



The Times

Thursday
September 17, 2026
Vol. 149 No. 30
www.waitsburgtimes.com

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



(l to r) Julia Mead served as the Crops and Forage superintendent at this year's Columbia County Fair. Volunteer Kari Dingman helped at the Fish and Wildlife exhibit.

THIS WEEK



Adam West Day
(see page 3)



Pioneer Portraits
(see page 4)



My Recipes
(see page 5)

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Waitsburg riders participate at Columbia County & WW fairs

By Karen Huwe | THE TIMES

DAYTON — Three Waitsburg girls participated in the Columbia County Fair Horse Show on August 29 and 30 at the Columbia County Fairgrounds.

Sydney Smith earned 1st place in the Western Pleasure junior class; 1st place in the English Pleasure junior class; and received red ribbons in Fitting and Showing, Halter Mare Class, and Trail class.

Ashlyn Brooks was the Reserve Champion in Fitting and Showing intermediate class and received two blue ribbons in Halter Geldings and Western Pleasure intermediate class. She earned red ribbons in Intermediate Trail, Bareback, and Western Equitation.

Rylee Cole earned blue ribbons in Fitting and Showing, and Barrels and Figure Eight. She rode her horse, Ringo.

Smith and Brooks traveled to Walla Walla on Saturday, September 5th to be flag carriers in the Walla Walla Fair and Frontier parade. Smith led the Pioneer Posse group, and Brooks carried a flag for the Walla Walla Fair and Frontier Days.



Ashlyn Brooks in the Walla Walla Fair as a flag bearer..

INJUNCTION UPHELD: FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION CAN'T INTERFERE WITH MID-TERM ELECTIONS

By Lane Gwinn | THE TIMES

OLYMPIA — On Monday, September 14, the United States Supreme Court ruled that the U.S. Postal Service cannot place new restrictions on mail-in ballots before the Nov. 3, 2026 General Election.

Washington Secretary of State Steve Hobbs issued the following statement:

"Today's decision reaffirms what we already know: the USPS rule would create unnecessary disruption and put our voters at risk. Washington's election workers are already hard at work preparing to conduct a safe, secure, and accurate election. Now, that work continues without having to upend our election processes to meet unrealistic ballot mail requirements.

"For Washington voters, the message is simple: Nothing is changing about Washington elections right now. Voters will continue to receive their ballots by mail, and I encourage every eligible Washingtonian to make a plan to vote: go to VoteWA.gov to check your voter registration and find official ballot drop boxes near you.

"This is a victory for this year's election, but I know the broader fight is not over. I will not permit any interference with our state's constitutional authority to administer elections."

Washington's Office of the Secretary of State oversees areas within state government, including managing state elections.

Fun this Friday @ Royal Block Second Annual Alley Party

By Lane Gwinn | THE TIMES



WAITSBURG — On Friday, the second annual Block Party in the Alley will bring games, music, food, and even an alley bowling alley.

The wine bar at Royal Block will be closed as owners Tiina Jaatinen and Joe Roberts host the festivities in the alley behind the hotel. Working with Waitsburg vendors and community members, the second year includes more activities, including music on the Alley Stage with Michael Kelly Band, Mythical/Movable Bluegrass Jam at the Plaza Theater, garden tours at the Waitsburg Garden Center, and art projects at the Weller Public Library. Vendors will include Red Bird Blooms with a Flower Bouquet Bar, Waitsburg Made arts and crafts from Studio Koko, Secor Hardware, Waitsburg Candle Co., and Duke and Remington.

Food will include Asian-style street food by the Royal Block, plus beer and wine from Dona Stella, Holocene, and Laht Nepur. Wolfing Coffee will be offering burritos and NA cocktails.

Royal Block Party
Friday, September 18, 2026
5 p.m. to 10 p.m.
W. Main Street Alley, Weller Public Library, Waitsburg Garden Center, and Plaza Theater.

All ages. No entrance fee. ID required to access beer and wine garden.



NEWS BRIEFS

NEWS BRIEFS

LETTERS

AT THE LIBERTY: “Practical Magic 2” September 18-22

THE TIMES

DAYTON — Starring Sandra Bullock and Nicole Kidman, “Practical Magic 2” returns to a world steeped in moonlit mischief and powerful ancestral magic. The Owens sisters must confront the dark curse that threatens to unravel their family once and for all in a must-see cinematic event of fun, magic, and mayhem. The cast includes Joey King, Dianne Wiest, Stockard Channing, Lee Pace, Maisie Williams, and Xolo Mariduena. Rated PG-13 for some violent content, suggestive material and brief strong language and has a Runtime of 130 minutes.

After opening weekend, Rotten Tomatoes critics and audiences were split on “Practical Magic 2”. One patron wrote, “Contrary to some critics that think they know, I believe after watching this movie it sums up the whole story beautifully! The acting, the clothing, the background, and chemistry were amazing! I grew up watching this and loved it, and my daughters and I went to this, and we all loved it too! It’s fun, and that’s what it’s meant to be!”

The “Manhattan Short Film Festival” returns September 25-29 with 10 films from 10 countries. For the first time in its history, “Manhattan Shorts” includes films from 10 countries: the USA, Ireland, Australia, South Africa, United Kingdom, Moldova, Russia, Cuba, Georgia, and Mexico, making up “Manhattan Short 2026”.

“Since 9/11, my vision for this Festival has been to create a filmic Olympiad. An event consisting of ten quality shorts from ten separate countries that joins the world, and finally in 2026 we’ve managed to do that. I’m very excited for the reaction it receives from our worldwide audiences”, said Nicholas Mason, founding director of “Manhattan Short Film Festival”.

Join over 100,000 film lovers internationally who will unite in over 500 cities on six continents for one reason...to view and vote on the Finalists’ Films in the 29th Annual “Manhattan Short Film Festival”. View all the finalists in one night during our regular movie times and for our regular movie prices. Enjoy a glass of wine on Friday and Saturday night.

Upcoming Movies: “Practical Magic 2” September 18-22, “Manhattan Short Film Festival” September 25-29, “Sense & Sensibility” TBD. Schedule is always subject to change.



THE LIBERTY THEATER - DAYTON

**THRIFTY
\$6 TUESDAYS**

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

SEPTEMBER 18-22

RATED: PG-13 for some violent content, suggestive material and brief strong language

RUNTIME: 130 minutes

PRACTICAL MAGIC 2

THE LIBERTY THEATER - DAYTON

**The 28th Annual
MANHATTAN SHORT FILM
FESTIVAL**

ONE WORLD - ONE WEEK - ONE FESTIVAL

FRI	SEPT. 25	7:00pm
SAT	SEPT. 26	7:00pm
SUN	SEPT. 27	3:00pm
TUES	SEPT. 29	6:30pm

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The Liberty Theater in Dayton is the ONLY venue in Eastern WA to host this amazing event in 2026!



RUNTIME: Approx. 2hrs 45min.

DAYTON'S FRIENDS OF THE POOL CONTINUES SWIM LESSONS REIMBURSEMENT

THE TIMES

Letter to the Editor,

So far this summer, five families have participated in the Friends of the Pool program to reimburse swimming lessons for Columbia County residents. Eight children have had their lessons at the Walla Walla YMCA, fully reimbursed through this offer. Hopefully, the word will spread, and more families will participate.

The offer extends year-round and is not limited to summer.

You can receive swim lessons anywhere, as long as it is a certified program such as the American Red Cross. To be reimbursed, send invoices with participants’ names and Columbia County addresses to the Friends of the Pool. Please send invoices to Friends of the Pool, P.O. Box 192, Dayton, WA. 99328.

We will also reimburse for advanced training such as lifeguard certification. One local young lady did this a year ago; we hope more will in the future.

Finally, there is no age limit. We will reimburse for adult lessons, too.

However, we don’t reimburse for travel expenses, exercise programs, swim club, and competition fees, etc.

Reimbursement funds for lessons come from grant funds and donations received by Friends of the Pool. We intend to continue the program until a local community pool is constructed in Dayton. The Columbia County Parks & Recreation Pool District is raising funds towards a new pool. Please vote for the annual “Pool District” tax levy this fall and help as you can with the district’s fundraising for the replacement pool.

Regards,
Fred Crowe, Chairperson
Friends of the Pool Committee
P.O. Box 192
Dayton, WA 99328

BIRTHDAYS

September 17: Gustavo Reese, Tom Duckworth, Elizabeth Alleman, Mindy Eaton, Nathan Hansen, Nathan Hamann.

September 18: Ashley Wilson, Jeff Pietila, Rob McKinney, Naomi Davis, Eric Laughery, Clinton Davidson, Annika Garbe.

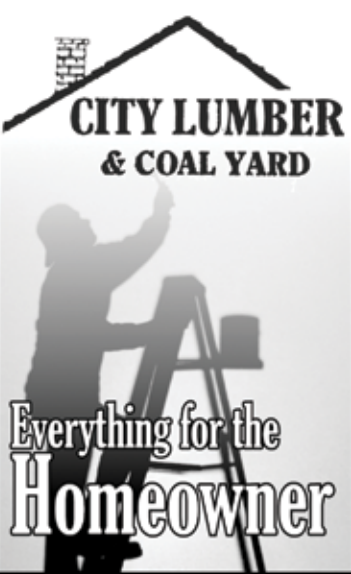
September 19: Teighan Anderson, Tom Wagner, Kelly Price, Robbie Ezell, Marina Huff, Paul Hall.

September 20: Owen Senter, Rhonda Newbury, Monte Duncan, Robyn Dunleavy, and Alex Solis.

September 21: Bob Rabern, Kenneth Crawford, Fred R. Gritman, Diana Larsen.

September 22: Marty Dunn, Phyllis Rubel, Cheryl Hansen, Marie Gagnon, Misty Nix, Lynn Rohlfing, Kyle Sickles, Dale Holloway, Matt Stoutenburg, Dorothy Rude.

September 23: Kathryn Greenwell, Jim Langdon, David Johnson, Gregory Liebermann, Brad Green, Jayden Dunleavy.



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SUPPORT FOR SCHRAM AS GENUINE CANDIDATE

To the editor

As a physician, I have spent my career in a profession where trust, integrity, and accountability are essential. Those same qualities shape the people I choose to call close friends. I have known Richard Schram for ten years, and I am proud to count him among them.

Richard’s friendship extends to my entire family. Our children know him simply as “Uncle Richard.” He takes a genuine interest in their schoolwork, activities, and hobbies because he genuinely cares. I see that same commitment in his enthusiasm for visiting local schools and engaging with young people through community outreach.

Richard’s love for Walla Walla County is equally genuine. He speaks with pride about the people he serves and his responsibility to them. His conviction was so compelling that my family and I chose to leave the Tri-Cities and make Walla Walla County our home.

Titles tell us what someone does; character tells us who they are. After a decade of friendship, I know Richard’s character. He has earned my trust and respect. I wholeheartedly endorse Richard Schram and believe Walla Walla County would be fortunate to have a man of his integrity, compassion, and commitment serving as sheriff for our community.

Jaz Matharu, M.D.
Burbank, Washington



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The Times

A PROUD TRADITION

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

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

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

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In County (Available in Columbia and Walla Walla County, Wash.)	Out of County
1-year subscription: \$40	1-year subscription: \$45
2-year subscription: \$75	2-year subscription: \$85
3-year subscription: \$105	3-year subscription: \$120

OBITUARY

David J. Elkins

October 27, 1952 – September 9, 2026

David J. Elkins, husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend, passed away on September 9, 2026, at the age of 73.

David was born on October 27, 1952. He was a man who found happiness in the simple things in life, especially being outdoors and spending time with the people he loved. He enjoyed hunting, camping, and riding his side-by-side, and many of his favorite memories came from sharing those adventures with his wife, Sharon, his sister, Delphine, and her family, as well as his children, their spouses, and his grandchildren. Whether exploring a trail, spending time at camp, or simply sitting together around a campfire, David treasured being surrounded by family.

David is survived by his children, David Elkins and his wife, Sara, and Tabitha Haney and her husband, Mark. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Mikel Vance, Nickolas Vance, and Owen Elkins, his sister Delphine, numerous other siblings, their fami-



Courtesy photo

David J. Elkins
October 27, 1952 – September 9, 2026

lies, and many extended family members and friends.

David was preceded in death by his wife, Sharon Elkins, and his siblings, Scott Elkins, Betty Knight, and Leonard Elkins.

His family will remember not only the man he was, but the time he gave them, the adventures they shared, and the memories he helped create. He will be deeply missed and forever loved.

A Celebration of Life honoring David will be held on September 19, 2026, at 1:00 p.m., at 627 South Touchet Road, Dayton, Washington. Family and friends are invited to gather to remember David and celebrate his life and the memories he leaves behind.

CARDINAL SPORTS with Karen Huwe

FIRST MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOTBALL GAME

Waitsburg Middle School's football team lost their first game of the season, 62-25, at Pomeroy on Thursday, September 10.

"It was a learning opportunity, as it was the first game ever for a lot of our kids. So, we came out a little timid, but we picked it up in the second half. Super proud of how the boys stayed resilient despite being put in positions they don't normally play due to injuries throughout the game. We are excited about how we finished the game, and we are looking to carry that momentum towards Dayton next week," said coach Chris Andrews.

"The expectation this season is to compete, work hard, and grow every day. As a coaching staff, we want our student-athletes to learn what it means to be a great teammate and work together toward a common goal, while developing the foundational football skills that will help them succeed at the high school level. Just as importantly, we want to help develop our players into young people who understand the value of hard work, are resilient when things get difficult, and are willing to help and support those around them," said Andrews.

Against Pomeroy, Nolan King scored touchdowns on a kickoff return and rushing. Hudson Lynch and Forrest Cooper led the team in tackles.

Come support the Cardinals at their first home game of the season against Dayton on Thursday, September 17. Kickoff is at 4:30 p.m.



YOUTH FOOTBALL STARTS SEASON WITH FAN SUPPORT AND ROOM TO GROW

Waitsburg's Youth football team played Milton-Freewater in its first game of the season on Saturday, September 12. The young Cardinal team was down 25-20 with three seconds left when Milton-Freewater scored a touchdown ending the game with the final score 31-20.

Waitsburg plays 8-man football in a league with Dayton, Milton-Freewater, Athena-Weston, Pilot Rock, and Irrigon.

Sixth-grader Charlie Reger threw a 20-yard pass to classmate Isaac Knudson for the team's first touchdown of the season. Sixth-grader Julian Gillentine had a ground game of 115 yards with two rushing touchdowns.

"The coaches are extremely proud of how the team played. We've seen great improvements from each player since the first practice, and at the game, it was impressive how the boys kept supporting each other and how they stayed unified as a team," said coach Daniel Watkins.

A big shout-out to the parents and fans who showed up to support and cheer the team on.

The youth team's next game will be at a jamboree in Athena-Weston on Saturday, September 19.

STEP BACK IN TIME AT THE WAITSBURG PIONEER FALL FESTIVAL

THE TIMES

WAITSBURG — Join us for an afternoon of great food, pioneer craft demonstrations, horse-drawn carriage rides, antique farm equipment and tools, vintage style show and tours of the historic museum, from noon to 4 p.m. in Waitsburg, Washington.

Nestled in the rolling hills of southeastern Washington, the Waitsburg Pioneer Fall Festival starts with a Community Church Service at 11 am, followed by the Pioneer of the Year award at noon. Enjoy the sounds of live music, including the fun and unique songs of historic Bluegrass music, plus other live music from talented artists in the area.

Treat yourself to a delicious Bison burger with all the fixings, and for dessert there's a wide variety of mouth-watering pies from the Laurette McCaw Pioneer Pie Baking Contest. Admire the classic antique



Times Archive

Ron and Marilyn Groom will be honored as Pioneers of the Year.

cars, watch the Vintage Style Show, take a ride in a horse-drawn carriage and see how history was made with traditional pioneer crafts and museum tours by donation.

It's a great way to spend a Sunday afternoon. Embrace the heritage of the Touchet Valley at the Waitsburg Pioneer Fall Festival, 318 Main Street, Waitsburg, Washington, on Sunday, September 20, from noon to 4 pm.

ADAM WEST DAY CELEBRATES THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF BATMAN TV SERIES

THE TIMES

WALLA WALLA—The Kirkman House Museum is hosting Walla Walla's annual Adam West Day. This year's celebration marks the 60th Anniversary of the campy Batman television show.

On Saturday, September 19, the actor's hometown will honor West's life, legacy, and his portrayal of Gotham City's superpower-free superhero. West's Batman was less of a dark vigilante and more of a Boy Scout protector than the franchise's later interpretations.

Festivities begin at 10 a.m. with an opening ceremony at the Kirkman House Museum at 214 N. Colville Street in Walla Walla. There will be costumes, games, food and a car show including the Batcopter, the 1966 and 1989 Batmobiles, and the Batman Porsche.

Born William West Anderson on September 18, 1928, in Walla Walla. The son of a farmer and an opera singer, he attended Whitman College. His acting career began in the 1950s with supporting roles in television westerns and action movies including "Robinson Crusoe on Mars."

West died in June 2017 after a brief battle with leukemia. Three months later, Walla Walla resident Jonathan Grant, with friends and community members, organized the first Adam West Day.



Courtesy photo



The Times

Adam West Day is coming, and the bat sign is illuminated on the tower of the Marcus Whitman Hotel.

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Oktoberfest '26

FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26
11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Free admission

FOOD, DRINK & MUSIC

Oktoberfest food at the Co-op
My Dad's Place Pizza
Beer garden
Moments Remembered DJ

FUN ACTIVITIES

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Cake walk
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Bead stringing
Browsing vendor booths

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LEGALS & FUN

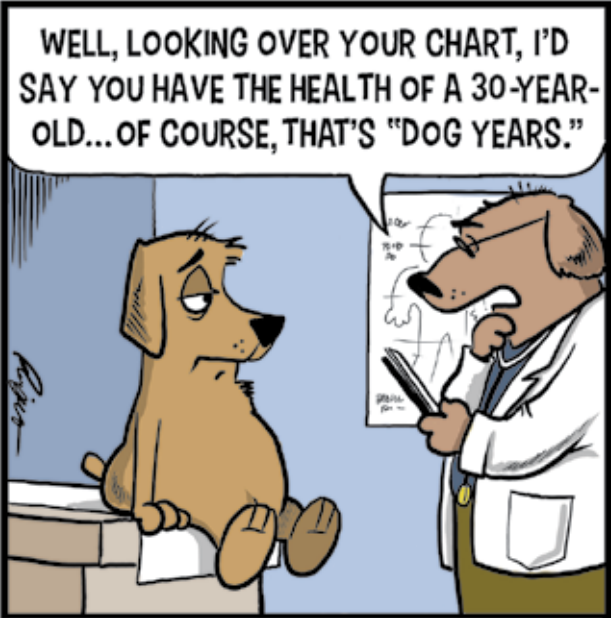
The Friendly Forest

By Jimmye L. Turner

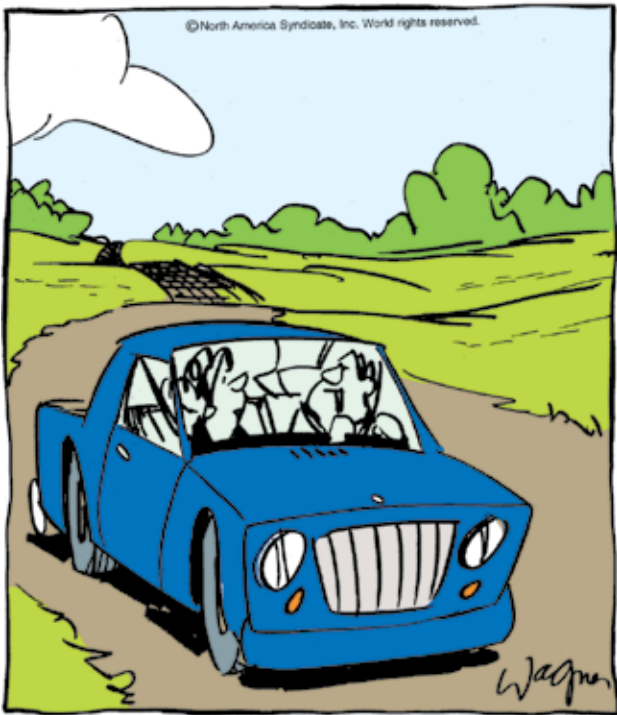


Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



GRIN and BEAR IT



LEGAL NOTICES

Regular Board Session

Thursday September 24, 2026, 6 PM
NOTICE is hereby given that the Board of Directors of Prescott School District No. 402-37, Walla Walla and Columbia Counties, Washington, will hold their REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD meeting on Thursday, 24 September 2026 at 207 S. A Street, Prescott, WA 99348. The meeting is being called to discuss and act upon regular monthly school business. The meeting will follow the guidelines of a Regular Board Session. To ensure compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 42.30, RCW), the Board will treat the meeting on 24 September 2026 as a regular meeting and provides notice as required by law. If you wish to make public comment you must sign in prior to the start of the meeting. The Times
September 17, 2026
9-17-a

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA

No. 26 4 00163 36
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In re the Estate of ROBERT G. MONJE, Deceased.
The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided by RCW 11.40.070 by serving or mailing to the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of:
(1) Thirty (30) days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or
(2) Four (4) months after the date of first publication of this notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051, and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.
Date of first publication: 3 September 2026
Personal Representative: Lori Lynn Goucher

c/o Michael E. de Grasse
Counsel for Personal Representative
59 S. Palouse St.
P. O. Box 494
Walla Walla, WA 99362
Walla Walla County Superior Court
Cause No.: 26-4-00163-36
/s/ Lori Lynn Goucher, Personal Representative
The Times
September 3, 10, 17, 2026
9-3-a

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON

IN AND FOR WALLA WALLA COUNTY
NO. 26-4-00142-36
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
RCW 11.40.030
In Re the Estate of: SANDRA LYNN SMITH, Deceased.
The Administrator named below has been appointed as administrator of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Administrator or the Administrator's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of:
(1) Thirty (30) days after the Administrator served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or
(2) Four (4) months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and non-probate assets.
Administrator: James R. Smith
Attorney for the Administrator: Mona J. Geidl
Minnick-Hayner, PS
Address for Mailing or Service: Mona J. Geidl
Minnick-Hayner, PS
PO Box 1757
Walla Walla, WA 99362
Walla Walla County Superior Court, Cause Number: 26-4-00142-36
Date of First Publication: September 17, 2026
By: /s/ James R. Smith, Administrator of the Estate of Sandra Lynn Smith
Dates of Publication: The Times
September 17, 24, October 1, 2026
9-17-b

PIONEER PORTRAITS

Fifteen Years Ago
September 22, 2011



[Photo Caption] Suzanne Fletcher (right), director of the newly formed Washington Tourism Alliance, walks through Waitsburg with Karen Stanon Gregutt of Waitsburg Cottages and Joy Smith of Hugs, Gifts & Collectables and Town Hall.

Twenty-Five Years Ago
September 20, 2001

Waitsburg Mayor Wayne Peterson and other guests cut the ribbon at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, September 13 on the newly improved East 8th Street Project in Waitsburg. The project repaves and widens East 8th Street from Coppei Avenue to the East City Limits. The improvements include new pavement, sidewalks, and storm drainage facilities. The improvements address longstanding safety and pedestrian needs. A grant from the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) provided nearly \$336,000 for the improvements. The balance of the funding came from the City of Waitsburg. "The Waitsburg East 8th Street project is a great example of a successful partnership between the state and local governments," said Board Chair rob McKenna.

Fifty Years Ago
September 16, 1976

A fresh-off-the-press book, "Waitsburg, One of a Kind," and barbecued buffalo are the featured items offered this year at the fourth annual Pioneer Fall Festival sponsored by the Waitsburg Historical Society, Sunday, Sept. 19 at the Bruce House. The book, a history of Waitsburg told in story and pictures, has been one of the projects of the Society since it was formed six years ago. It traces the formation of the community from its inception in 1865 to the present time. It is a hardback, 8 by 10 inch, volume of family and community history. Vance Orchard, well known journalist from Walla Walla, has correlated all the stories into a fascinating book highlighted by plenty of old photographs. He will be present Sunday afternoon at the Festival to autograph copies of the book which go on sale that day.

Seventy-Five Years Ago
September 21, 1951

Larry Broom and Roy Reed have purchased the Blue Mountain Insurance Agency from the Touchet Valley Grain Growers. James and Harvey Stonecipher and Walter Hamilton of Walla Walla were salmon fishing Wednesday at Celilo Falls. The singing Bluebirds met with Mrs. Reed assisted by Mrs. Clodius. Barbara Dye was snack hostess. We went on a bug hunt to start a collection.

One Hundred Years Ago
September 24, 1926

A car of race horses belonging to George Drumheller, the well-known horseman, arrived here Tuesday together with a crew of jockeys. A crew of workmen are busily engaged this week in tearing down the First Presbyterian Church at the corner of Main and Fifth, preparatory to the erection of a new and modern structure at once. Oscar and Bruce Abbey and Harry Buroker played with the Milton-Freewater band during the Pendleton Round-up.

One Hundred Twenty-Five Years Ago
September 27, 1901

Chas Neace and Chas Weller left last week for Portland where they will attend the Bishop Scott Academy this winter. Frank Maxwell of Alto was thrown from a bucking horse the first of the week and fractured his right arm besides being badly bruised up. D. W. Stauffer who for the past three and a half years has been employed in a flour mill at Needy, Ore. arrived in the city Saturday to accept a position as night miller at the Preston-Parton Mill.

FUNKY JUNGUE CRAFT FAIR

OCTOBER 3 - 4, 2026

SATURDAY 9-5

SUNDAY 10-3

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PUZZLES & LIFESTYLES

Super Crossword

JUST ADD WATER

- ACROSS
- 1 "May I talk to you briefly?"
- 8 Placed
- 12 Motor oil additive
- 15 TV character whom you "better call"
- 19 Certain outlet accessory
- 20 River of Aragon
- 21 Weeding tool
- 22 Singer Amos
- 23 Like a gallery that has five dozen paintings by artist Antoine?
- 25 Sort of
- 27 Shar- — (wrinkly dogs)
- 28 What a hailstorm is doing when composer Jean-Philippe is caught in it?
- 30 Hawaiian for "appetizer"
- 32 Little League precursor
- 33 Calling device in a forest east of Paris?
- 41 Banquet, e.g.
- 45 Four eighths
- 46 Let borrow again
- 47 Monte —
- 48 Oil from flower petals
- 49 Wine enjoyed near a hearth?
- 53 Aliens, briefly
- 54 August hrs.
- 55 Guilty feeling
- 56 Garage oil
- 58 Hilo hellos
- 64 Giving the go-ahead for
- 68 Atmosphere
- 69 Raised, flat land that you are visiting today?
- 72 Rapa — (Easter Island)
- 73 Bookish sort
- 75 Giorgio of fashion
- 76 Apartment policy about animals
- 78 Island porch
- 80 Goat's cry
- 82 Application file extension
- 83 Festive antique hat?
- 91 Slanting
- 93 "Nay" says
- 94 Shower sponges
- 95 100-page story, maybe
- 97 Portend
- 98 That powerful essayist Henry David?
- 101 Sea's edge
- 102 Have — (lose it)
- 103 Flat-bottomed vessel sailing across the River Styx from Hades?
- 111 Notion, in Paris
- 115 An hour before midnight
- 116 Teasing tribute held at the Green Bay Packers' stadium?
- 119 Sold out, say
- 120 "Rock and Roll, Hoochie —" (1973 hit)
- 121 Leg, e.g.
- 122 Tom Cruise/ Dustin Hoffman film
- 123 Puts in place
- 124 Pastor's talk: Abbr.
- 125 Legs' counterparts
- 126 Iran neighbor
- DOWN
- 1 [I'm in shock!]
- 2 Comics dog
- 3 Metered car
- 4 Bldg. units in complexes
- 5 Pig's home
- 6 "Ick!"
- 7 Deep-fried crustacean appetizers
- 8 Riga native, old-style
- 9 Aid in crime
- 10 "Dies —" (Latin hymn)
- 11 Gloomy
- 12 Tibias
- 13 Native of Nuku'alofa
- 14 Eye care chain
- 15 Fruit discard
- 16 Top-tier
- 17 — Major (constellation)
- 18 In — of
- 24 Tightly strung
- 26 Mineo of "Exodus"
- 29 "— to Be You" (pop standard)
- 30 Bartlett, e.g.
- 31 "Friendly skies" carrier, for short
- 33 Python's kin
- 34 — -coated aspirin
- 35 Large central feature of the Astros' logo
- 36 — apso
- 37 Be mistaken
- 38 Singer Brenda
- 39 Chicago Loop trains
- 40 Luau paste
- 41 British bud
- 42 Previous to
- 43 Taking after
- 44 Singer Rawls
- 47 Chevy pony car
- 50 "Let's just leave — that"
- 51 Toy train, when repeated
- 52 "— Matata" ("The Lion King" song)
- 54 Part of FDR
- 56 Car tankful
- 57 Spreads out, as fingers
- 59 Meadowland
- 60 Crew tool
- 61 Engine noise
- 62 Org. for cavity fillers
- 63 It rises daily
- 65 Kicked out of a country
- 66 Chocolaty spread brand
- 67 U.S. soldiers
- 70 — Sea (salt lake in Asia)
- 71 "Sands of Iwo —"
- 74 Basic trick for a skateboarder
- 77 Actor O'Toole
- 79 Baseless bit of gossip
- 81 Ditzzy relative of Samantha on "Bewitched"
- 83 Sharp punch
- 84 Singer Yoko
- 85 "Inc." relative
- 86 Orbiter with a tail
- 87 — polloi
- 88 Olympic code for Kabul's country
- 89 Oom- — band
- 90 "C"— la vie"
- 91 State firmly
- 92 Fraternity "T"
- 96 "Well now!"
- 98 Flat, hollow sounds
- 99 Crested bird with black-and-white wings
- 100 Harvard rival
- 101 Submission encl.
- 103 Pleads
- 104 Balm plant
- 105 Camp shelter
- 106 Nights before
- 107 Stewpot
- 108 Impartial
- 109 "I wonder ..."
- 110 Recedes
- 111 Actress Skye
- 112 Accurse
- 113 Morales of film and TV
- 114 Volcano in Sicily
- 117 Egypt and Syr., once
- 118 Crater's edge

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Weekly SUDOKU

				1			4	9
				4	3			5
6	1	4			9	7		
						9	7	
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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MY RECIPES

Luke Chavez

My Favorite Chocolate Cake with Vanilla Buttercream

Perhaps because of my approaching birthday, or a simple craving for the mood-enhancing properties of cocoa, I have recently been dreaming of a perfect chocolate cake. Balancing sweetness with the deep, complex flavors of cocoa is a culinary science unto itself. This much-loved recipe results in a moist, silky textured cake with a rich and comforting flavor. Finished with a luscious vanilla buttercream frosting, this cake makes a memorable centerpiece to any celebration, big or small.

Ingredients:

For the Cake:

- ½ cup Dutch-process cocoa powder
- 1 ½ cups granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon fine sea salt (or 2 teaspoons Kosher salt)
- 1 ¾ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- ½ cup neutral oil (canola, safflower, etc.)
- 1 ½ cups freshly brewed strong coffee, hot
- 2 large eggs at room temperature, whisked
- For the buttercream frosting:
- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, softened
- 2 cups confectioners' sugar, sifted
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- Pinch of salt
- 2 tablespoons heavy cream, at room temperature
- Dark chocolate shavings for garnish (optional, see notes)

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees and set the rack in the upper third of oven. Grease two 8-inch round cake pans, then line bottoms with parchment paper. Grease top of the paper and dust with flour, tapping out excess. Set aside.

In a medium bowl, whisk together the cocoa, sugar, salt, flour, and baking soda. Next, sift these dry ingredients into a large mixing bowl.

In a medium bowl, combine the vanilla, oil, and still warm coffee. Make a well in the center of the dry ingredients then, in a steady stream, slowly whisk in the coffee-oil mixture until well incorporated. Then, slowly whisk in the eggs, stirring until a smooth thin batter is formed.

Evenly divide the batter between the two prepared pans. Drop the pans onto the counter flat a couple of times from a height of a few inches to release any air bubbles that may have formed in the batter. Place pans in the oven, and bake for 25 to 30 minutes, until the cake just pulls away from the edges of the pan and springs back when touched. Insert a toothpick into the center and it should come out clean.

Remove from the oven and allow the cakes to completely cool on a wire rack before unmolding from the pans.

While the cakes are cooling make the frosting. In a large bowl, beat the butter and sugar until combined with an electric mixer on low speed. Scrape down the sides of the bowl with a rubber spatula, then continue to beat at a medium-high speed until very light and fluffy, about 4 minutes. Frosting will lighten in color and get glossy when it is at right texture. Add the vanilla, salt, and heavy cream, mixing until fully incorporated. If you are not using right away, press a piece of plastic over the top and keep in the refrigerator. Bring back to room temperature before using.

When the cakes are cool, unmold and carefully remove the parchment paper. Place one cake, round side down, on a serving plate. You might need to shave a bit of the rounded end down carefully with a serrated knife to help it sit flat on the plate. Spread an even layer of the frosting over the smooth top of cake, leaving a little room at the edge. You want the frosting to be visible but not oozing out when the second cake is placed over the first layer. Place second cake, flat side down, over the first cake. Frost a generous layer of the buttercream over the top of cake, using a small spatula to decoratively spread the frosting. Leave sides exposed to highlight the contrast between the rich dark cake and the fluffy white frosting. If using, decorate the top with dark chocolate shavings.

Notes:

It is important to carefully measure your dry ingredients using dry measuring cups that you can level off at the top with a knife. Use the highest quality Dutch-process cocoa you can find.

To make chocolate shavings, use a box grater or vegetable peeler to shave curls off a bar of premium dark chocolate. Again, use the best ingredients you can find.

I recently served this decadent dessert at Ten Ton Coffee during the special Main Street Open House night. The moist, flavorful chocolate cake proved popular, and we quickly sold every slice. Serve this at your next special occasion, with strong coffee or an after-dinner cordial. Any leftover buttercream frosting can be kept in the freezer. Enjoy!



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Super Crossword

Answers

A	C	T	U	A	T	O	R		A	S	H	R	A	M		M	E	S	A	S
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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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



Community Calendar

WAITSBURG MONTHLY MEETINGS

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

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

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

 **Waitsburg School Board**
Third Thursday of every month @ 6 p.m. at the Waitsburg Elementary School Library. Zoom info is available at [Waiatburgsd.org](https://waitsburgsd.org) by emailing waitsburgcc@icloud.com

Waitsburg Home and School Association
First Wednesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at the Waitsburg Elementary School Library. All welcome.

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

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

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

Friends of the Weller Public Library
Second Tuesday of the month, @ 7:15 p.m. Weller Public Library, 212 Main St.

Waitsburg Commercial Club
Quarterly meetings, second Tuesday of January, April, July, and October. At noon. Zoom info is available by emailing waitsburg-cc@icloud.com.

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

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



DAYTON & COLUMBIA COUNTY MEETINGS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



PRESCOTT MEETINGS
Prescott Joint Park & Rec District (PJPRD) Monthly meetings for 2026 are 2nd Thursday of each month, @ 6:30 p.m.
Prescott School District Board of Directors Meeting 4th Thursday of each month, @ 6 p.m. @ Prescott School Multi-Purpose, room 401, and on Zoom, Meeting ID: 846 7687 9995

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

Lunches

WAITSBURG SENIOR CENTER

504 Main Street
11 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 22
Chicken & Dumplings
MOW: Vegetables, Salad
Rice, Fruit
IN HOUSE: Salad Bar

WAITSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

Thursday, Sept. 17
Breakfast
Pancake & Sausage
Lunch
Orange Chickn
Rice, Brocoli
Fruit Choice
Friday, Sept. 18
Breakfast
Biscuit & Sausage
Lunch
Hot Ham & Cheese

Tomato Soup
Green Beans
Fruit Choice
Monday, Sept. 21
Breakfast
Breakfast Pizza
Lunch
Pizza
House Salad
Fruit Choice
Tuesday, Sept. 22
Breakfast
Biscuits & Gravy
Lunch
Haystack

Fresh Toppings
Black Bean Salsa
Fruit Choice
Wednesday, Sept. 23
Breakfast
Breakfast Round & Egg
Lunch
Chicken Sandwich
Tater Tots
Corn
Fruit Choice



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More to do this weekend

Pioneer Fall Festival

Sunday, September 20th

Admission is Free!

The Bruce Memorial Museum Complex

4th & Main Street, Waitsburg 509.386.3739



The Waitsburg Historical Society* invites you to Join Us!

11:00-11:45am Community Worship Service
11:45-Noon Pioneer of the Year Presentation
1:00pm Pie Auction
1:30pm Vintage Style Show
12:00-4:00pm Live Music on Main Stage

Plus a Variety of Great Food, Pioneer Craft Demos, Horse-drawn Wagon Rides & More!

Free Tours: Bruce House, Wilson-Phillips House, Vintage School Room, Carriage House and Mill House Model

*The Waitsburg Historical Society is a 501c(3) Non-Profit. Find us at: www.WaitsburgMuseum.org



SATURDAY
SEPT. 26TH
2026

SALMON BBQ

GATES
OPEN
5:00 PM

WAITSBURG, WASHINGTON - FAIRGROUNDS

FRESH SALMON GRILLED OVER WOOD FIRE, FAMOUS SAUCE, BAKED POTATO, BAKED BEANS, FRENCH BREAD, COLE SLAW, with BEER, WINE, SOFT DRINKS AVAILABLE

TICKETS AVAILABLE: Waitsburg Grocery, Banner Bank in Waitsburg

Northwest Grain Growers & Wheatland Bank in Dayton

Pearson Dental & Walla Walla Electric in Walla Walla

ONLINE: at [EVENTBRITE.COM](https://eventbrite.com)

Adults 21 & Over – Tickets \$40