127 King of pop
 - 128 Salted-away sums of money
 - 129 Mails in, e.g.
 - 130 Isis' brother
 - DOWN**
 - 1 In combat
 - 2 Novelist Charles
 - 3 Way to mark losses
 - 4 Fourth mo.
 - 5 TV ratings
 - 6 Chlumsky of "Veep"
 - 7 Musical Mars
 - 8 "— Gang"
 - 9 Filmmaker Lee
 - 10 — del Fuego
 - 11 TV part
 - 12 Center points
 - 13 Previous to
 - 14 NFL goals
 - 15 OK grade
 - 16 Bow go-with
 - 17 Turbine part
 - 18 — Vista, Mexico
 - 19 Purse piece
 - 24 Pen brand
 - 29 U.S. intel org.
 - 32 Musical work
 - 34 Like swamps
 - 35 Gp. in the Arab League
 - 36 Quadrennial games org.
 - 37 City near Provo
 - 38 NYC area near the Village
 - 40 Go along with
 - 43 37-Down's state
 - 44 Wine valley of California
 - 45 Brief audio file
 - 46 All the rage
 - 47 Midterm, e.g.
 - 48 "500" race
 - 49 Mine vehicle
 - 50 Prevaricates
 - 51 Genesis twin
 - 52 Bausch & —
 - 55 Cheap cigars
 - 56 St. Patrick's Day event
 - 57 "I give up!"
 - 60 Absconded
 - 61 — Artois
 - 62 — -i flick
 - 65 — it out (fighting)
 - 67 Mary-Kate of "Beastly"
 - 68 Latching, e.g.
 - 69 LGA info
 - 71 Fa-la linkup
 - 74 Aaron in "Hamilton"
 - 75 Water, in Chihuahua
 - 76 Get in return
 - 77 Mimic a lion
 - 79 Descended
 - 80 Toward dawn
 - 84 Actress Nicole — Parker
 - 87 Funny Idle
 - 88 Fail to
 - 90 Agile
 - 91 City in Iowa
 - 93 Half of bi-
 - 94 Sink down
 - 95 Hired Japanese hostesses
 - 97 Yoko of "Two Virgins"
 - 98 Taco toppers
 - 99 Split with an ax, say
 - 101 Actor Matt Ryan
 - 102 Actress
 - 103 Small brooks
 - 104 Absorb the loss, in slang
 - 105 Opinion pieces
 - 106 Lou who won three Grammys
 - 107 Japanese sash
 - 109 Hate
 - 110 Garlic mayo
 - 111 Makes do
 - 115 Danish shoe brand
 - 118 Undivided
 - 119 Rule, informally
 - 120 Zine
 - 122 Delhi bread
 - 123 Carried out
 - 124 — Lanka



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Weekly SUDOKU

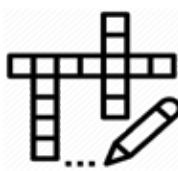
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

- ◆ Moderate
- ◆◆ Challenging
- ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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MY RECIPES

Luke Chavez

Beef Taquitos



Some of the most popular and recognizable foods of Mexico fall into the category of small bites called antojitos, which can be found across the country sold in markets or from street vendors. Translated as "little cravings", these savory dishes, including tacos and chili rellenos, are often served as appetizers or as midday snacks. One of my favorites, taquitos or flautas, are tortillas rolled with flavorful fillings and fried crisp. Perfect served with an array of different salsas, guacamole or crema, these delightful bites make a fun finger food for a party.

Ingredients:

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- ½ small onion, diced
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 pound ground beef
- 1 tablespoon tomato paste
- 1 teaspoon ground chili
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- ½ teaspoon dried oregano
- Salt
- 2 chipotle peppers in adobo sauce, minced (optional, see notes)
- ¼ cup water
- 15 to 18 corn tortillas
- 1 ½ cups Colby Jack cheese, shredded
- Neutral oil for frying or baking

Directions:

In a large skillet, heat olive oil over medium-high heat. Add the onion and sauté until they soften, about 3 minutes. Add the garlic and continue to cook until fragrant about 1 minute. To this add the ground beef, cooking until browned and cooked through, about 8 minutes. Use a wooden spoon to crumble the beef as it browns.

Next, make a well in the center of the pan and add the tomato paste to the open spot. Cook for a minute, stirring frequently, to toast the tomato paste. Add the dried spices along with a generous pinch of salt. Stir to evenly combine everything together then add the chipotle peppers and water. Continue to cook, stirring frequently for another 3 to 5 minutes. Taste and adjust seasoning, adding more salt as needed. Remove from the heat and set aside.

Heat a dry cast-iron skillet or comal over medium-high heat. When hot, cook the tortillas until soft and pliable, about 1 minute per side. Place the tortillas in a tortilla warmer or keep them wrapped in a clean towel as you go so they remain soft.

Assemble the taquitos by placing a heaping spoonful of the beef mixture in the middle of each tortilla. Top the beef with a pinch of the cheese and tightly roll the tortilla into taquitos. Use a toothpick lengthwise to secure the seam closed.

Pour enough oil into a deep skillet or Dutch-oven that will reach a level of at least halfway up the taquitos. Heat the oil over medium-high heat to 350 degrees. Use a thermometer to maintain a steady temperature, adjusting the heat as needed. To test, toss a small piece of tortilla into the oil. If it immediately sizzles, it is ready. Cook in batches of about 3 to 4 taquitos at a time. Fry until lightly golden brown and crisp, about 1 to 2 minutes per side. Allow the oil to heat back up between batches. Transfer fried taquitos to a large platter lined with paper towels, or to wire rack over a sheet pan. Season the taquitos with a small pinch of salt immediately after removing them from the oil. You can place the platter or tray in a warm oven while you continue to fry the batches.

Alternate method:

Instead of frying you could also try baking your taquitos. Preheat the oven to 425 degrees. Place the taquitos in a single layer, on a parchment lined baking sheet. Lightly brush or spray the taquitos with oil on all sides. Bake until golden and crisp, about 15 to 20 minutes. For even baking you could flip the taquitos halfway through the baking time.

**Remember to remove the toothpicks when they are cool enough to handle.

Notes:

Chipotle peppers in adobo sauce are sold in small cans and have a wonderful smoky chili flavor. You can find them in the Latino section of grocery stores, often on the same shelves as canned salsas and roasted green chilis. If you cannot find them you could try using a dash of your favorite Mexican-style hot sauce, or just add more tomato paste.

Make sure to tightly pack your filling when rolling the taquitos. It can also help to gently push the filling inwards on both sides, to hold it all in place.

Serve taquitos with a drizzle of crema or a dollop of sour cream. Top with chopped tomatoes and fresh cilantro. On the side, serve taquitos with your favorite salsa, like pico de gallo, and guacamole. A sprinkle of crumbled cotija cheese is also lovely on top. Serve them as a fun appetizer or make them an entrée with a side of beans and rice.

Enjoy.

Super Crossword

Answers

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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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



LAST PAGE

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.

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 Thursday 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

2nd & 4th Thursdays @ Noon In-person at the Delany Library with online Zoom available.



PRESCOTT MEETINGS

Prescott Joint Park & Rec District (PJPRD) Monthly meetings 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

Waitsburg Christian Church
604 Main St
Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Each Sunday
337-8898
Pastor Cameron Hedges



Events, Film, Performance, Live Music

GAUDY GALS ON MAIN IS BACK FROM WINTER BREAK – FEBRUARY 5

WAITSBURG — After six weeks of winter break, the Gaudy Gals on Main is reopening on Thursday, February 5. There will be lots of spring décor, funky art, one-of-a-kind vintage finds, and special spring décor.

Visit Kim and Lori on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Gaudy Gals

Two Sisters with a Passion for Junque

Mythical/Movable Blue Mountain

Bluegrass Jam

at Hotel Hardware
235 E. Main Street, Dayton
Friday, February 6,
at 7 p.m.



Valentine's Day Dinner by the Q at The Bobcat Room

Saturday, Feb 14
from 5-9 p.m.

The Q Wood Fired Grill will serve a Valentine's Day 3-course dinner.

House Cold Smoked Bacon Bouquet dipped in Chocolate, Roasted Root Vegetable Salad, Steak Oscar (Filet Mignon w/ Asparagus & Bernaise over Crab Meat, and Chocolate Raspberry Pudding Cake w/ Cream. Beer, Wine, & Cocktails sold separately.

Dinner tickets are \$79 per person, purchase via PayPal – scan QR code below
Beer, wine, & cocktails can be purchased separately. Reserve your spot today. Limited availability. hardware.com. Love is in the air in Dayton.



Blue Mountain Brix and Brew March 13, 2026

Live and Silent Auction
Columbia County
Fairgrounds Pavilion

Silent Auction and Social Hour – Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Live Auction starts at 7 p.m.

Pre-sale tickets are \$40 through February 27.

Ticket price after 2/27 is \$45
For Tickets and Information visit Dayton Chamber of Commerce at 509.382.4825
202 E. Main Street, Dayton

UP FOR CONSIDERATION

"Esquina", by Jorge Velarde



ART TALK WITH JOSEPH ROBERTS AND JORGE VELARDE

SAT FEB 7, 2026 6-7PM

ROYAL BLOCK®
222 MAIN STREET, WAITSBURG, WA 99361