



Beka Compton

The Schulke Pumpkin Fundraiser has made its way to Waitsburg once again. Big, small, orange or blue, there's bound to be a pumpkin for you at Nancy's Dream Center, or Mr. C's Smokin' Co.

## Property owner still looking for solution regarding levee repair

By Beka Compton | THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—A letter signed by the Waitsburg City Council and the Mayor was published in *The Times* and sent out to residents of Waitsburg last week. The letter referenced the 2020 flood and the city's need to make repairs to the affected areas of the levee within city limits. The letter said the city could not make the necessary repairs unless they received approval from all property owners in the affected area.

The letter said that while 75% of the property owners in the area had agreed to grant the city access to the levee, there were four property owners who had not signed on. The Mayor and City Council have said they will not move forward with the project without approval from all property owners involved, including private and government entities.

In addition to seeking access rights from private property owners, the City of Waitsburg must also gain access from the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), which owns properties on either side of the project, and from Walla Walla County. City Administrator Randy Hinchliffe said the property owned by the county was supposed to be transferred into the City of Waitsburg's ownership years ago but had not yet happened.

One property owner who had not accepted the city's proposal felt the letter had a 'pitchforks and torches' tone. He said it seemed the city was pitting neighbor against neighbor to persuade property owners to settle.

"What they are asking for, to me, is ludicrous," said Court Ruppenthal, who owns two commercial properties in the affected area. "A perpetual right of way, with no defining boundaries of what that really means; that's about the broadest term that you can use. There is nothing saying that they are just going down the levee or within a certain percentage."

Ruppenthal is one of the remaining private property owners who are hesitant to grant the city a right of way to his properties in perpetuity, saying that there is not enough transparency, communication, or clarification from the city.

Ruppenthal said he asked for clarification as to what "maintenance and repair" would entail and had not received a satisfactory answer from anyone involved in the project.

"Is that weed control- are you going to kill the blackberries I like to pick back there? I plan on planting fruit trees, so does that mean they will be at risk? There are just too many questions," he said.

Property owners were initially contacted in June 2021. The city hosted the first informational meeting on June 16, joined by John Wells, an engineer with Anderson Perry and Associates. Attendees were presented with a design for a setback levee which was overwhelmingly rejected by property owners. Reasons for their response included the plan's significant alterations to their properties which would reduce property value.

A second meeting in September was attended by fewer property owners than the first. Ruppenthal said notice for the second meeting was not given with enough time for him to attend.

"Certainly, I care about people's property and what happens to them," Ruppenthal said. "But I do not get a warm, fuzzy feeling from what the city's intentions are or what they will carry out. I will not give them a perpetual right of way."

Ruppenthal agreed to give access to Northbank Civil and Marine, a company who was awarded a \$1.5 million levee repair project by the United States Army Corps of Engineers late last year to repair a severely damaged section of the levee behind his property. He said he would be willing to make a similar agreement with the city to make necessary repairs in emergency situations.

The City Council will meet on October 20 to decide the next steps for the levee project.

## Dayton School Board discusses strategic plan

By Justin Jaech | THE TIMES

DAYTON – The Dayton School Board met for a work session at 6 p.m. on October 6, entirely online using Zoom. Including the school board members, about 22 people participated in the Zoom meeting. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Superintendent Strot began with a brief discussion of his plan to share substitute teachers between the Dayton, Prescott, and Waitsburg school districts in an attempt to ameliorate the shortage of substitutes.

Next, Strot moved on to a discussion of revising the Dayton School District's Strategic Plan. He began by talking about improving communication with the community by providing a monthly parent newsletter, quarterly community newsletter, and monthly community forums, which will be listening sessions with the Superintendent for students, staff, parents, and community members. Strot also plans to contact all the students who have "choiced out" of the Dayton School District and later present his findings from those interviews to the board.

At this point, the board is just starting to look at the project task of developing a strategic plan with input from the staff, students, community, and elementary and secondary school principals.

Strot presented the Reardon-Edwall School Board Operating Protocol plan as a template that could be part of the strategic plan. Further discussion on the Board Operating Protocol is planned for the October 20 regular School Board meeting.

The discussion included establishing a foundation, or four pillars, such as Communications, Trust, Leadership, and Behavior.

Revising the district's mission and vision statements will be discussed at the next meeting.

It was decided that the board should determine what will appear on the data dashboard used to inform the public on the progress or lack of progress the district is making. Possible items for the data dashboard include SBAC test results, Star or iReady diagnostic tests, and graduation rates, for example.

Lastly, developing measurable goals to include within the Strategic Plan was briefly discussed.

The second work-session topic was the vaccine mandate. Dayton has some personnel who are outsourced through ESD 123 and ESD 112 (Educational Services District), all of which have either been vaccinated or applied for exemptions. Of the locally hired staff (not including volunteers, substitute teachers, or coaches), 68 of 70 have been vaccinated or have an approved exemption form. Including all employees, of which there are 90, two have not decided their course of action yet.

Board member Fred White asked who sees and approves the exemption forms. Superintendent Strot said that only he sees the forms and only he approves them. Strot had met with the Superintendents from Pomeroy, Waitsburg, and Prescott and standardized the accommodations for those employees with religious or medical exemptions to the vaccine.

The meeting then turned to action items during which Dayton's substitute teacher pay rate was increased from \$140 to \$150 per day to match Waitsburg's rate while still being less than Pomeroy and Walla Walla.

The Board approved the appointment of Madison Richardson as a non-voting student member of the School Board.

The Board approved the adoption of the new History and Social Studies curriculum for Dayton Secondary School.

The Board approved the hiring of Tracy Pearson as the Athletics Site Manager, which is a new position. Board member Dave Bailey wanted further discussion on this hiring as it is a new position. Sam Korslund, the Athletic Director, explained that he is often faced with simultaneous middle and high school athletic events or practice in both Waitsburg and Dayton and was unable to manage the events in both places by himself. The Site Manager is needed to do the setup, break down,

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## Bluewood announces Peter Korfiatis as general manager

THE TIMES

DAYTON—Bluewood announces Peter Korfiatis as the ski area's new general manager, effective immediately. With a lifelong love of skiing and nearly a decade of experience in mountain managerial roles at Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, Korfiatis has returned to Washington State, where he was born and raised.

"We are pleased and excited for Bluewood to welcome Pete to our family," says Mike Stephenson, managing partner of the Bluewood ownership group. "He brings a huge wealth of knowledge and experience in the snow sports industry."

Korfiatis filled the position previously held by Kim Clark, Bluewood's general manager from July 2014 until he died unexpectedly of an apparent heart attack on the mountain on August 31, 2021.

"Kim brought Bluewood a long way, and he was a great manager. We're certainly going to miss him," says Kirk Bair, who is also a managing partner of the Bluewood ownership group. "Good things are continuing to happen at Bluewood, though, and guests can be excited about the potential ahead."

Stephenson agrees: "I've been impressed with Pete's desire to continue what Bluewood has always been striving for, which is to take the area to the next level."

"I appreciate the smaller feel that comes with an independently owned mountain," Korfiatis says. "The staff here is awesome. It's clear they have a passion for the mountains and an extensive history with Bluewood, and I look forward to learning all I can from them. I'm also happy with the current ownership group and their investment in this place. I know they want Bluewood to keep growing and expanding. I want to make sure all of the things that Kim started come to fruition and that this mountain continues to

be a place where you bring your family, and you have a great time."

Before returning to his roots in Washington State a year ago, Korfiatis held several managerial positions at Mammoth Mountain in California. Most recently, as senior director of guest experience, he managed a multimillion-dollar budget and trained a team of managers and department heads on enhancing the mountain experience for guests. He was also a mountain manager on duty, overseeing all daily operations from opening to closing.

Before that, Korfiatis was Mammoth's director of athletics and events, overseeing the race department and team operations, managing large-scale events, working with schools, and raising funds through the community foundation.

"My jobs at Mammoth entailed cultivating a culture of guests first, seamless transitions, and genuine experiences that created fans of the mountain environment," Korfiatis says. "I value my previous experience at a large mountain and know that's going to help me here at Bluewood. At the same time, staying true to Bluewood's identity is first and foremost."

Korfiatis' experience also includes years of alpine racing and coaching. From 2007 to 2012, he held various coaching positions for the United States Ski and Snowboard Association. He coached the Men's Europa Cup Team, the Men's World Cup Speed Team, and the Men's World Cup Technical Team, leading athletes to two World Cup podiums and other wins. He also coached the U.S. Men's Alpine Ski Team for the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games, where Bode Miller won gold, Andrew Weibrecht won bronze, and the team took first, second and third in the slalom portion of the combined event.

Born and raised in Wenatchee, Wash., Korfiatis grew up skiing at Mission Ridge and was on their race team. He remembers his first time skiing at Bluewood around age 10.

"It was snowing, and there was a ton of it," he says. "I remember being shocked at the amount of terrain. All these little undulations and drops in and amongst the trees. If you know how to piece it together, it's one of the greatest little mountains out there. I'm pretty stoked to experience it as an adult, honestly."

Korfiatis' wife, Carolyn, is from Walla Walla, Wash., and grew up skiing at Bluewood. She was a racer on the Bluewood Blazers team, now called the Bluewood Alpine Race Team (BART).

Korfiatis and his wife currently live in Walla Walla with their two young sons.

## Ghouls, goblins, and ghosts welcome at CCSO Trick-or-Treating event

Head down to the courthouse on October 31 to scare the toughest guys and gals in Dayton. Candy donations are being accepted for the upcoming event

THE TIMES

DAYTON—The Columbia County Sheriff's Office is pleased to announce that they will be trick or treating all of the little ghouls and goblins in the neighborhood this Halloween! The CCSO is currently accepting candy donations at the front counter of the Sheriff's Office now through the close of business day on Wednesday, October 27th. The Sheriff's Office is unable to accept cash donations.

Columbia County Fire District #3 will also be helping serve up hotdogs again this year, and Sheriff's Office volunteers Liz Quigg and Vickie Zoller have a lot of fun activities planned on the Courthouse lawn. So be sure to come scare the sheriffs on Halloween!

The Sheriff's Office and all event volunteers thank everyone in advance for all of the candy donations in support of this yearly law enforcement tradition.

The event will be held on Sunday, October 31st (Halloween) between 3:00 and 5:30 PM in front of the Courthouse. Be sure to bring all of your ghouls and goblins to share in the fun!

### Touchet Valley Weather Oct. 13, 2021

**Waitsburg's Seven Day Forecast**

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>
Scattered Rain	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy
High: 52 Low: 36	High: 57 Low: 39	High: 64 Low: 44	High: 67 Low: 45	High: 60 Low: 36	High: 59 Low: 37	High: 58 Low: 34

#### Weather Trivia

Does lightning strike land a lot more often than at sea?

Answer: Yes, due to storms developing more frequently inland.

#### Weather History

**Oct. 13, 1846** - A great hurricane tracked across Cuba, Florida, Georgia, the Carolinas, Virginia and Pennsylvania. The hurricane inflicted major damage along its entire path, which was similar to the path of Hurricane Hazel 108 years later.

#### Local Almanac Last Week

Day	High	Low	Normals	Precip	Precipitation
Tuesday	75	50	69/48	0.00"	0.01"
Wednesday	61	44	69/47	Trace	0.26"
Thursday	64	37	68/47	0.00"	-0.25"
Friday	58	43	68/47	Trace	52.6°
Saturday	64	41	67/46	0.00"	57.2°
Sunday	63	43	67/46	0.01"	-4.6°
Monday	55	38	66/46	0.00"	

Data as reported from Walla Walla

#### Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Day	Full	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
Wednesday		7:07 a.m.	6:09 p.m.	3:31 p.m.	Next Day
Thursday		7:09 a.m.	6:08 p.m.	4:09 p.m.	12:11 a.m.
Friday		7:10 a.m.	6:06 p.m.	4:38 p.m.	1:25 a.m.
Saturday		7:12 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	5:02 p.m.	2:39 a.m.
Sunday		7:13 a.m.	6:02 p.m.	5:22 p.m.	3:50 a.m.
Monday		7:14 a.m.	6:00 p.m.	5:41 p.m.	4:59 a.m.
Tuesday		7:16 a.m.	5:59 p.m.	5:59 p.m.	6:06 a.m.

#### Weather History

**Oct. 13, 1846** - A great hurricane tracked across Cuba, Florida, Georgia, the Carolinas, Virginia and Pennsylvania. The hurricane inflicted major damage along its entire path, which was similar to the path of Hurricane Hazel 108 years later.

### THE LIBERTY THEATER - DAYTON

**Thrifty Tuesdays!**

Fridays 7:30 pm  
Saturdays 7:30 pm  
Sundays 3:00 pm  
Tuesdays 6:30 pm

**OCT 8-19 (2 weeks)**

Reserved seating with COVID spacing  
Masks required

Buy tickets online at [libertytheater.org](http://libertytheater.org) or at Box Office  
Tues & Fri 2-5pm

**NO TIME TO DIE**

Daniel Craig, Ralph Fiennes, Naomi Harris

Rated PG-13

### CLASSIFIEDS

**Prescott Joint Park and Recreation District (PJPRD)** is currently accepting applications for an appointment to the Board of Commissioners. Please contact our office for more information. 509-849-2314.

**Position open in the Dayton School District for a kindergarten teacher.** To apply, submit a certificated application, letter of interest, resume and two current reference letters. Applications can be found on the employment page of the District website at [www.daytonsd.org](http://www.daytonsd.org) or the District office at 609 S. 2nd Street. For more information contact Jana Eaton at 382-2543. Closing date October 15, 2021. EOE

**Help Wanted: BARISTA**  
Ten Ton Coffee in Waitsburg is looking for a friendly and motivated individual to join our team as a part-time BARISTA. Must be available to work weekdays and mornings. Baristas are responsible for crafting and serving beverages to our guests while providing EXCELLENT customer service. Previous experience in food/customer service a plus. Drop off a resume at the café, 216 Main Street, Waitsburg

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2 | THE TIMES - Thursday, October 14, 2021

## OBITUARY

### Carol (Comer) Weir

April 28, 1928 – October 4, 2021

Carol was born on April 28, 1928, in Yakima, WA. to Verna and Jesse Comer. She attended schools in the Yakima Valley and graduated from Naches High School in 1946. She attended Whitman College and graduated in 1950.

Like her mother, Carol became a schoolteacher, first in Chelan, WA. and then Toppenish, WA, before moving to Waitsburg, WA. to teach there in 1953. She married Robert (Bob) Weir in June of 1955. They farmed in Prescott, WA and in Waitsburg until Bob's retirement in 1992.

Carol started an antique cut glass business in 1972, specializing in American Brilliant cut glass. She developed quite a national reputation for her knowledge of cut glass, becoming national president of the American Cut Glass Association from July 1986 until July of 1988. She was an active dealer until her retirement in 2010.

After Bob's death in 1997, Carol stayed in the family home in Waitsburg and spent many years as a volunteer with Providence St. Mary Regional Cancer Center. In 2015, she relocated to Spokane, Wa. to be closer to her son, Larry.

She was preceded in death by her parents and stepfather, her brother Bruce, and her husband Bob. She is survived by her son Larry Weir of Spokane and numerous nieces and nephews.

Graveside services will be held at 1:00 PM on Wednesday, October 13, 2021, at the Odd Fellows Cemetery of Waitsburg with Pastor Stan Hughes officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Spokane or the Waitsburg Ambulance Fund through the Herring Groseclose Funeral Home, 315 W. Alder St., Walla Walla, WA 99362

### Jay Edward Thomas

February 23, 1954-August 1, 2021



#### Celebration of Life

Please join us at the Waitsburg Town Hall on Main Street. Sunday, October 24 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Refreshments will be served.

## Dayton City Council moving forward with 1st Street Bridge repair

By Justin Jaech | THE TIMES

DAYTON—A Special Meeting of the City Council was held both in person and on Zoom at 6 PM, October 7.

The single agenda item, Resolution No. 1480, would authorize the mayor to execute a Public Works contract with Don Jackson Excavation for the 1st Street Bridge riprap repair. Anderson Perry & Associates opened the bidding on September 30 receiving two bids. Don Jackson Excavation submitted the lowest bid for \$52,300. FEMA will fund 75 % of the repair cost.

Riprap is loose stone used to form a foundation for a breakwater or other structures.

Mayor Weatherford explained the need to vote on the issue before the regularly scheduled meeting was due to timing concerns as dry, summer weather was waning. The project should be completed before the wet season begins to avoid a delay until next summer.

The City Council passed the resolution by a unanimous voice vote, and the meeting adjourned at 6:09 PM.



Times Archive  
Zac Weatherford

#### DSD - FROM PAGE 1

and manage the events at locations where the Athletic Director cannot attend due to scheduling conflicts. It is a paid position at \$1900 per season, the cost to be shared between Dayton and Waitsburg. The position would be re-evaluated after each sports season. The Board approved the position by voice vote for fall sports only.

The next agenda item was to approve the sports combine by-laws produced by the Combine Working Committee. The Combine Committee had not been holding meetings open to the public. Dave Bailey questioned whether the Committee meetings were exempt from the Open Meeting Act and asked for a legal opinion before the Board votes on the matter. Approval of the by-laws was removed from the agenda until such a legal opinion from the district's lawyer could be provided. Board member Fred White expressed a concern that the Committee had been approving items that should require School Board approval. The Combine Committee has not held any meetings in over a year.

During public comments, a public member commended the Board on discussions of issues on the evening's agenda, resulting in the person feeling better informed. They also expressed a hope that good tracking tools would be provided as the strategic plan is implemented to ensure items 'do not fall through the cracks.' The commenter also suggested standardized exit interview forms to provide data from exiting employees.

The public portion of the board meeting closed at 7:05 p.m. to go into an executive session.



Times Archive  
Guy Strot

## Community Calendar

#### Waitsburg Monthly Meetings

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

**Waitsburg School Board**  
Third Thursday of every month at 6 p.m.  
Zoom meeting information is available at <https://www.waitsburgsd.org/o/waitsburg-school-district/page/school-board--272>

**Waitsburg Gun Club**  
Monday May 24 – General Membership / Board Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

**Walla Walla County Commissioners**  
Every Monday and Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m.  
Call-in information is available at [https://www.co.walla-walla.wa.us/government/commissioners/2020\\_agendas.php](https://www.co.walla-walla.wa.us/government/commissioners/2020_agendas.php)

**Friends of the Weller Public Library**  
Oct. 20, 7 p.m. Weller Public Library, 212 Main St., Waitsburg

#### Waitsburg Celebration Days Meeting

September 21, 2021. 6:00 p.m.  
Location to be announced

#### Dayton & Columbia County Meetings

**Board of Columbia County Commissioners**  
First and second Monday of each month at 9 a.m.

**Board of Columbia County Commissioners work session meetings** Second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 9 a.m.

Call-in information available at <https://www.columbiaco.com/114/County-Commissioners>

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

#### Dayton School Board

Third Wednesday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Dayton High School auditorium

**Columbia County Public Hospital District Board of Commissioners**  
Fourth Wednesday of every month at 1:30 p.m. Call (509) 382-2531 for information.

#### Dayton Memorial Library Board of Trustees Meeting

Every month on the Third Monday at 7:00 PM  
Zoom Meeting ID: 852 3836 3787  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85238363787>

#### Dayton Kiwanis Club Meeting - Online

Second and Fourth Thursday at Noon  
Zoom Meeting ID: 559 815 3650  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5598153650>

#### Starbuck City Council

Second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at Starbuck City Hall

### DAYTON SENIOR ROUND TABLE LUNCH

Dayton Senior Center  
403 E. Patit St.  
12 p.m.  
Drive Up Only

**Thursday, September 23**

TBA

**Tuesday, September 28**

TBA

### WAITSBURG SENIOR CENTER

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

**Tues., October 19**

Salisbury steak  
Mashed potatoes  
Vegetable  
Spinach salad  
Bread  
Cookie

### WAITSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Thurs., October 14**

B: Breakfast pizza  
L: Soft beef tacos  
Refried beans  
Corn  
Fruit choice

**Fri., October 15**

B: Pancake on a stick  
L: Pizza  
Fresh baby carrots  
Tater tots  
Fruit choice  
Cookie

**Mon., October 18**

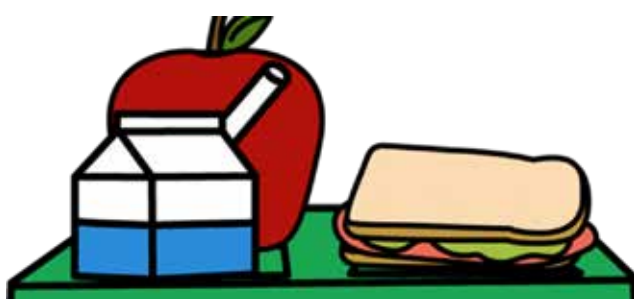
B: Omelette, hash brown, sausage  
L: Cheeseburger  
Pickles  
Tomato slice  
Oven fries  
Fruit choice

**Tues., October 19**

B: French toast  
L: Sweet & sour chicken  
Rice  
California blend veggies  
Fruit choice

**Weds., October 20**

B: Breakfast burrito  
L: Bean & cheese burrito  
Spanish rice  
Cucumbers  
Fruit choice  
Cookie



*Church Directory*

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**Waitsburg Presbyterian Church**  
504 Main  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship 11 a.m.  
337-6589  
Pastor Stan Hughes

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**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

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



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# NEWS & COMMENTARY

## LETTERS

### ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE

To the Editor,  
The ballots will soon be arriving for the local general election. Voters have 2 very different groups of candidates to select from.

One group, the Columbia County Conservatives, is against a long list of projects and proposals. As a group, the members can be described as angry, aggressive towards their own local government, and disruptive to the process of decision-making. As described in an article in *The Waitsburg Times*, Jack Miller divorced himself from the group when he was verbally attacked in one of their meetings. One of the CCC group, who is running for the Dayton School Board, disrupted a school board meeting by refusing to wear a mask or leave the room. The school board had to end the meeting; what is she going to do if she is elected to the school board? The Port, the City Council, and the School Board are in for a hostile, disruptive, divisive, and negative period if the Columbia County Conservatives candidates are elected. I ask you to vote AGAINST them.

The Positively Dayton candidates are a group of people who do not have an ideology to promote. Many have previous local office experience; the group as a whole has given a lot of volunteer time and energy to our local community, including The Club, the Liberty Theater, the Dayton Historic Depot, Kiwanis club, and their local churches. This group of candidates cares about our community, is willing to work with others for a better future, knows how to contribute to positive outcomes, and accepts responsibility to build projects and proposals. The Positively Dayton candidates include Shawn Brown and Jack Miller, Port Commissioners; Boe Stevenson and Teeny McMunn and Fred Crowe and Vicki Zoller, City Council. They will work FOR our community. Please vote FOR them.

Cathy Lee-Haight,  
Dayton, Wash.

### COLUMBIA COUNTY CONSERVATIVE OBJECTS

Editor,  
In regards to the *Times*' 10/7 article "Port of Columbia candidate cuts ties with local conservative group", it seems that your reporter has been wooed by the wild successes of the failing NY Times and decided to wear the hat of serial fabulist for the week. From the article:

"The group [Columbia County Conservatives], which has become known for its anti-vaccination and anti-masking rhetoric, has been regularly meeting at ... [my place]"

Become known by whom? Did Stephen Glass whisper that into your reporter's ear? Or was it Jayson Blair? Jussie Smollet? Christine Blasey Ford? O.J.? To which of Beka Compton's reliable sources did she turn to for last week's gem?

The ideological perch of the reporter isn't surprising or noteworthy— as we speak she's polishing up all her best dark metaphors to cast a shroud (look, now she's got me doing it!) over an upsetting election result were any of those ghastly anti-mask freaks to win. Not a big deal, that's what mediocre reporters do. But what is supposed to happen is that the mediocre reporting only goes to print after the Editor has filtered out the complete rubbish.

There's a comedian who does a bit on the preciseness of language, badly paraphrased as follows:

"Don't think clarity is important? Think of the difference between peeing in the pool and peeing into the pool."

This is a letter to the Editor, so I'm asking you— the Editor— this: When you read your reporter's draft, and it said that a specific group "has become known for its anti-vaccination and anti-masking rhetoric", and that sentiment was unquoted and even unattributed to anyone other than the proverbial NYT CYA BS of "has become known", did it not perk your editorial ears just

a little bit? And then, did you not imagine what that would look like in reality? Do you think the meetings out there (at Maco Aviation, near Huntsville) are just big pep rallies to get everybody into a froth so they go out and string up a bunch of masked/vaccinated people? Take a minute and try to picture the ethos of this group of troglodytes, and do your damndest not to project yourself onto them. I'll help you out— the resounding sentiment of someone in this group is not that they have an opinion one way or another about masks, vaccinations, or any combination of the two and your status in that surprisingly complex Venn diagram. It's this: You do whatever you want to do. I'll do whatever I want to do. We'll get along swimmingly as long as we keep it that simple.

The truth is that you could walk into a Columbia County Conservative meeting (out there at Maco Aviation, near Huntsville) wearing full scuba gear and a body condom, with an IV gurney in tow and enough bags of vax to do an actual vaccine transfusion, and everybody would hear you out, answer your questions, and nobody would throw an ax at you. It might get heated, but that's how real conversations tend to go. My guess is that no one there harbors any great animus towards masks or vaccinations (I think many are vaccinated, haven't asked, don't care). They just don't want Joe, Jay, or Jack Miller telling them when, where, and how much, and they certainly don't need Beka Compton hectoring them from Tween Vogue about their "dangerous core beliefs" (what, independent thought? An opinion? The idea that the State doesn't decide crucial health decisions for them?)

I think that masks, worn in the way they've become socially acceptable, are little more than an annoying, unhealthy placebo and an act of obeisance and encouragement to arbitrary power. I think that the vaccine is a high pair in the hand of your opponent— your play is determined by what's in your hand. I think that blue hair on a pretty girl is somehow sadder than some of the better-done war movies, and I think that bike helmets are probably more dangerous for kids than cigarettes. But all those things are just personal opinions and how you react to them are personal choices, and I'll actually stand there with an ax (or I'd at least cheer on someone who actually would) and defend your right to exercise them if someone tells you you can't.

I'll also wield the ax, and perhaps higher power, when the three J's tire of messing around with little sub-group mandates and just come right out and say "Screw it— you're all getting the jab!"

So no, Lane and Beka and whoever else is running that show— we're not anti mask or anti-vaccination...

We are anti-tyrant.  
Clarity, ladies.  
Seth Murdock  
Maco Aviation, near Huntsville

### PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Due to the nature of the letter submitted by Seth Murdock, *The Times* staff decided to print it in its entirety to ensure clarity. This is outside of our policy printed below under Reader's Forum, requiring letters to be under 400 words.

I published the article, "Port of Columbia candidate cuts ties with local conservative group," in the October 7, 2021, edition of *The Times*. I stand by the article and the reporter who provided factual and relevant information for the upcoming election.



### IN DEFENSE OF CITY GOVERNANCE

To the Editor,

A recent letter from a well-intentioned newcomer to Waitsburg unfortunately accused the Mayor, the City Council and City Staff of allowing the swimming pool, and Fairgrounds to fall into disrepair and close. And suggested that the Weller Library is being sold. As the husband of a City Council member I have a bit of insight into these issues and would like to correct some misapprehensions.

These issues are much more complex than can be addressed in a letter. They are the cumulative result of decades of cost-cutting and postponing improvements. Those chickens have now come home to roost.

The Fairgrounds are currently (with COVID-related exceptions) used by FFA, T-Ball, 4H, Salmon Feed and much-attended Celebration Days events. The last time horse racing was held there was in 2006. It was cancelled here, in Dayton and elsewhere because the State of Washington stopped underwriting the necessary and expensive insurance for such parimutuel horseracing.

Our grandstands and stables need major repairs and would need a designated, experienced (and costly) event promoter to be self-sustaining. This is not a new problem nor is it fixable without incurring enormous expense. Without a viable plan forward they will fall apart or become another financial drain on taxpayers. The citizens of the town have repeatedly made it clear they do not wish to fund such endeavors.

Our 1929 swimming pool was tested and professionally inspected a few weeks ago. It needs substantial repairs and upgrades. Who is going to pay for that? Furthermore, good luck trying to hire lifeguards with sufficient training to ensure the safety of our children and protect the city from lawsuits.

The library building is not for sale. NOT FOR SALE!

It's fine and fair to express your support for your candidate of choice, whether for Mayor or City Council. But simply throwing shade on the folks who have been volunteering untold amounts of their time and energy to make Waitsburg safe, improve streets and sewers, safeguard the water system, support new and existing businesses on Main Street and attract serious investment in long-neglected downtown buildings while managing a very tight budget is not helpful. In fact, it's destructive. If you have a solution to offer, great. If you just want to complain, then please do some research first. Even better, reach out to your Council members and/or your Mayor. They would welcome your constructive, fact-based input.

Thank you,  
Paul Gregutt  
Waitsburg, Wash.

### ENDORSEMENT FOR GREGUTT

To the Editor:

I wish to strongly endorse Karen Gregutt for re-election to the Waitsburg City Council. As a member of the Planning Commission, which she chaired several years ago while we updated our Development Code, I can attest to Karen's deep commitment, and thoughtful, conscientious effort to ensure that the revised Development Code would be realistic, reasonable, and fairly applied to everyone.

As a member of City Council this past year, Karen's dedication to researching and understanding various issues was always evident in her informed input at Council meetings, as well as at subsequent meetings of the Planning Commission, which she always attended. Karen has worked diligently for many years to benefit our wonderful town, Waitsburg, and I cannot imagine anyone else better suited or more devoted to serving us well on our City Council. I strongly urge everyone to vote for Karen Gregutt.

Bill Rodgers  
Citizen  
Waitsburg, Wash.

## 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. We have offices located in both Waitsburg and Dayton.

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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## Reader's Forum

*The Times* welcomes Letters to the Editor and invites readers to share their ideas, concerns and thoughts on matters of importance on our Opinion Page. Letters to the Editor can be emailed to editor@waitsburgtimes.com, or mailed to The Times at P.O. Box 97, Waitsburg, WA 99361. Letters can also be hand-delivered to our office or submitted to our waitsburgtimes.com. The deadline for letters is Tuesday at noon.

Letters may be no more than 400 words long. All letters must be signed by the writer(s) using their actual name, and complete contact information for each writer, including address and phone number must be included.

We reserve the right to decline to publish any letter that we deem inappropriate for our readership. Letters may be rejected for libel and objectionable material.

*The Times* does not print form letters, libelous letters, business promotions or complaints, poetry, open letters, letters proselytizing or espousing or attacking religious views without reference to a current issue, letters that are in poor taste or that are not on a topic of public interest.

**Due to volume during election season, *The Times* is unable to print all letters received. We strive to print as many as possible on a first come, first served basis. Letters that don't fit are moved to the following week.**

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# NEWS & COMMENTARY

## LETTERS

### SUPPORT OF BROWN

Letter to the editor,  
I am writing in support of Shawn Brown, candidate for Port Commissioner seat 1. Shawn brings depth of knowledge and a holistic approach to the economic health of the county that extends beyond a single issue, or series of pet issues. He understands that in order to accomplish the growth and prosperity that we all want in this county, we need to expand our tax base and bring in businesses. He also understands that we can't just wave a magic wand and make businesses want to move here. We are missing critical infrastructure that would make our area attractive for business and livable for workers. He has identified 3 key areas where local government can make Columbia County a welcome place for industry.

The first is affordable housing (not to be confused with low-income housing). We all know that the rental market in our area is very tight. I moved here 10 years ago and it wasn't easy to find an apartment. Now it's nearly impossible. New businesses don't want to build in places where workers can't find a place to live, or are priced out of the rental market.

The second is childcare. Families with small children can't live and work here if there are no options for childcare. There are no daycares in Dayton. There are very limited options for pre-school. As someone who works in Dayton and has a small child, this is something I've struggled with myself and know a lot of other parents who have struggled as well.

Lastly, businesses need reliable, high-speed internet. The Port is just shy of the \$500K matching funds needed for a \$4.5 million grant that would bring reliable, expandable, broadband internet to Dayton. This is something that can help businesses in Dayton right now, and help make Dayton an option for businesses like call centers, and for people working remotely.

As we watch our community struggle to keep a pool, build a wastewater facility, attract talent for jobs, or fund a police force, most of us understand that we need to expand our tax base. And Shawn Brown understands that this is what the Port is for. Not for shutting down opportunities, but for taking advantage of them. He's not focused on keeping people out and maintaining the status quo, because we need growth and diversity to prosper. Shawn Brown has the knowledge, background, and vision we need to help make us a vibrant and economically healthy community, and that's why I'm supporting him for Port Commissioner position 1.

Thank you,  
Amy Rosenberg  
Dayton, Wash.

### CANDIDATE DREAM TEAM

To the voters of Waitsburg,  
Here is the dream team I'd like to see on the Waitsburg city council: Kate Hockersmith for Mayor; Karen Stanton-Gregutt, Jim Romine, and Jillian Henze to continue as council members; Randy Charles for the newly opened position #3. They have my support because they have demonstrated through their work in the community that each of them has a hands-on commitment to our town. Each has shown up when needed, whether it is for the planning commission, flood relief, fire and emergency services, RYES.

During the nine years I've lived in Waitsburg, I've seen how fragile our business community is, and now that we have some new investment in the town, I feel it is important to have a city council and a mayor who will welcome and support these new ventures. These candidates have already shown their willingness to engage with new businesses as they have already done with our existing businesses.

I may not always agree with each of them on every issue, nor do I expect them to always agree with each other. Still, I think these candidates make a strong team representing a good cross-section of Waitsburg, and I'm confident that they will continue to do their best for our town.

Sincerely,  
Gail Gwinn  
Waitsburg, Wash.

### VOTE FOR MCMUNN

Dear Editor:  
Teeny McMunn worked for me for about three years as office manager, bookkeeper and salesperson for The Times newspaper in Waitsburg. On top of that, she wrote a well-loved recipe column for the paper. She was the best employee I could have had in that position.

Teeny came to The Times after retiring as co-owner of Hometown Carpets and Trade Center, which she helped run for nearly 30 years, including the last ten in Dayton.

Teeny's entrepreneurial and business experience as well as her conservative but compassionate outlook and her love for the Dayton community will be great assets on the Dayton City Council. Please vote for Teeny!

Ken Graham  
Dayton, Wash.

### SUPPORT FOR GREGUTT FOR WAITSBURG

We need Karen Gregutt to continue her outstanding service in our Waitsburg government.

While on the Waitsburg's Planning Commission and City Council, Karen has effectively and tirelessly worked on behalf of our town for many years.

Her beautiful Waitsburg Cottages are a shining example of her ability to create a thriving business, restore classic Waitsburg homes and bring new people and interest to our community.

From her experience as a producer and director of many documentaries and commercials, she knows how to get things done within a group dynamic.

She loves the history and people of Waitsburg and works hard to represent our town's various viewpoints as a councilmember.

Please vote for Karen Gregutt.  
Joe Patrick  
Waitsburg, Wash.

### SUPPORT FOR CANDIDATES IN COLUMBIA COUNTY

Dear Editor,  
I am supporting the following candidates for various offices in Columbia County, the City of Dayton, Dayton School District Board, and the Public Hospital District:

- Shawn Brown, Commissioner #1 Columbia County Port #1
- Jack Miller, Commissioner #3 Columbia County Port #2
- Teeny McMunn, City of Dayton Council Member #3
- Write In Candidate Vickie Zoller, City of Dayton Council Member #5
- Fred Crowe, City of Dayton Council Member #7
- Grant Griffen, Dayton School District Director #3
- Jeff McCowen, Dayton School District Director #5
- Jim Kime, Public Hospital District Commissioner #3
- Barbara Miller, Public Hospital District Commissioner #4

I have known these candidates for many years, served on committees and boards with them, and can attest that each one of these candidates has the best interests of their respective positions as their number one priority. They are not running for and do not have any agenda other than helping each public entity do what is best for our town, schools, and county. I urge readers to exercise their right to vote and vote for each of the above candidates.

Respectfully submitted,  
Katie Leid  
Dayton, Wash.

## Schulke Pumpkins available at two Waitsburg businesses

*All proceeds from the pumpkin sales will benefit the Ronald McDonald House*

### THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—Whether you're a soup-season person or a spooky-season person, there's no arguing that autumn is here!

If you're a spooky-season person, it is time to head down to Mr. C's Smoking Co. or Nancy's Dream Garden Center. Each business received plenty of Schulke Pumpkins to go around.

The Schulke Pumpkin Fundraiser is in its fourteenth year of fundraising for the Ronald McDonald House in memory of Cooper Schulke, who passed away in 2002 after a long battle against a brain tumor.

In 2007, Cooper's siblings Emerson and Campbell came up with the idea to start a small pumpkin patch to benefit the place the Schulke's called home for more than three months during Cooper's fight. Now, the family grows nearly thirty varieties of pumpkins that are perfect for carving, decorating, and cooking with. Blue, orange, and white are just a few of the colors to be found in a bin of Schulke Pumpkins.

Nancy's Dream Garden Center is located at 124 Warren Street, and Mr. C's Smoking Co. is at 405 Preston Avenue.



### BIRTHDAYS

**October 14:** Dianne Zuger, Dana Adkins, Dorothy Bush, Jared John, Jace Zuger.

**October 15:** Robert Webber, Wayne Stonecipher, Debbie Cobb, Marcus Zuger III, Robin Marshall.

**October 17:** Fred Hofer, Jr., Lorene Swauger, Jim Jensen, Shaun Segreaves, Jill Antonius.

**October 18:** Matthew Frohning, Julia Klucas, Edna Kirk, Vicky Maiden, Jesse McCaw, Tanya Maurer, Edgar Tarp.

**October 19:** Ruth Peterson, Noel Atkinson, Rosemary Archer, Lynn Carpenter, Wyatt Withers, Kennedy Mae Henze.

**October 20:** Owen Lee Cole, Rochell Duncan.

*Happy Birthday*

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

### FOR ALL HUNTERS

Written permission is required to hunt at Puget Sound Energy's Hopkins Ridge Wind Facility

The wind facility is located within Game Management Unit (GMU) 163 Marengo in Columbia County, WA

For safety reasons, hunting within the Hopkins Ridge Wind Facility is by written permission only.

Maps and special access rules are available at:  
**PSE.COM/HOPKINSRIDGE**

For easy online registration go to **PSE.COM/HOPKINSRIDGE**

Pick up permit at these locations:

- The Last Resort, 2005 Tucannon Road, Pomeroy  
To verify store hours, call 509-843-1556 or visit [www.thelastresort.com](http://www.thelastresort.com)
- Four Star Supply, 2255 Villard St., Pomeroy  
To verify store hours, call 509-843-3693 or email [theeter@fourstarsupplyinc.com](mailto:theeter@fourstarsupplyinc.com)
- Circle K, 426 W. Main St., Dayton  
To verify store hours, call 509-382-1042

For more information, contact Anne Walsh at 509-382-2043

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Columbia County HEALTH SYSTEM

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# Questions to Waitsburg mayoral candidates

THE TIMES

WAITSBURG—Candidates Kate Hockersmith and Marty Dunn were asked what they saw as challenges to the city in the next four years and how they would address those concerns.

**Kate Hockersmith**

*What challenges do you see for the city in the next four years?*

Infrastructure issues have been on my mind since I first ran for City Council in 2016. Many of Waitsburg's assets and much of the essential infrastructure is either beyond its expected lifespan or it hasn't been routinely maintained. The City needs to transition from an emergency maintenance approach to maintain essential infrastructure, to a planned and budgeted routine maintenance or replacement. Every City asset has an anticipated life, which needs to be incorporated into the operations, maintenance and budgeting processes so disruptions in essential services and budget overruns don't occur. We should not be in a situation where a building, like City Hall, needs a major overhaul, to be usable by our city staff.



Submitted Photo  
Kate Hockersmith

*How would you address these issues as mayor?*

Like Walla Walla County, Waitsburg is seeing substantial economic growth which is increasing City revenues as we recover from the pandemic. This is a unique opportunity to address the infrastructure maintenance backlog, as well as restructure the city budget process to maintain what we have. I will work with the City Council and City Manager to revise the budget approach for infrastructure upgrades and replacement that are line item elements to increase transparency and accountability. In addition, I will work with the City Council and City Manager to develop a strategic plan for long term infrastructure maintenance or replacement to maintain essential City services

**Marty Dunn**

*What challenges do you see for the city in the next four years?*

The greatest challenges facing the City of Waitsburg are the deteriorating infrastructure in a climate of diminishing resources (funding needed to maintain and/or repair the infrastructure). It appears that three major concerns of community patrons are 1) the inoperability of the swimming pool, 2) the unsafe conditions of the grandstands at the fairgrounds and 3) the desire to maintain the historic location of the Weller Library. An area which significantly impacts the city is flood control along the Coppei and the Touchet. Additionally, the City must continually monitor and maintain typical city services such as water and sewage quality, street and sidewalk upkeep, as well as upkeep of city properties, such as parks and the cemeteries. With all of these are associated costs. Balancing the needs and wants of our community with the associated costs for maintenance, repairs and preservations are issues with which the City is presented.



Submitted Photo  
Marty Dunn

*How would you address these issues as mayor?*

As Mayor, I have the authority to ensure that these issues and concerns are addressed by the City through the Council and city staff action. We have the fiduciary responsibility to represent and maintain the operations of the city to the best of our ability with transparency, integrity, openness and in the best interest of the citizens of Waitsburg, its future growth and sustainably. Having served the Waitsburg community since 2004, I believe my knowledge, experience and passion are valuable assets towards addressing these challenges.

# Candidates for Dayton City Council and for the Dayton School District

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON—Several candidates are running for a position on the Dayton City Council, including one write-in candidate.

Laura Aukerman and Boe Stevenson will face off for Position 1, a four-year term on the Dayton City Council.

Aukerman calls herself a critical thinker. With a thirty-year career in the nuclear industry under her belt, she says she knows how government processes work, and how and when they don't. She thinks it is very important to look at issues, utilize all the facts and data, gather feedback and involvement from stakeholders and then determine the best path forward.



Submitted Photo  
Laura Aukerman

The biggest challenge facing the City is managing city funds wisely, something she said she knows how to do.

Aukerman, and her daughter Paige, are successful owners of Paige's Floral a small downtown business in Dayton. Previously, Aukerman managed a budget while working for a subcontractor to the Department of Energy.

"Fiscal policy is a must and we need to adjust our spending and re-evaluate our tax rates to encourage and ensure responsible growth for Dayton," Aukerman said.

Regulatory requirements, associated costs, and working with other interested parties on the City's proposed Wastewater Treatment Facility project is also challenging, but Aukerman is confident this can all be worked through.

Aukerman said she would like to see more cohesiveness among Dayton citizens and organizations and if she is elected, she can help make that happen.

"Throughout my years of employment, it was very important to develop teams that not only performed their skills with knowledge and expertise through education and training, but I also had to ensure a team environment," she said.

"Although most of our Country is divided does not mean Dayton needs to be," she said. "We have a lot of competent and smart people in our community, and if we can all work together, we can accomplish a lot."

Aukerman thinks the time is not right for the proposed Touchet River Trail, but the time is right for high-speed Broadband Internet Service in the community. They are projects currently in progress through the Port of Columbia.

Boe Stevenson, owner of Designs by Boe, is running as a small business owner who recognizes many of the hurdles of small-town life.

"The biggest challenge in my opinion is the City's ability to not only sustain, but to thrive financially. Anticipating the needs of our community and planning for those needs is paramount. In order to grow, we need to look to the future while learning from the past," he said.



Submitted Photo  
Bo Stevenson

Stevenson said there is a simple reason for running for a seat on the city council and that is because as a member of a younger generation he will bring a fresh perspective to the Dayton City Council.

"My open mindedness and ability to truly listen to both sides of a debated topic is a relevant trait I possess," he said.

With regard to Broadband Internet Services, Stevenson said, "Technology is ever-evolving and we will inevitably be left in the dust if we choose to not take advantage of the opportunity that is upon us, now."

He said connectivity comes to mind also when he thinks of the Touchet River Trail project.

"Personally, I have seen nothing but positivity in regards to the addition of trails, especially in rural communities," he said. "The River's Edge Trail in Great Falls, Montana, my home town was strongly opposed for several years until it was finally put in place. It has been a huge success and embraced by the community for decades."

Stevenson said the city's Wastewater Treatment Plant project is a genuine necessity that modern technology will also make possible.

"We have an opportunity that needs to be taken advantage of," he said.

Teeny McMunn running against Cindi John for Position 3 on the city council, a four-year term.

McMunn said she believes in thoughtful growth in the city.

"Empty buildings need to be filled, but first we need to be able to have housing available," she said.

One of the biggest challenges for the city is the need for more affordable and low-income housing and McMunn hopes she can help the Council as they move forward with that. She also welcomes high speed Broadband Internet Service to the community as crucial to expanding business in the city.

She said she would like to see the city move forward with the same energy the Dayton Task Force had twenty years ago when Main Street was revitalized.

"I think the Council can best be served with someone who is positive, yet can listen to many points of view," said McMunn. **DAYTON CANDIDATES - PAGE 10**



**TEENY McMUNN**  
Dayton City Council  
Position 3

**Endorsed By:**

- |                        |                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Bill & JoAnn Poolman   | Michael & Cathy Lee-Haight |
| Carole Lane            | Dave & Sandy Schreck       |
| Susie Payne            | Nancy Monacelli            |
| Mary Ellen Juris       | Amy Rosenberg              |
| Jay & Kris Takemura    | Karen Williams             |
| Joe Huether            | Sarah Wilson               |
| Boe Stevenson          | Sharon & John Eaton        |
| Vicki Zoller           | Joy Smith                  |
| Shawn Brown            | Bruce & Heather Heibert    |
| Fred & Genie Crowe     | Shellie McLeod             |
| Terry Lawhead          | Patsy Compau               |
| Regina Weldert         | Katy Wamble                |
| Paula Mosio            | Ken Graham                 |
| Chauncey Price         | Mike Smith                 |
| Anne Strode            | Valerie Mudry              |
| Mary Luce              | Molly Weatherill-Tate      |
| Bette Lou Crothers     | Jim Kime                   |
| Ginny Butler           | Jeff McCann                |
| Mike & Kathy Ellsworth | Marlene Broadhead          |
| Roz Edwards            | Mary Byrd                  |
| George Gagnon          | Greg & Sofia Petersen      |
| Roger Tumbocon         | Bev Startin                |
| Denise Hoon            | Josh Osterman              |
| Mike Paris             |                            |

Paid for by the candidate Teeny McMunn PO Box 208 Dayton WA 99328

**Vote for Karen Gregutt for Waitsburg City Council, Position 4**

Paid for by Karen Gregutt, PO Box 6, Waitsburg WA 99361

# ELECTION 2021

## Candidates for Port of Columbia commissioners

By Michele Smith | THE TIMES

DAYTON—This election year, there are some hotly contested races for Port commission offices.

In District 1, Seth Bryan is running for a four-year term against the incumbent Shawn Brown.

Bryan said his top priority if elected, will be improving the local economy by working to provide a solid foundation on which to grow.

He said the most pressing concern for the Port is recovery from damage caused by the COVID-19 situation including overreaching regulations imposed by the government.

“Up to this point, it seems the Port’s response has been to throw money at the problem, which has done little to prevent business closures or promote new start-ups... Business begets business and the more viable businesses we have in our core, the more business will be drawn to our community,” he said.

The Port, he said, should remain mission-focused, improve infrastructure, and build facilities for industrial, warehouse, and manufacturing rather than focusing on niche retail business like those at the Blue Mountain Station. The Blue Mountain Station should be used for production and product manufacturing rather than for long term retail, he said.

Bryan is opposed to the proposed Touchet Valley Trail between Dayton and Waitsburg, mainly because of the way it has been presented to the community.

“I do not feel the Port has been forthcoming about the cost vs. benefit, and I have yet to see the economic advantage a trail between Dayton and Waitsburg will provide,” he said.

A better use of the infrastructure dollars, Bryan said, would be to repair and improve the existing rail line to accommodate increasing cargo traffic. One idea is to increase tourism by providing a dinner and entertainment venue via rail car on the Columbia Walla Walla railroad.

The Port is currently working to bring high speed Broadband Internet service to Dayton and to the surrounding community, which Bryan is in favor of, but doesn’t feel it is a wise investment for the community at this time.

Bryan said recent monetary awards for the Broadband Internet Service project from the City of Dayton, and various other organizations should go to more immediate needs.

Bryan is a retired project superintendent with over twenty years’ experience in heavy construction. He and his wife Melissa have lived in Columbia County since 2015.

The incumbent Shawn Brown, says he is already up to speed on the current Port holdings including the Touchet Valley Trail, the Broadband Internet Service project, and improvements at the Lyons Ferry Marina.

“I tend to look at the County as a whole,” he said. “With three commissioners, issues do not usually divide into districts. I think our biggest challenges to growing our local economy today are (the lack of) available housing and child-care. The number one priority is wise expansion and economic growth for Columbia County.”

Brown believes keeping the Columbia/Walla Walla railroad viable makes it an asset to future business development and he supports the Touchet River Trail.

“I believe the trail is a good thing for our community. It provides an attraction for visitors, builds a link between Dayton and Waitsburg, and additional safety for riders and walkers,” he said.

Having affordable high speed Broadband Internet Service will make the community more attractive to new residents and businesses, said Brown.

“I also appreciate projects that can be completed without adding local tax dollars,” he said.



Seth Bryan

Submitted Photo



Jack Miller

Submitted Photo

“It has been my honor to serve the residents of Columbia County over the last year, and I look forward to the opportunity to continue in that capacity,” Brown said.

Brown and his wife Kristina, who is the Dayton Middle School and High School principal, have lived in Dayton for three years and he works as a mortgage loan officer.

Jack Miller is facing off against Johnny Watts for a six-year term as Port Commissioner in District 3.

Miller says he is the only candidate with business experience and a track record of successfully operating his own and others’ businesses for over 30 years.

Concerned after seeing his property taxes triple over the last 30 years, he believes the only way to curb government spending is to require governments to operate in a more business-like manner. He wants to see the Port District become self-supporting.

“The Port’s greatest challenge at this time is the proposed bike trail from Waitsburg to Dayton. There is a great deal of emotion being exhibited. I have reviewed the recent mailer in support of the trail. I note that there are 22 supporters, nine of which are not taxpayers. I have seen a petition with over 600 signatures against the trail. I assume all 600 are taxpayers. I find it extremely annoying that this flyer went to great lengths to explain no additional local taxes would be used, and monies spent to date are not “local” taxes. They need to be made aware that taxes are taxes. These funds come from one source: the taxpayer.”

Miller also said he has listened to the current rail operator of the CWW railroad say that only one hundred train car loads have moved on the line in the last twelve months and the rails are in such bad shape that an extremely low speed limit must be observed.

“He went on to say that proper repairs would cost approximately one million dollars per mile,” Miller said. “With the Dayton cannery now closed, and a barge loading facility at Lyons Ferry, there is no reason to have the railroad. One has to assume the existing line has salvage value. Perhaps this value could be used to build a bike trail on the existing road bed, placating a large number of taxpayers.”

With regard to bringing broadband services to the community, Miller said, “My primary concern would be not to harm any existing Columbia County business. I would need to be convinced that this expenditure of tax dollars would generate some return to the taxpayers of this county.”

Miller was employed for 31 years as the Farm Manager of the CDA Tribal Farm in Tensed, Idaho, and has worked for 20 years as the owner of BarJak Farms, Inc. in Columbia County. He has been on the board of directors for the Walla Walla Gun Club, the Spokane Gun Club, and the Washington State Trap Shooters Association. He has a degree in Agricultural Economics from W.S.U. He and his wife Barbara have lived in their present home in Columbia County since 1990.

Johnny Watts says he is the best candidate for the position because of his belief in institutional transparency and community engagement.

His understanding is that the CWW railroad rails are in need of significant maintenance capital to ensure safe and effective operation.

“Although I do not have enough information associated with the current viability of this historically important infrastructure, it will be a priority of mine to gather the facts and take it to the people of Columbia County for discussion before the future of the line is decided,” Watts said.

He said the Port is irresponsible in asking the City and the County for additional dollars to fund the Broadband Internet Service project, especially in light of possible financial impacts.

Watts is not convinced the Touchet Valley Trail will provide an economic “bang for the buck.” Further audits of the feasibility study, social and environmental impacts, and return on investments should be made.

More research and community discussion needs to take place to ensure accuracy regarding “needs versus wants” for Port projects.

Watts is currently attending Columbia Southern University in pursuit of a degree in Occupational Safety and Health. He has worked as a Regional Safety Manager for the State of Washington; Assistant Director of Facilities-Walla Walla Community College and Custodial Manager, Correction Officer-Washington State Penitentiary.

He is a Certified Fire Fighter and has served as a volunteer firefighter for the Walla Walla/Columbia District 2, for ten years, promoted to the rank of Captain.



Johnny Watts

Submitted Photo



Shawn Brown

Submitted Photo

THE FOLLOWING ENDORSE

## VICKI ZOLLER WRITE IN CANDIDATE DAYTON CITY COUNCIL POSITION #5

- Miles and Judy Miller
- Christine Broughton
- Jay and Kris Takamura
- Virginia Schmidt
- John and Sharon Eaton
- Mary Luce
- Amy Rosenberg
- Dallas Dickenson and Mike McQuary
- Cathy Lee-Haight and Michael Haight
- Fred and Genie Crowe
- Meredith Bellevue-Bretz
- Martha Lanman
- Pearl Dennis
- Kari Dingman
- Valerie Mudry
- Regina Weldert
- Joy Smith
- Mindy Holmberg
- Candy Ward-Jones
- Jim Dyke
- Boe Stevenson



- Kathleen (Katy) Wamble
- Betty Lou Crothers
- Shakira Bye
- Roger Tumbocon
- Brad McMasters
- Barbara Phinney
- Judi Pilcher
- Susan Hostika
- Shellie McLeod
- Molly Weatherhill-Tate
- Anne Strode
- Shayna Hutchens
- Terry Lawhead
- Holly Kaczmariski
- Sherri Robanski
- Karen Williams
- Sarah Wilson
- Shawn Brown
- Gordon Farley
- Teeny McMunn
- Ginger-Diaz-Ortega

This ad approved and paid for by Vicki Zoller for City Council Position #5  
720 E Tremont St Dayton WA



Paid for by Fred Crowe for Dayton City Council Position #7, 309 N 2nd St, Dayton, WA 99328

### Joseph Rhymes for Waitsburg School Board, District 4

After attending a recent Waitsburg School Board Meeting and hearing the many parents frustrations, it was clear that it all fell on deaf ears. We do not have to accept this! I am announcing my write-in candidacy for the Waitsburg School Board, District 4 at large. It is time our students, parents, and staff HAD A VOICE! It is time someone had the courage TO LISTEN AND ACT upon those concerns. Our children and grandchildren are not the property of the state! IF you are one of those many parents who strongly feel this way, and would like to return our schools to local control with local oversight, please join me. Only YOU can bring about the needed change. You can have a voice! Our schools belong to us, not Olympia or Washington D.C. Please pass this along to all your local social media friends, tape this note to your fridge and remember to write in:

Joseph Rhymes for Waitsburg School Board, District 4 (at large), on your ballot before mailing it in.

Served honorably in the USMC, former LE officer, now retired with grandchildren still attending Waitsburg School District.

Paid for by the Candidate, Joseph Rhymes,  
PO Box 473, Waitsburg WA, 99361



## Waitsburg City Council Candidates

THE TIMES

November 2 is Election Day, and candidates vying for seats on the Waitsburg City Council and Mayor positions are participating in the city's first county-run election. Ballots were mailed out on October 13.

This year, citizens interested in serving on the city council had to specify which seat they were running for when they declared candidacy. In the past, the city's elections were held annually and the top five vote earning candidates were elected to the city council. This year's election will see candidates running for specific seats on the council, with only one seat contested. The top three candidates will serve four years and the two remaining will serve two-year terms. After this year, elections will be held every two years.

The position of mayor will have a four-year term and there are two candidates running this year.

Preliminary results from the election will not be available until after 8:00 p.m. on November 2.

The Times sent questions to all the candidates about their campaign. We do not endorse candidates, however, we want to recognize each of our neighbors who are willing to do the work to run our city government. It is not easy, it is not lucrative, and it is not without criticism. All deserve respect and support as they serve our needs.

### Kevin House

Unopposed, Position 1

*Why have you decided to run for a position on the Waitsburg City Council?*

I decided to put in for the position for two main reasons. First, I think there needs to be someone on the council that has the perspective of a working age household in the private sector. Second, the current mayor and council have been successfully working together on longer term goals and projects that I would like to continue to be involved in and support.

*What challenges do you see for the city in the next two years?*

Challenges for the city will continue to be: Hiring, developing and maintaining adequate staff to continue quality city services; Continuing to maintain and improve infrastructure while being responsible financially; and Considering issues involving City resources and properties from both the point of what was the norm in past years and the current realities.

*What do you think voters can expect from you as their representative?*

As a representative I hope no one expects me to be a "voice" for the citizens. I don't have a particular cause or agenda. I would like to think voters could continue to expect what I hope I have done in my time on council so far. Listen to the information, the dialogue, the questions and answers and support decisions that I believe are in the best interests of the citizens as a whole.

P.S. I am running unopposed, but if you know of a more qualified "write-in" candidate I will support them. Just not Mickey Mouse even though it rhymes.

### Randy Charles

Unopposed, Position 3

*Why have you decided to run for a position on the Waitsburg City Council?*

I feel that I have the ability to help the city of Waitsburg provide fair, sound and well-reasoned governance. I feel strongly that there are opportunities to improve the way the city communicates with its residents by reaching out to solicit and factoring in citizen input when making the key decisions that determine the future of Waitsburg.

I have a concern about the lack of transparent governance of the city. Citizens need to have full opportunity to become aware of all public meetings, agenda items and pending decisions in a time frame where their input can be provided and considered.

*What challenges do you see for the city in the next two years?*

Communication between the city and its citizens. Enhancing the communication and coordination between the city and other entities (the Fire District, the Waitsburg Parks and Recreation Commission, the Sheriff's Department, the Waitsburg School District, etc).

Ensuring that existing city services are fully available and expanding city services where needed and when affordable.

Supporting our existing businesses and making Waitsburg an attractive place for new businesses.

Keeping Waitsburg a safe and "family friendly" city.

*What do you think voters can expect from you as their representative?*

You can expect me to:

Be an involved and active representative.

- To solicit citizen input and factor that input into my positions and votes on the council.
- Ask meaningful questions and get answers to those questions in order to be fully informed before making a vote on council decisions.
- Ensure the city communicates effectively with the citizens.
- Work effectively and collegially with other council members and city staff.

### Karen Stanton-Gregutt

Position 4

*Why have you decided to run for a position on the Waitsburg City Council?*

I have served on the Council twice and am quite familiar with its committees and procedures. Moving ahead under County elections rules the Council's future terms will be extended, allowing for more long-term planning and better continuity. My previous work on the Planning Commission, Shoreline Management Review Committee and revisions to the city's 20-year Comprehensive Plan give me exceptional insight into the path forward. The city is at a crucial turning point, with new businesses and



Submitted Photo

Kevin House

a renovated Main Street. I have witnessed and participated in the city's recovery from an almost-abandoned downtown to a thriving, family-friendly and affordable community. More challenges are ahead, as we manage growth, expand services, support our schools and serve a growing population.

*What challenges do you see for the city in the next two years?*

It is essential to manage the city budget to continue to improve long-neglected infrastructure and maintain a talented workforce. There are ongoing projects to repair levees, improve sewers, pave streets and sidewalks and expand recreational services and facilities. All these ambitious endeavors require careful fiscal management as well as personnel training and supervision. With an influx of new businesses and artists/residents another challenge will be to support sustainable and thoughtful growth while honoring the city's rich history and farming traditions. At all times it is vital that we protect the many assets such as clean air, fresh water, safe streets, vibrant schools, and our historic Main Street downtown.

*What do you think voters can expect from you as their representative?*

I am committed to contributing my years of professional experience to my neighbors in Waitsburg. I want to expand the meaning and significance of the motto "Waitsburg Pride" to include not only our sports teams and our families, but our educators, our medical personnel, our first responders, our city crews, our business owners and everyone who values a thoughtful and well-managed town.

### Court Ruppenthal

Position 4

*Why have you decided to run for a position on the Waitsburg City Council?*

It just seems to me that we are getting stuck in a rut as a community and that we need some fresh ideas and perspectives.

Especially with ways to get more people interested in visiting and spending their dollars in our town. We need to make every effort to get Waitsburg back on the map as one of the coolest small towns anywhere!

*What challenges do you see for the city in the next two years?*

Growth. We need it to survive. Unfortunately in these particularly trying times it will be a huge challenge. I am hopeful that things will be getting back to some sort of normality soon but we'll need more than that.

As a business owner I look at most things from a business perspective. So I believe that we must find new ways to attract people to our community either as future residents, business owners, or consumers.

I am heartened by the recent building purchases downtown and the promises of new business establishments. Definitely a big step in the right direction.

*What do you think voters can expect from you as their representative?*

Transparency. I have no use for hidden agendas or misleading information. I deal in provable facts and honest, straight forward answers.

### Jillian Henze

Unopposed, Position 5

*Why have you decided to run for a position on the Waitsburg City Council?*

The Henze Family has lived in Waitsburg for three generations and I want my children to grow up in Waitsburg and cherish their time here. It is absolutely my time to step up and lead to give young families, and our littlest residents, a voice. With important issues like the uncertain futures of the library, pool and fairgrounds needing to be addressed, we need community volunteers in leadership positions to move our city forward. My knowledge from my role as editor at the *Waitsburg Times* gives me historical context to make good decisions. I have proven my dedication and love of the community through volunteering actively with the Waitsburg Flood Relief Committee, Waitsburg Christian Church and Friends of the Library.

*What challenges do you see for the city in the next two years?*

First and foremost, we must improve communication of what is happening in the city – making its business common knowledge. This can be done through asking neighbors how they want to participate in city affairs, identifying strategies to improve communication, accessibility and transparency and setting an actionable plan with measurable outcomes. Our town is small but mighty – when we point 1,200 residents in one direction, we are unstoppable. But, those residents need to be in the loop and engaged. In addition to improving communication and transparency, the city needs to take deliberate action to balance maintaining essential infrastructure like roads and sewer and maintaining the gems that improve our quality of life like the city library, pool, fairgrounds and parks.

*What do you think voters can expect from you as their representative?*

I was honored in July when the Waitsburg City Council appointed me to fill this council position in the interim. I have hit the ground running to learn, build relationships and ask questions to make good decisions and I hope to keep building on this experience. I bring years of leadership experience from my career and community service work, communications expertise, measurable results and vision for what our city could be. I also bring the needed perspective of moms and young families raising children in Waitsburg. Voters can expect that I will use my passion for community engagement and my strategic mindset to achieve win-wins, build consensus and move our city forward by bringing all neighbors to the table.

### Jim Romine

Unopposed, Position 2

No answers submitted.

Please read the candidates statement in the recently mailed Walla Walla County Voter's Guide.



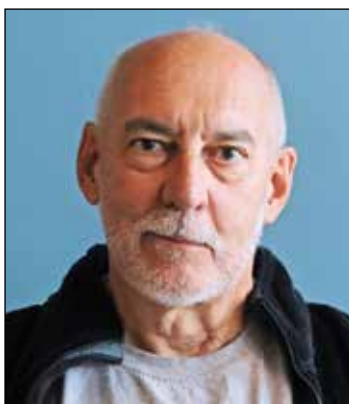
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Court Ruppenthal



Submitted Photo

Jillian Henze



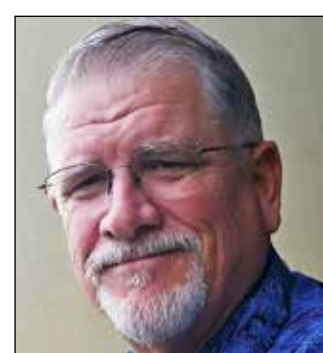
Submitted Photo

Randy Charles



Submitted Photo

Karen Gregutt



Submitted Photo

Jim Romine

# ELECTION 2021

## DAYON CANDIDATES - FROM PAGE 7

McMunn said she has managed budgets and handled the bookkeeping in two co-owned businesses. Until the first of this year, she was employed by *The Times* newspaper as the advertising and office manager.

"The City of Dayton is a business with income and expenses like any business. I believe I can help with decision making on the council," she said.

Vicki Zoller has tossed her hat into the ring as a write-in candidate for Position 5 on the Dayton City Council, going up against Marchand Hovrud for this four-year term.

Zoller believes she is the better candidate, mainly because she "shows up".

"I think that people that are seeking leadership positions in our community should show up. They should volunteer, serve on boards and committees and be plugged in to what is happening at the grassroots level in their community," Zoller said.

Zoller said the biggest challenge facing the city is finding healthy ways to grow the local economy and tax base. She said finding innovative ways to invite new home and business owners into the community will increase the shrinking tax base. The Broadband Internet Services project, efforts to create affordable housing, utilizing business incentives, and other creative planning needs to continue.

"I see solutions where others only see problems," Zoller said. "It doesn't take much to point out what is broken, but takes commitment and a willingness to stay in the fight to get things fixed, a willingness to be a part of creating positive action. I'm grateful to live in a town where that commitment is seen everyday by so many of our locals, including the sitting members of our city council. I don't have any promises to make you, if I'm elected. Those often feel like empty words. I do my best every day and that won't change regardless of this election."

Zoller chairs the Blue Mountain Station Co-op, the Friends of the Dayton Community Pool, and Columbia County Community Network. She and her husband have lived in Dayton for six years.



Submitted Photo

Fred Crowe

The incumbent Fred Crowe is facing off against Tyler Dieu for Position No. 7, a four-year term on the Dayton City Council.

Since he was appointed to the city council six months ago, Crowe said he has had ample time to familiarize himself with the diverse aspects of complex city business.

City Council positions should not be political, Crowe said, and councilors need to work with the mayor and the public to identify and address issues that can only be solved through teamwork and cooperation.

Dayton must diversify and expand its business offerings beyond what it currently has, he said. Developing new internet broadband infrastructure will attract new businesses and make all businesses in Dayton more competitive in the outside world. That, in turn, will improve city services, the schools, and other aspects of life in Dayton.

"Although retired, I have extensive past working experience with multiple budgets, contracts, and grants and have worked with diverse committees to accomplish common goals. I have a strong vision that Dayton can make progress in spite of many challenges," he said.

Crowe served as a commissioner for the Port of Columbia from 2014 to 2020. He is an active member of the Dayton Chapter of Kiwanis, occasionally volunteers at The Club, and has been a past TVAC board member.

Cindi John, Marchand Hovrud and Tyler Dieu did not respond to multiple requests for an interview. Their campaign information can be found in the Columbia County Official Voters' Pamphlet.

### DAYTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Korinda Wallace is running against incumbent David Bailey for his seat on the Dayton School District Board of Directors.

Aneasha Dieu and Anna Berg are on the ballot for Position No. 4 on the Dayton school board.

Anna Berg is no longer interested in serving on the board of directors. She said she missed the deadline to withdraw from the election. If elected, she will resign and the board will need to appoint another person to the position.

Wallace, Bailey, and Dieu did not respond to requests for an interview. Their campaign information can be found in the Columbia County Official Voter's Pamphlet.

## Vote for Kate Hockersmith Waitsburg City Mayor

Paid for by Kate for Mayor, PO Box 913, Waitsburg, WA

## Shawn Brown

**Columbia County Port Commissioner  
Position 1**

For more about my candidacy, please feel free to talk with me or any of my supporters listed below.

- |                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Bette Lou Crothers      | Bill Warren             |
| Katie Leid              | Ginny Butler            |
| Howard & Sylvia Beuhler | Walt Hessler            |
| Dave Harvey             | Lisa Naylor             |
| Joe Helm                | Judi Pilcher            |
| Paula Moisis            | Jen Lingo               |
| Julie Bicklehaupt       | Jay Ball                |
| Michael Haight          | Scott & Susan Marinella |
| Cathy Lee-Haight        |                         |



I have a strong desire to give back to the community I love. I believe that my 18 years of experience in Real Estate and Mortgage lending brings skill and diversity to the port. I also know that my experience as a Columbia County Port Commissioner for more than a year places me in a strong position to hit the ground running on day one!

Paid for by Shawn Brown for Port, P.O. Box 302, Dayton WA 99328

## PIONEER PORTRAITS

### Ten Years Ago

**October 13, 2011**

It has been 25 years since Markeeta Little Wolf has belted out songs with her powerful voice to an audience. Little Wolf performed on TV, in club acts and even on the theater stage in musicals from age 12 to 28, when she gave it all up to sell real estate and have a different kind of life. Little Wolf realized about one year ago that she still has one more show in her, she said. And she's been working since on songs, lighting, and costumes to give her friends in Waitsburg a piece of her she's kept quiet for so long.

### Twenty-Five Years Ago

**October 10, 1996**

Myra Bloor, Waitsburg, was one of six contract mail carriers in the region recently honored with the Eagle Spirit Award, which recognizes highway contract mail carriers for exemplary service. Myra has over 30 years of rural mail carrying experience in the Waitsburg-Prescott area, carrying mail to the same families her father, William Wardrip, served in his long mail carrying career. In addition to numerous friends and relatives who joined Myra at the Prescott Post Office last Thursday, two postal service supervisors from Seattle were in attendance to make the presentation.

### Fifty Years Ago

**October 14, 1971**

The work of re-shingling the Bruce House on Main Street continues this week with the job about half done. Scaffolding which has been placed around part of the house will be completed and left in place in order to accommodate painters and glaziers. Mrs. Ernest Kison, treasurer for the Waitsburg Historical Society, reported Monday night that the income for the group to date amounts to \$11,122.75 with \$2,169.51 of the amount being from the sale of books and magazines. The rest is derived from membership fees, donations, and memorials.



[Photo Caption] Pat Mohny, who received a broken ankle in the Ritzville game, carried water for the Cardinals last week and encouraged them in their efforts against the Connell Eagles. It's a bit hard carrying a bucket while hopping one-legged across the field, but Pat was equal to the occasion.

### Seventy-Five Years Ago

**October 18, 1946**

Student leaders from Waitsburg accompanied Supt. Leslie Taylor to Clarkston to a Leader's Conference in Clarkston Saturday. Making the trip were Monte Shaffer, Bob Wardrip, Betty Baim, Parke Enders, Roselle Collins, Molly Kellogg, Marilyn Otterson and Dorothy Murphy.

Jack West, Charles and Henry Zuger, Ted Grote and Chet Powers are leaving the first of the week on a deer hunting trip into the Blue Mountains above Dayton for several days. They will pack in on horseback.

The engagement of Miss Mary Geraine Fries and Jim Hanson has been announced. They plan to marry in January.

### One Hundred Years Ago

**October 14, 1921**

Morris Land of the City and U. S. Logsden of Dayton, plan to start Thursday for Oregon near Troy, where Mr. Land will engage in business and Mr. Logsden expects to spend two weeks hunting in that vicinity.

Mrs. A. J. McLaughlin entertained the ladies of the Priscilla Club and a few invited guests at her farm home just south of the City Wednesday afternoon. The afternoon was profitably spent with work and social conversation. Before leaving the guests were served an elaborate two-course lunch by the hostess.

### One Hundred Twenty-Five Years Ago

**October 16, 1896**

Married in this city Oct. 14, I. E. Scott and Miss Marietta Wickershaw. Mr. Scott is proprietor of the city bakery. The bride has been doing a good business in millinery and dressmaking.

On Tuesday night sneak thieves raided the cellar of A. Mikkelsen one-mile east of the city and carried off some canned fruit, some butter and some meat. No positive clue as yet to the perpetrators.

Several carloads of stock hogs have been shipped from this neck o'woods during the last few days. The price for fat hogs is so low that farmers can't afford to feed, hence are compelled to sacrifice and sell their stock hogs for a mere pittance - 2 cents a pound.



# THE LAST PAGE

## Inside the matchup Seahawks vs. Steelers

By Eric Umphrey | THE TIMES

Seattle (2-3) travels to Pittsburgh (2-3) this Sunday to play at 5:20 pm on NBC. This is the first game in Russell Wilson's career that he will miss. Until now, he had played in 149 straight games to start his career. The injury is a ruptured tendon on the middle finger of his right hand, and the Seahawks don't have a clear timetable for his return. According to ESPN, Wilson is expected to be out somewhere between four to six weeks. If it turns out to be only four weeks, Wilson will only miss three games since Seattle has a bye week in week nine.



Until then, Geno Smith is the starting quarterback for the Seahawks. Smith has only played two games for the Seahawks in the last two years as Wilson's backup. Before that, he has been with the Chargers, Giants, and Jets. His last full season as a starting quarterback was with the 2014 Jets. Smith has a 57.9% completion rate for his career with thirty touchdowns, thirty-seven interceptions, eighty-two sacks, and eleven fumbles over a forty-two-game career. He did look good moving the ball down the field for two possessions last week while replacing Wilson and the interception he threw was due to the receiver tripping while running the route.

The good news for Seahawks fans is that the Pittsburgh Steelers are a mess this season. Ben Roethlisberger now thirty-nine, is in his eighteenth season for the Steelers and is showing signs of slowing down. So far this season, he has more turnovers than touchdowns. Through his first five games of the season, he has six turnovers, four interceptions, and three fumbles. He's also been sacked eleven times already this season. Last year he was sacked only thirteen times for the season.

Perhaps some of Roethlisberger's issues arise from all of the injuries Pittsburgh has at wide receiver. All of Pittsburgh's top wide receivers have missed at least one game to injury. After last week's game, they found out they would be losing Juju Smith-Schuster for the rest of the season. He needs surgery to repair a dislocated shoulder he suffered last week against Denver.

Pittsburgh's primary running back is Najee Harris. Harris was great last week against the Broncos, running for one hundred twenty-two yards on twenty-three attempts. His status for this week is questionable as he left last week's game with cramps and did not return. Without Harris, the Steelers only have sixty-one yards

total rushing as a team. They would have to turn to Benny Snell Jr., who has twenty-one rushing yards in eight attempts.

On defense, Pittsburgh is one of the better teams, allowing an average of 100.4 yards per game which is ninth in the league. The Seahawks allow 145.2 yards per game. Pittsburgh is tenth in the league, allowing 22.4 points per game, and the Seahawks have been allowing an average of 25.2 points per game. Despite Pittsburgh being the favorite at home, this is definitely a winnable game for Seattle. Whichever team loses this game will have a tough time making the playoffs.

### Vote for Fred Crowe

Dayton City Council  
Position #7



The Voters' Pamphlet does not include my personal information. Please place this statement in your Voter's Pamphlet and consider voting for me.

I sit on the City Council at this time, having been chosen in March 2020 to fill a vacancy. Before that, I was an elected commissioner with the Port of Columbia from 2014-2020 working on economic development for this region. I'm also a member of Dayton Kiwanis, and I volunteer at The Club. These efforts show my commitment to this community.

My wife and I chose to live in Dayton because it is a small, rural town with a lot going for it. I enjoy and respect the people here, we've made friends, and I wish for the town to function highly and flourish. By participating on city council, I can help make that happen. I have a background in management, grant writing, consensus building and public service. I offer leadership and teamwork, and regular communication between the public and government. My career was spent mostly in small farming communities, working with agriculture and farmers.

The Root Problem: Dayton's economy has declined over many years as traditional businesses went elsewhere, and business taxes were lost. With limited business taxes, Dayton struggles to maintain expected city services. State and federal grant funds keep us functioning but provide little flexibility. Some problems get addressed but others simply get worse. For example, streets leading to medical facilities and schools get fixed, but most others get neglected. In a declining economy, schools decline and buildings become empty; young people leave the community for lack of jobs and business opportunities.

My Vision: We can bring in new businesses, which will increase local business taxes and allow for real city improvements. As an example, we can take advantage of modern trends: Polls indicate that many people in cities want to relocate to rural areas for the lifestyle, bringing businesses and jobs with them. But most such businesses require modern internet access and high-speed connections. The Port of Columbia and the city are using a one-time federal grant fund to provide for modern internet connections which anyone could access. I voted for this use of city grant funding because I think every resident and business should have this availability. When more new businesses come in, at least some traditional businesses also will return as the city prospers. Empty buildings should fill. Yes, this use of the grant funds passed over other immediate city needs, but in the long run it will lead to greater business tax income and lower personal taxes.

This notice was paid for personally by the candidate, Fred Crowe

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