

Quakes at Mount Adams

USGS reports sharp increase in number of earthquakes at volcano last month / Main 9



A big corn maze and more

The Huntting's Pumpkin Patch and Haunted Forest have a lot to offer in Cinebar / B16

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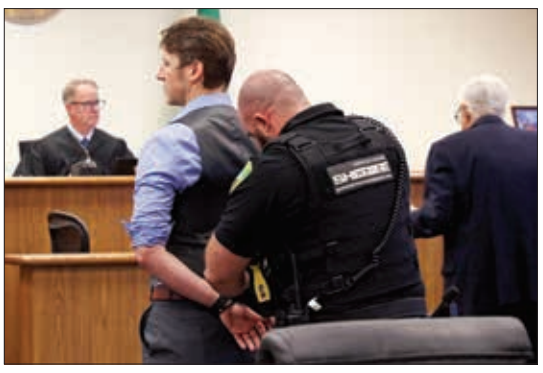
Woman arrested with 1,300 fentanyl pills shortly after release
Main 10

'This will not be tolerated'

Judge delivers maximum sentence to three men convicted for defacing the 'Friendship Fence' in Chehalis



Emily Fitzgerald / emily@chronline.com
A Lewis County Sheriff's Office deputy handcuffs Matthew A. Clement, 33, of Centralia, after he was sentenced in Lewis County Superior Court on Friday, Oct. 4, to 364 days in prison.

By Emily Fitzgerald
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A Lewis County Superior Court judge has sentenced the three men convicted by a jury for defacing the "Friendship Fence" in Chehalis earlier this year to 364 days in prison: the maximum sentence allotted for their cases.

"This crime cries out for the maximum. It cries out for a statement that this will not be tolerated," Judge J. Andrew Toynbee said during a sentencing hearing for the three defendants, Frank John B. Bagley II, 40, of Seattle, Matthew A. Clement, 33, of Centralia, and Gabriel R. Smith-Nilsen, 25, of Driggs, Idaho, on Friday, Oct. 4.

Bagley, Clement and Smith-Nilsen were arrested in Centralia early in the morning on Sunday, Feb. 25, after a neighbor saw them defacing the Friendship Fence — a rainbow-colored fence — in Chehalis and followed them as they fled in a dark-colored Subaru station wagon.

The Chehalis Police Department received a call at 12:08

please see **FENCE,** *page Main 2*

Marie Gluesenkamp Perez, Joe Kent spar during first debate ahead of general election

Abortion, border security and the national debt emerge as top issues at Longview event

By Mitchell Roland
mitchell@chronline.com

If there was any question of the interest in the Third Congressional District, the collection of state and national media who traveled to Longview on Wednesday for a debate between freshman Democratic Rep. Marie Gluesenkamp Perez and Republican challenger Joe Kent seemed to show just how much focus there will be on Southwest Washington in the coming weeks.

Organized by the Cowlitz Civil Dialogue Project, the debate drew media attention from outlets in Seattle and Portland and CNN to the Rose Center for the Arts at Lower Columbia College. There, Kent and Gluesenkamp Perez discussed the economy, the fentanyl crisis, heightened conflict in the Middle East and immigration reform, among other issues.

The crowd largely refrained from reacting during the debate, except for one audience member who was removed from the

please see **DEBATE,** *page Main 7*



Kody Christen / kody@chronline.com
Incumbent U.S. Rep. Marie Gluesenkamp Perez, left, reacts to a statement from challenger Joe Kent during a Washington Third Congressional District debate at Lower Columbia College in Longview on Wednesday, Oct. 2. **See the full debate on The Chronicle's Facebook and Instagram pages and at chronline.com.**

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Fuller's Market Place



New owners talk plans for Centralia store
/ Main 4

Boistfort brush fire



Lewis County firefighters, DNR responds to late-season blaze
/ Main 16

Deaths

Birk, Marie Louise, 76, Centralia

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Fence

Continued from the front page

a.m. on Sunday, Feb. 25, from the neighbor, Norman Lynn, reporting three subjects "wearing all black and ski masks" were spray painting the Friendship Fence in the 600 block of Northwest Pennsylvania Avenue.

They hid behind the house before fleeing on foot, getting into a dark-colored station wagon and fleeing northbound on Interstate 5 into Centralia. Officers with the Centralia Police Department were able to stop the suspects' vehicle as they were trying to get onto southbound I-5 at 12:38 a.m. on Feb. 25, according to police call logs.

Officers found a stencil "covered in multicolored paint and had the words 'Patriotfront' as the cutout for the sign," as well as a blue bag containing "several pieces of White Lives Matter and … literature and propaganda stickers" inside the vehicle the suspects were in when Centralia police arrested them on Feb. 25.

A Lewis County jury ruled Friday, Sept. 27 that Bagley, Clement and Smith-Nilsen were not guilty of felony hate crime charges, but were guilty of third-degree malicious mischief.

The crime is a gross misdemeanor with a maximum penalty of 364 days in prison.

"This was undoubtedly a contentious case," defense attorney Shane O'Rourke, representing Clement, said Monday.

While the jury found that the defendants did not target a specific person's sexual orientation or gender identity, which would be required for a hate crime conviction, O'Rourke said Friday, "I think the evidence did suggest it was an attack on the social commentary and political messaging of the fence."

O'Rourke said the fence was "unquestionably a symbol and monument" in the community, but asked the court "would we all be engaged in the same conversation" if "liberals" had vandalized a hypothetical Confederate or Trump monument in the community?



Emily Fitzgerald / emily@chronline.com

From left, Frank John B. Bagley II, 40, of Seattle; Matthew A. Clement, 33, of Centralia; and Gabriel R. Smith-Nilsen, 25, of Driggs, Idaho, stand in a courtroom inside Lewis County Superior Court in Chehalis during their sentencing hearing on Friday, Oct. 4. They were each convicted by jury of third-degree malicious mischief on Sept. 27 for vandalising the Frienship Fence in Chehalis in February.

He said there was a trend of "everything in our society, including criminal justice, being motivated around political views."

O'Rourke and fellow defense attorneys Joseph Enbody and Jakob McGhie, who represented Bagley and Smith-Nilsen, respectively, argued Friday in favor of a suspended sentence or an electronic home monitoring option for the defendants, saying such a sentence would be consistent with what they've seen the court sentence for third-degree malicious mischief cases in which the defendants have little to no prior criminal history.

"I hope that we don't enter a sentence that says more about us and more about the court system than it does about these (defendants)," Enbody said.

When given the opportunity to comment on Friday, Clement said he has "no intention to get caught up in something like this again" and spoke about how he has never been accused of harassment or being hateful before.

"I'm a man who is looking forward to moving forward from this point in my life … At the very least, I hope these proceedings give all parties a sense of closure and finality, as I'm sure that is what I would like," he said.

When given the same opportunity to speak, Bagley called the incident leading to his conviction "a silly mistake from last winter," called the jury trial process "eye opening" and said "I don't intend to run afoul of the law again."

Bagley related the fence owners' experience with the vandalism to his own experience of having a car stolen.

"They weren't targeting me, but it was unfortunate that I had something they were after," he said Friday, later adding, "I just hope that everyone is able to have a sense of justice and closure going forward."

Smith-Nilsen declined to comment.

The fence's owners, Jacquelyn and Michael Vance, spoke to the court Friday about how the Feb. 25 incident has negatively impacted their lives.

"I feel just scared in my own place of home, and it's because of what these people have done," Jacquelyn Vance said. "It doesn't only hurt us; it hurts the community."

The Vances both spoke about how, in the months since the incident, they have frequently checked on the fence and the rest of their property late at night and have been afraid to leave home for fear that something would happen.

"It felt like my home went from living in my home to defending my home," Michael Vance said. "I've been on edge waiting for any sort of justification for what they did."

When delivering his sentence on Friday, Toynbee denounced the defense's argument that this case was comparable to other third-degree malicious cases.

"It's unfair to say that this case should be handled the way other charges of malicious mischief should be handled," Toynbee said. "This is not a typical case and I don't know of any case like this … where three people come down in the dead of night dressed in black and assaulted the community."

Toynbee went on to say that the fence was a community symbol of peace and acceptance.

"This is an attack on the ideology of acceptance and belonging," he said.

While Toynbee said he had sympathy for Bagley specifically for being the father of six young children, he added "he should have been home with those kids when this occurred."

The defendants have a right to appeal the jury's conviction within 30 days.

When asked by the defense immediately after the sentencing about the possibility of having their clients released on bail pending appeal, Toynbee set the defendants' appeal bail at $500,000.

Washington state law requires defendants posting bail pending appeal to pay at least twice the bail amount, meaning that each defendant must pay $1 million to be released.

Bagley, Clement and Smith-Nilsen were taken into custody and transported to the Lewis County Jail immediately after Friday's sentencing hearing.

Bagley, who goes by the alias "Chad WA," is a known neo-Nazi organizer for the White Lives Matter campaign and a former member of the Patriot Front, a white supremacist and neo-fascist hate group, according to online watchdog group WA Nazi Watch.

Bagley is also allegedly connected to the theft of 75 Pride flags in Burien in 2022.

Clement, also known as "Jack WA," is a known member of the Patriot Front who was allegedly connected to the October 2021 destruction of the "'Respect & Love Olympia" mural in Olympia, according to Unicorn Riot. Two members of the Patriot Front ultimately faced misdemeanor charges for the vandalism.

Chehalis residents were able to clean the black paint off of the fence before it could dry, but the Chehalis Police Department initially estimated that damage to the fence exceeded $1,500. Repair costs ultimately did not exceed $750, according to court documents.

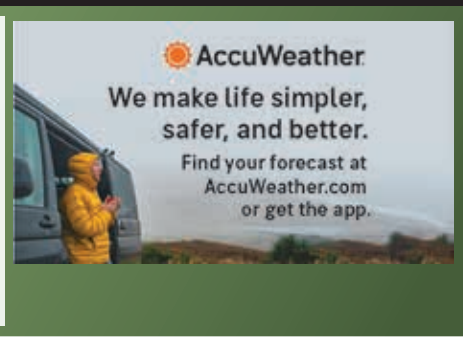
While the three co-defendants were each initially charged with second-degree malicious mischief, a class C felony which requires damage to exceed $750, the charges were reduced to third-degree malicious mischief before trial.

The fence was previously vandalized along with three other Lewis County LGBTQ+ advocate sites in June 2023. No arrests were made in those cases.

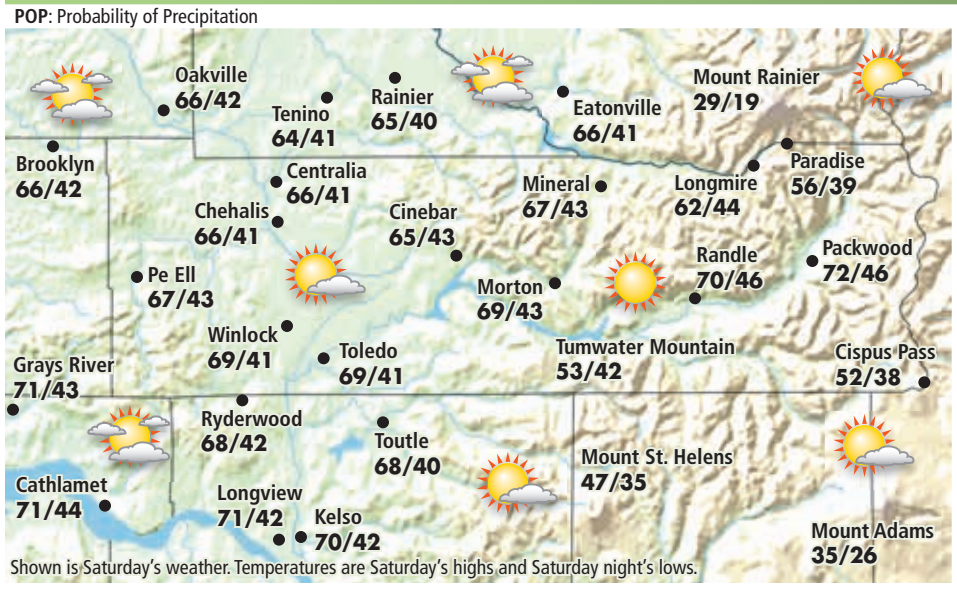
In that instance, black paint was splattered along the entirety of the fence, which had to be fully repainted. Volunteers and supporters quickly came together to raise the necessary funds and repair the fence.

TWIN CITIES WEATHER

SATURDAY	SAT. NIGHT	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Sunny to partly cloudy	Clear to partly cloudy	Abundant sunshine and beautiful	Nice; mostly sunny, then partly sunny	Mostly cloudy, showers around in the p.m.	Intervals of clouds and sunshine	Sun through high clouds	Sun through high clouds
HIGH: 66	LOW: 41	71 44	73 52	67 51	66 45	65 44	65 50
POP: 0%	POP: 0%	POP: 0%	POP: 5%	POP: 70%	POP: 0%	POP: 0%	POP: 0%



POP: Probability of Precipitation



Shown is Saturday's weather. Temperatures are Saturday's highs and Saturday night's lows.

ALMANAC

Centralia statistics through Thursday

TEMPERATURES

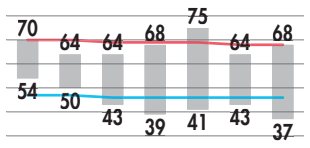
High/low	68/37
Normal high	68
Normal low	46
Last year high	64
Last year low	52
Record high	82 in 1932
Record low	32 in 1954

PRECIPITATION (inches)

Thursday	0.00
Record for date	0.04 in 1997
Month to date	Trace
Normal month to date	0.26
Year to date	28.61
Normal year to date	28.14
Last year to date	22.77

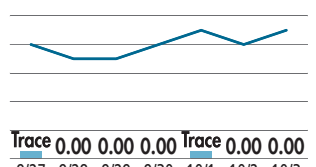
7-DAY TEMPERTURE TREND

Daily range — Normal high — Normal low



7-DAY PRECIPITATION TREND

Daily amount (in inches) — Normal amount



DAILY CONDITIONS

	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.
AccuWeather.com UV Index™	3	3	3	2
Hiking Index	6	6	6	7
Boating Index	6	6	6	7

The higher the **AccuWeather UV Index** number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection. **0-2**: Low, **3-5**: Moderate, **6-7**: High, **8-10**: Very high, **11+**: Extreme. **Hiking and Boating Index**: **0-2**: Poor; **3-4**: Fair; **5-6**: Good; **7-8**: Very Good; **9-10**: Excellent.

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REGIONAL CITIES

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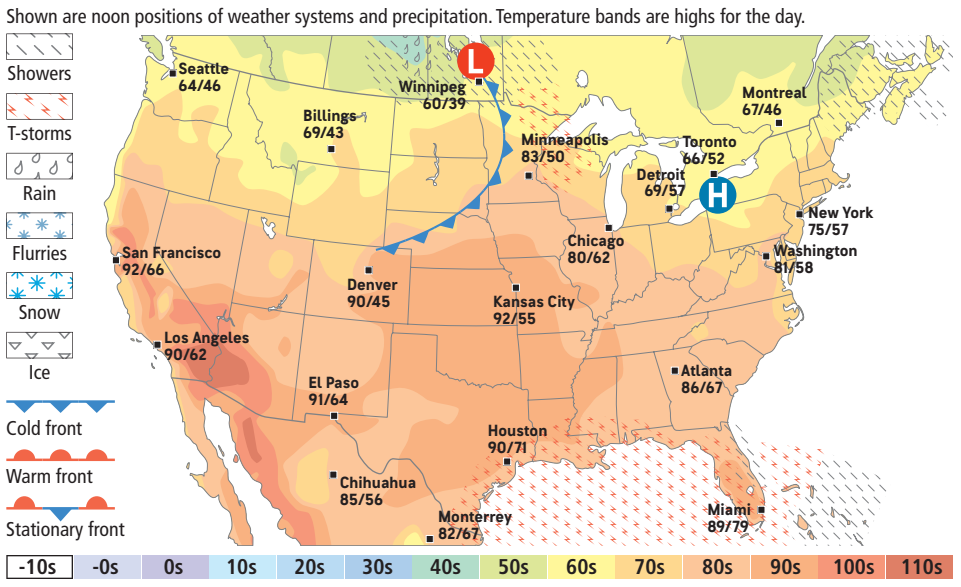
City	Sat. Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W
Aberdeen	65/41/pc	65/45/s	68/52/c
Bellingham	62/44/pc	65/43/pc	63/52/c
Bremerton	64/42/c	69/42/s	69/53/pc
Cle Elum	69/39/s	72/44/s	76/48/s
Coulee City	66/44/s	71/43/s	75/48/s
Eatonville	66/41/pc	71/43/s	75/51/c
Ellensburg	69/36/s	73/41/s	77/49/s
Elmer City	69/42/s	73/43/s	75/48/s
Enumclaw	65/43/s	68/44/s	73/52/pc
Everett	64/47/pc	67/49/s	70/56/pc
Forks	67/44/pc	66/51/pc	70/55/r
Kelso	70/42/pc	73/46/s	74/51/pc
Kennewick	73/40/pc	73/42/s	77/49/s
Long Beach	67/46/pc	64/47/s	63/54/c
Longview	71/42/pc	73/46/s	74/51/pc
Moses Lake	69/40/s	72/40/s	77/45/s
Mount Vernon	63/44/pc	66/45/s	68/54/pc
Olympia	65/41/pc	71/43/s	72/52/pc
Omak	68/42/s	71/45/s	74/49/s
Pasco	72/37/pc	73/40/s	76/45/s
Port Angeles	60/45/pc	63/46/s	64/52/c
Portland	74/49/pc	75/51/s	77/55/s
Pullman	65/43/s	72/43/s	75/48/s
Richland	73/40/s	75/45/s	78/45/s
Seattle	64/46/pc	68/48/s	69/54/pc
Spokane	64/41/pc	70/46/s	74/48/s
Sunnyside	71/37/s	75/42/s	78/47/s
Tacoma	66/40/s	69/40/s	70/49/pc
Vancouver	73/46/pc	73/49/s	75/52/s
Walla Walla	71/45/s	71/50/s	78/55/s
Wenatchee	67/44/s	70/49/s	74/52/s
Yakima	70/37/s	74/40/s	76/44/s

Weather(W): **s**-sunny, **pc**-partly cloudy, **c**-cloudy, **sh**-showers, **t**-thunderstorms, **r**-rain, **sf**-snow flurries, **sn**-snow, **i**-ice

NATIONAL FORECAST SATURDAY

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



RIVER STAGES

In feet as of 7 a.m. Thursday

River/location	Flood Stage	Stage	24-hr. Chg.
Skookumchuck River			
near Bucoda	211.5	203.19	-0.01
at Centralia	189.0	176.90	-0.03
Chehalis River			
near Doty	318.0	306.14	-0.01
at Centralia	168.5	N.A.	none
near Grand Mound	141.0	128.82	-0.01
at Porter	48.0	N.A.	-0.06
Newaukum River			
near Chehalis	202.5	192.39	none
Cowlitz River			
at Packwood	10.5	-0.13	-0.08
at Randle	18.0	3.44	-0.13

SOLUNAR TABLE

Four-day forecast indicates peak feeding times for fish and game.

	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.
Major	1:19 a.m.	2:09 a.m.	3:02 a.m.	3:57 a.m.
Minor	7:30 a.m.	8:20 a.m.	9:14 a.m.	10:10 a.m.
Major	1:41 p.m.	2:32 p.m.	3:27 p.m.	4:24 p.m.
Minor	7:52 p.m.	8:44 p.m.	9:39 p.m.	10:37 p.m.

SUN AND MOON

	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.
Sunrise	7:16 a.m.	7:18 a.m.	7:19 a.m.	7:20 a.m.
Sunset	6:43 p.m.	6:41 p.m.	6:39 p.m.	6:37 p.m.
Moonrise	10:26 a.m.	11:36 a.m.	12:45 p.m.	1:50 p.m.
Moonset	7:37 p.m.	8:03 p.m.	8:38 p.m.	9:23 p.m.

First Oct 10 · Full Oct 17 · Last Oct 24 · New Nov 1

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Sat. Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W
Albuquerque	88/58/s	88/57/s	86/57/s
Anchorage	48/39/c	46/38/pc	48/39/c
Atlanta	86/67/pc	83/64/pc	84/60/s
Billings	69/43/s	74/47/s	81/50/s
Boise	73/49/s	80/53/s	82/54/s
Boston	72/53/s	62/55/pc	65/50/sh
Cheyenne	80/37/s	72/46/s	79/46/s
Chicago	80/62/s	73/49/s	70/50/s
Cleveland	71/56/s	80/53/t	63/52/s
Dallas	92/71/pc	93/69/s	93/67/s
Denver	90/45/s	80/51/s	82/49/s
Detroit	69/57/s	75/48/pc	65/46/s
Honolulu	88/73/sh	88/73/sh	87/75/sh
Houston	90/71/t	92/69/s	92/68/s
Las Vegas	101/75/s	100/75/s	101/74/c
Los Angeles	90/62/s	94/65/s	94/62/pc
Miami	89/79/t	85/77/r	82/75/r
Minneapolis	83/50/pc	62/45/s	71/47/s
New York City	75/57/s	70/61/s	70/54/pc
Omaha	91/51/s	77/43/s	79/49/s
Phoenix	110/78/s	109/79/pc	109/79/s
Rapid City	74/40/pc	73/39/s	81/46/s
St. Louis	91/68/s	83/52/s	72/49/s
Salt Lake City	81/55/s	82/57/s	82/60/s
San Francisco	92/66/s	88/61/s	78/56/s
Washington, DC	81/58/s	78/64/s	76/54/s

Economic Alliance of Lewis County speakers: Outlook appears positive, though Americans remain doubtful on country's standing

By Mitchell Roland
mitchell@chronline.com



Mitchell Roland / mitchell@chronline.com
Western Washington University Professor James McCafferty presents an economic forecast hosted by the Economic Alliance of Lewis County at The Loft on Thursday, Oct. 3.

While underlying indicators remain strong, Americans remain broadly skeptical of the country's economic outlook, two Western Washington University professors told a collection of Lewis County government officials and business leaders Thursday.

The Economic Forecast, organized by the Economic Alliance of Lewis County, included a presentation by professors Hart Hodges and McCafferty at The Loft in Chehalis. There, the pair of economics professors said a stable unemployment rate, cooling inflation, less fear of an imminent recession and an increase in consumer spending count as positive signs the U.S. economy remains healthy.

Part of the reason for the discrepancy, McCafferty said, is people can experience different economies depending on their age or their stage in life.

"You could probably find a lot of people who say, 'yeah, it feels more and more like a recession. I can't meet all of my bills, I can't get a raise, and so on and so forth. It's a tough time,'" McCafferty said. "Meanwhile, other people are saying, 'I need a new plane.'"

On Friday, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the country added 254,000 jobs in September and that the unemployment rate remained steady at 4.1%. A rate hovering around 4.5%, Hodges said, is typical, as it allows for employment mobility and serves as a market pressure to increase wages.

Nationally, economists also remain bullish about the country's economic standing.

"There's really nothing that I can point to in the economy that suggests that a downturn is more likely than it is at any time," Jerome Powell, chairman of the Federal Reserve, told reporters earlier this week.

The country has seen cooling inflation following a pandemic-era spike, though some inflation remains positive.

"We want some inflation. Inflation itself is not necessarily evil. Inflation is what allows you to get raises. It allows for growth in the economy, right? Inflation is not a bad thing," McCafferty said. "Inflation itself is not a bad thing. But eight or 10 percent? Not so good."

While indicators remain strong, the numbers can be misinterpreted. In September, The Bellingham Herald reported the city's median income dropped by $12,000 in 2023 and poverty increased by 54%.

The data suggested a dramatic decline in economic stability in Whatcom County. However, McCafferty said previous increases in median income and declining poverty rates resulted from fewer responses to the U.S. Census Bureau, skewing the data.

"We are not saying 'ignore the data,'" Hodges said.

"Understand the data," McCafferty added.

Broadly, Americans also remain more confident with their economic standing than they are with the country. According to the professors, about three-quarters of Americans report being financially stable, while around a third say the country has a positive financial outlook.

"That's not statistically possible," Hodges said.

"I'm doing fine, but I'm worried about my neighbor," McCafferty said.

The trend isn't a new phenomenon but has grown increasingly more drastic, which can color consumers' spending habits and decisions.

"This is the biggest discrepancy we've had since the really high inflation periods of the early 80s," Hodges said.

Though the professors said they couldn't pinpoint the reason for this effect, they suggested it could be the result of social media. The trend, though, remains steady when factoring in wage data or education level.

One of the theories, Hodges said, is a concern among some that they will not achieve the same milestones as the generations that came before them. According to Hodges, 90% of the babies born in the United States in the 1940s did better financially than their parents.

> **"We want some inflation. Inflation itself is not necessarily evil. Inflation is what allows you to get raises. It allows for growth in the economy."**
>
> **James McCafferty**
> *university professor*

"It used to be that if, essentially, you were born in the U.S., you could assume you'd have more income, a bigger house, whatever, than your parents," Hodges said. "Just by being born in the U.S."

According to the professors, a decline in U.S. manufacturing and an increase in automation have resulted in fewer avenues to economic stability in some regions of the country. Americans in the Rust Belt, where many of the factories shuttered, report being less optimistic about the country's economy.

The national trend is also present in Washington. With about 33,000 Boeing workers on strike, Snohomish County, home to the company's largest manufacturing plant, is less optimistic than neighboring counties.

Part of the decline in manufacturing can be traced back to increased globalization and outsourcing jobs to foreign markets, Hodges said.

"Gains from trade went to a handful of folks, the pain went to a lot," Hodges said.

But the country has also increased manufacturing. America's manufacturing sector was more productive in 2019 than it was in 1979, according to Hodges.

"We just did it with a third of the workers," he said.

For employees who managed to maintain their manufacturing jobs, their wages began lagging behind those in other sectors, which Hodges said resulted in "a lot of disgruntled people."

"And if you're in those communities that were really dependent on manufacturing, and the manufacturing opportunities are going down, and the ones that are still there don't pay as well, maybe you move," Hodges said.

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New owner of Fuller's Market Place in Centralia says he intends to operate business as previous owners did

GROCERIES: *Harneck "Nick" Dhudwal has taken over for longtime owner Darris McDaniel*

By Owen Sexton
owen@chronline.com



Owen Sexton / owen@chronline.com
Former Fuller's Market Place owner Darris McDaniel, center left, poses with his granddaughter, Alesha McDaniel, center right, and Fuller's new owner, Harneck "Nick" Dhudwal, left, and his wife, Ginni Dhudwal, on the right, inside the long-time Centralia grocery store on Friday, Oct. 4.

While the sale has been finalized and ownership has officially been handed over, operations at Fuller's Market Place in Centralia will remain the same, owner Harneck "Nick" Dhudwal told The Chronicle this week.

Nick, along with his wife, Ginni Dhudwall, and Fuller's previous owner, Darris McDaniel met with The Chronicle on Friday, Oct. 4, to talk about what the future holds for the grocery store, which has been a part of the Centralia community for over eight decades.

Fuller's Market Place, between South Tower Avenue and South Pearl Street, is the last remaining location of a once-thriving local family-owned supermarket chain. There were once three Fuller's in the Twin Cities area. In 2006, the company announced the closure of its flagship store in Chehalis, which was founded by Bill and Ed Fuller in 1941. Its other location in Fords Prairie closed in 2004.

And while WinCo Foods is constructing a new location a little over a mile away at the Centralia Station development along Interstate 5, Nick said he isn't worried about the potential new competition. In his mind, if it's not broken, don't fix it, he said.

"He's not going to change the hours. He's not gonna change the selection. He's not gonna change the name of the store. He wants to keep everything identical," McDaniel added. "He's a smart businessman."

Though there have been a few employees who have moved on following the announcement of Fuller's sale last month, the majority of the staff have stayed, Nick said. With the business already well established, he hopes to keep giving customers the same variety and service they've always had.

"We carry over 67,000 items, including things that Safeway or Walmart doesn't have," Nick said.

Ginni added: "Nick is going to do whatever is needed to keep this place running. We've been looking for a good opportunity to give back to the community. He's actually had his eye on this place. That's why we bought it, because he loves it."

Ginni and Nick have been living in the U.S. since immigrating to the country in 1994. They moved to Chehalis in 2001 where they have been ever since. They both thanked the community for the support they've already been shown, even before becoming the owners of Fuller's.

> **"I want to thank all the customers. I've gotten a lot of hugs from them over the past couple of weeks saying they're still going to shop here."**
>
> **Darris McDaniel**
> *longtime owner*

Nick, along with his business partners, now runs 20 businesses throughout the region.

McDaniel thanked Fuller's customers for shopping there for the 45 years he owned the business.

"I want to thank all the customers. I've gotten a lot of hugs from them over the past couple of weeks saying they're still going to shop here," McDaniel said. "This is their store, not ours or his, but this community's store. It's been very, very rewarding, but I'm old and it's time to go."

Now 81, McDaniel opened his first business in California in 1968. He went on to open more than 30 businesses while he eventually moved his way up to the Pacific Northwest, where he ran the Shop'n Kart grocery store chain, which included Fuller's after he purchased it.

Fuller's Market Place is located at 505 S. Tower Ave. in Centralia. The sale from McDaniel to Nick was officially completed on Sept. 24 for $2.5 million, according to the Lewis County Parcels website.

It's the second property McDaniel has sold this year, as back in July he closed a sale on the now-vacant Yard Birds Shopping Mall property in Chehalis for $2.4 million. McDaniel had initially opened up a new Shop'n Kart location inside Yard Birds in 1990, before buying the entire mall in 1998 with the intention "to turn it into the Yard Birds of old," as previously reported by The Chronicle.

That intention would be hard to realize as the rise of online shopping over the next decade saw the death of many big box retailers along with retail shopping malls like Yard Birds — a problem that was exacerbated in 2008 with the recession.

In 2017, the Shop'n Kart location inside the mall was closed. Though Fuller's is no longer a part of the chain, two Shop'n Kart locations are still open in Seaview and Westport.



Fuller's Market Place's new owner Harneck "Nick" Dhudwall, left, poses with Fuller's old owner Darris McDaniel on Friday, Oct. 4, outside of the longtime Centralia grocery store on South Tower Avenue.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

RICHARD GIVENS

1966 ~ 2024



Richard "Rich" Donald Givens, beloved husband, father, grandfather and brother, passed away peacefully on Sept. 29, 2024, in Seattle, Washington, after a courageous one-year battle against metastatic melanoma. He was 58 years old.

Born on Jan. 4, 1966, in Centralia, Washington, Rich eventually settled in Cinebar, Washington, where he built a farm with his family, and a life filled with love, joy and countless cherished memories. He was the devoted husband of Adrienne Givens for 36 years, the proud father of five: Brittany Hancock, Garrett Hancock (Ashley Hancock), Sierra Griffith, Hailey Steele (Kolby Steele) and Regan Givens (Michael Renfro), and brother to Kelly Albert (Dave Albert).

Rich adored his nine grandchildren: Alannah Hancock, Brayden Griffith, Kabrien Redmon, Paxten Hancock, Kamiakin Hancock, Aubrie Steele, Chloe Steele, Paislie Steele and Eli Bordwell. Rich was preceded in death by his mother, Juley Givens (Teeter), father, James "Donnie" Givens, and brother, Rodney Givens.

With a full heart of adventure, Rich embraced life with endless energy. In his youth, he found joy in racing sailboats, inventing games with his siblings and cousins, and exploring the outdoors through hunting, fishing and four-wheeling.

In his final moments, surrounded by his loving family, Rich's humor, wisdom and strength shone brighter than ever. He cherished every moment spent with those he loved, his heart full of passion for his family, farm, windsurfing, sailing, creating and the craft of being a machinist. His memory will forever be woven into the lives he touched.

For over 40 years, Rich was a master machinist, lending his incredible skill to Gear Works, Mega Machine Shop, CalPortland and Alta Forest Products. His innovation, unwavering dedication and tireless work ethic were admired by all who knew him, and his legacy of knowledge and craftsmanship will never be forgotten.

To commemorate his incredible journey and to celebrate the love he spread, a celebration of life will be held in his honor at the Mossyrock Horse and Riders Club, 114 Ciannigan Hill Road, Silver Creek, Washington, on Oct. 13, 2024, from 3-6 p.m. We invite all who knew him to join us in remembering a truly remarkable man.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests those who wish to express sympathy to consider making a donation to the Mike Rowe Works Foundation at https://mikeroweworks.org/donate/.

TO VIEW THE OBITUARY, PLEASE GO TO CHRONLINE.COM/OBITUARIES.

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Records

Sirens

CENTRALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT
Criminal trespass

• A homeless Yelm man was trespassed from a business in the 300 block of West Main Street just before 3:10 p.m. on Oct. 3 after someone saw him urinating on a fence. He was also cited for public urination.

• A woman was trespassed from a business in the 1200 block of South Gold Street just before 2:10 p.m. on Oct. 3 for "refusing to follow the rules of the business."

DUI

• A 36-year-old Portland resident was arrested for DUI at the intersection of South Yew and Mellen streets just after 5:35 p.m. on Oct. 2.

Theft

• A bicycle was reported stolen from the 100 block of North Tower Avenue just after 1:20 a.m. on Oct. 3.

Burglary

• A possible attempted burglary to a shed on a property in the 600 block of North Tower Avenue that was reported just before 6:30 a.m. on Oct. 4 is under investigation.

CHEHALIS POLICE DEPARTMENT
Disorderly conduct

• A woman was reportedly walking in the roadway and "being very verbally aggressive towards the storm drains" at the intersection of Southwest Third Street and Southwest William Avenue just after 12:10 p.m. on Oct. 2.

• A woman was reportedly "smacking signs and poles with (a) metal pipe and screaming at people" in the 1600 block of Northwest Louisiana Avenue at 4:15 p.m. on Oct. 2.

• A man was reportedly screaming outside an apartment complex in the 200 block of Southeast Washington Avenue just after 12:15 a.m. on Oct. 3.

Drug violation

• A drug violation reported in the 300 block of North National Avenue just before 3:45 p.m. on Oct. 2 is under investigation.

Suspicious circumstances

• A suspicious plastic container was reported in the 600 block of North National Avenue just before 3:45 p.m. on Oct. 2. Officers confirmed it was empty.

• A incident involving someone possibly threatening suicide in the 10 block of Southwest Cascade Avenue just before 10:40 a.m. on Oct. 3 is under investigation.

Criminal trespass

• Subjects were reportedly camping and lighting a campfire in the 1500 block of Rice Road just after 6 p.m. on Oct. 2.

• A subject associated with a red pickup truck reportedly trespassed in the 1100 block of South Market Boulevard just before 9:55 p.m. on Oct. 2.

• A subject associated with a gray van that was playing loud music was moved along from the 300 block of Southwest Third Street just after 11:40 a.m. on Oct. 3.

• Subjects were reportedly camping at the intersection of Southwest Chehalis Avenue and Southwest James Street at 5:15 a.m. on Oct. 4.

Theft

• Two women were cited for shoplifting from a business in the 1600 block of Northwest Louisiana Avenue just before 9:05 p.m. on Oct. 2.

• A third-degree theft reported in the 1500 block of Northwest Louisiana Avenue just after 11:50 a.m. on Oct. 3 is under investigation.

• A possible shoplift was reported at a business in the 1000 block of Northwest Maryland Avenue at 7 p.m. on Oct. 3.

Burglary

• At 10 a.m. on Oct. 3, a burglary to a maintenance building in the 300 block of Southwest 13th Street that occurred a few days prior was reported.

Vehicle accident

• A non-injury vehicle accident was reported at the intersection of East Main Street and South Market Boulevard just before 11 a.m. on Oct. 3.

Green Hill School

• Just after 12:50 p.m. on Oct. 3, a prison riot at Green Hill School in the 300 block of Southwest 11th Street involving multiple subjects that occurred on Sept. 23 was reported.

• A custodial assault was reported at Green Hill School in the 300 block of Southwest 11th Street at approximately 2:30 p.m. on Oct. 3.

FIRE AND EMS CALLS

• Between Wednesday morning and Friday morning, Lewis County 911 Communications logged approximately 45 illness-related calls, 12 injury-related calls, 13 fire-related calls, four non-emergency service calls, three vehicle accidents, one pregnancy-related call and three other calls.

JAIL STATISTICS

• As of Friday morning, the Lewis County Jail had a total system population of 156 inmates, including 143 in the general population and 13 in the Work Ethic and Restitution Center (WERC). Of general population inmates, 111 were reported male and 32 were reported female. Of the WERC inmates, 11 were reported male and two were reported female.

• As of Friday morning, the Chehalis Tribal Jail had a total system population of 14 inmates, including seven booked by the Centralia Police Department, three booked by the state Department of Corrections, one booked by Chehalis Tribal Court and three booked by the Lummi Nation.

•••

Sirens are compiled by assistant editor Emily Fitzgerald, who can be reached at emily@chronline.com. The Centralia Police Department can be reached at 360-330-7680, the Chehalis Police Department can be reached at 360-748-8605. If you were a victim of physical or sexual abuse, domestic violence or sexual assault, call Hope Alliance at 360-748-6601 or the Youth Advocacy Center of Lewis County at 360-623-1990.

News in Brief

'Phantoms of the Past': Lewis County's ghost stories to be told later this month at McMenamins Olympic Club in Centralia

By The Chronicle staff

With Halloween approaching, Lewis County locals are invited to McMenamins Olympic Club to learn about the county's haunted past as Olympia Oddities podcast host Trista Heenan shares ghostly tales of supernatural and paranormal occurrences that have spooked residents for decades.

In "Phantoms of the Past: Exploring Lewis County's Ghost Stories," Heenan will discuss Lewis County mysteries still lingering in the shadows, including tales of disembodied voices and ghostly apparitions at the Fort Borst Blockhouse, Centralia's old hospital and Brenson's Hollow, a supposedly haunted forest in Winlock.

"Phantoms of the Past" is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 15, with doors opening at 6 p.m. and Heenan beginning at 7 p.m. at McMenamins — which some say is haunted itself. It is located at 112 N. Tower Ave. in Centralia.

The show is for all ages. Tickets to "Phantoms of the Past" are $5 and can be purchased at the door or ahead of time online at McMenamins' website here https://tinyurl.com/37uxuacx.

North Market Street in Chehalis to be closed starting Monday for asphalt repairs

By The Chronicle staff

The Chehalis Public Works Department will close North Market Street between Northeast Park Street and Northeast Boistfort Street starting on Monday, Oct. 7, for asphalt repairs that must be completed before the winter season, according to a city news release.

LISTEN TO THE NEWS DUMP PODCAST

The Chronicle produces a weekly podcast called the News Dump.

Editors Eric Schwartz and Aaron VanTuyl are joined each week by photographer Kody Christen and, occasionally, a guest to discuss the news and commentaries within The Chronicle.

The podcast is published each Wednesday at chronline.com and wherever you listen to podcasts.

To listen to past episodes, visit chronline.com/podcasts.

Repair work will begin from 5 a.m. to noon on Monday, Oct. 7, and continue from 5 a.m. to noon or until work is completed on Tuesday, Oct. 8.

Because of the size of the repairs needed, there would not be enough room for vehicles to drive safely through the area, so a detour will be in place.

"Parking within the work zone will also be prohibited during this time," the release added.

For more information, call the Chehalis Public Works Department at 360-748-0238.

Lewis County Master Gardeners to host 'Gardening For Everyone'

By The Chronicle staff

There are signs of fall all around us as the air is cooler, football games are being played, colorful leaves are falling to the ground, and pumpkins and Chrysanthemums are decorating the outside of stores.

All of these are also a reminder that the WSU Lewis County Master Gardeners are busy getting ready for Gardening For Everyone, the organization stated in a news release.

Gardening For Everyone is a semi-annual event where six free gardening workshops will be offered to the public at no charge and no registration is required.

The fall event will take place from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Oct. 26 in Washington Hall at Centralia College.

The Master Gardeners encourage people to arrive early as seating fills up quickly. The schedule of workshops being offered is as follows:

9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.:

• Trellis, Pergolas, Arbors and More

• Putting Your Garden to Bed, which will be offered in Spanish and English

10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.:

• Deer Resistant Garden

• Caring for Dahlias, Digging, Dividing and Storing

12:45 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.

• Ideas for Garden Art

• Water — an Unusual Perspective

Before and between workshops, participants can visit these exhibitors and hear from experts on the following topics in the lobby: Southwest Washington Mycological Society; 4-H; pollinators and their needs; Lewis County Noxious Weed Control; WSU Master Food Preservers; forestry; SnapEd; grapes; Lewis County Repair Fair; Black Hills Audubon; WSU Lewis County Master Gardener crafts; Mason bees; WSU Master Gardeners; and WSU Master Recyclers and Composters.

Learn more about Lewis County Master Gardeners online at https://lewis-mg-mrc.org/.

Nature Nurture Farmacy seeks to share space with practitioners

By The Chronicle staff

Nature Nurture Farmacy, a nonprofit community health center in downtown Chehalis, is currently seeking practitioners to share their space, according to a news release.

"There is one room for rent available right away, and another coming available soon," the nonprofit stated. "If you know anyone who might want to work in a collaborative environment working towards building community health, please pass this on."

The nonprofit said it is interested in a wide variety of practitioners. For more details, email info@naturenurturefarmacy.org or call 360-996-4387.

Death Notices

• **MARIA LOUISE BIRK,** 76, Centralia, died Sept. 28 at Providence St. Peter Hospital in Olympia. Arrangements are under the care of Funeral Alternatives of Washington.

Corrections

• In an article in Thursday's edition about the recent firing of Bucoda Fire Chief James Fowler, it was incorrectly stated that the Bucoda Fire Department itself was also temporarily shut down. While the department was temporarily shut down, it was only for a period of three days, and it has since reopened with South Thurston Fire and EMS Chief Andrew Schaffran now the Bucoda Fire Department's chief, according to Bucoda Mayor Callie Carpenter.

• Earlier this week, an article previewing events during the "Boo-coda Spook-tacular" throughout October in the South Thurston County community as it holds its annual month-long Halloween celebration included tours of Tenino's historic Forest Grove Cemetery on Oct. 19. The cemetery tours have been canceled due to the death of someone involved with the tours. All other "Boo-coda Spook-tacular" events are still going to be held. For a full list of event dates, times and locations, read The Chronicle's preview at https://bit.ly/3ZPz3og.

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The Chronicle seeks to be accurate and fair in all its reporting. If you find an error or believe a news item is incorrect, please call the newsroom as soon as possible at 807-8224, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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The Chronicle

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Opinion

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Approve Initiative 2124 to get a pay raise while ending the government's monopoly on long-term care coverage

COMMENTARY: *Eyes on Olympia*

All four of the citizen initiatives on the upcoming general election ballot would let people keep more of their own money. That alone is a good reason to support each.

Initiative 2124 stands out among those measures, as it literally offers a fast track to a larger paycheck.



By John Braun

The passage of I-2124 would give many Washington workers the choice to increase their take-home pay by opting out of what is now a mandatory payroll tax.

That tax funds a state-run long-term care insurance program — known as "WA Cares" — which is still a long way away from paying for anyone's care.

The payroll tax totals $290 a year for a worker earning $50,000 annually. In the legislative district I serve, the average hourly wage adds up to a yearly income between $65,500 and $82,800, depending on the county. That translates to $380 to $480 a year in lost wages.

It's worst of all in King County, where wages are highest and the tax now shrinks the average hourly paycheck by around $775 annually.

In exchange for seeing their take-home pay shrunk by hundreds of dollars each year, workers are eventually supposed to receive access to a long-term care benefit that currently has a lifetime limit of $36,500.

That wouldn't last long today given the cost of care in an assisted living facility. Just think of what the cost could be in 20 or 30 years.

Payouts also would be subject to certain conditions, and would not begin for anyone until mid-2026 as it is. That's why opponents of I-2124 are not being truthful when they claim the initiative "takes away" benefits.

One of the other major flaws in the long-term care scheme, as originally adopted, was its lack of "portability." Someone who paid in but then moved out of Washington stood to automatically lose access to any benefits, including workers who spent their careers here but retired to other states.

The portability issue was addressed during this year's legislative session, but only after I-2124 was certified. It was too little, too late to keep more than 424,000 Washington voters from signing the petitions that moved the initiative forward, and it's still not enough to make up for the other shortcomings in the program.

The state voters guide doesn't explain how such a misguided and poorly designed program managed to get through the state Legislature in the first place, but that story is also a reason to support I-2124.

The labor union that calls itself the "caregivers' union" basically wanted the insurance program as a long-term form of job security for its members, and the Democratic majorities in the House and Senate were happy to accommodate one of their political patrons.

When the bill reached the floor of the Senate chamber, Republicans and two moderate Democrats proposed more than 30 amendments. Most weren't adopted, including one that would have put the tax in front of the people as a voter referendum.

Fortunately, Senate Republicans corralled enough support for an amendment that would let workers exempt themselves from the tax by proving they already owned long-term care coverage.

That change held as the bill became law, and would eventually allow more than 500,000 workers to choose their own coverage rather than the one-size-fits-all plan from the state.

But when the exemption window was closed as of November 2021, the market in our state for private long-term care coverage dried up too.

The collection of the payroll tax began in mid-2023. Instead of the $952 million anticipated in the first year, it was recently disclosed that the total taken from workers' checks to support WA Cares was closer to $1.3 billion.

No one should view this unexpectedly large tax collection as resolving the concerns that have been repeatedly raised about the program's solvency. Nor can any of the supporters guarantee the payroll-tax rate will remain where it is.

Passing I-2124 would end the state's stranglehold on long-term care coverage and basically force it to compete with private insurance carriers.

People entering the workforce in our state would no longer be automatically forced to pay into WA Cares, and workers already paying could opt out at any time.

Not surprisingly, the labor union that pushed so hard for what became WA Cares is among the top contributors to the campaign against I-2124.

Labor unions are supposed to advocate for their members, and the influence exerted by this particular union is why the payroll tax exists. But let's follow the money.

Suppose someone who becomes eligible for a WA Cares payout in future years employs a caregiver who belongs to the union and therefore pays union dues. In that sense the long-term care tax ends up providing revenue, in a roundabout way, for the union that lobbied for the tax in the first place.

The passage of I-2124 would threaten that new source of money. It's one more thing for voters to keep in mind as they decide whether to make the payroll tax optional.

When the payroll tax went before Washington voters, as one of the non-binding advisory votes authorized many years ago by the passage of I-960, it received a 63% "no" vote.

That was before we learned the tax would pull more than a billion dollars from Washington workers in just one year. Now WA Cares looks like an even worse deal, in terms of cost versus benefit.

If people in our state want to buy long-term care coverage, great. They should be free to shop for the coverage that best fits their needs and financial situation, instead of being forced to pay for the one government product available, at the government's price.

The state has its hands full enough already with its monopolies on industrial insurance and unemployment insurance. It never should have barged into the long-term care insurance business.

Legislators' time would be better spent looking at ways to make our state more attractive to long-term insurance carriers, so people have more choices. The passage of I-2124 would help kickstart that discussion.

The general-election voting period begins later this month, on Oct. 18. Don't wait to get your ballot turned in – and to pay less, vote "yes" on each of the initiatives.

•••

Sen. John Braun of Centralia serves the 20th Legislative District, which spans parts of four counties from Yelm to Vancouver. He became Senate Republican leader in 2020.

The direction of public safety is on the ballot this November

Guest Commentary

If you missed the good news, according to recently released FBI statistics violent crime in the United States dropped the past year. This has been a positive multi-year trend since 2019.



By Peter Abbarno

Overall, violent crime declined in the United States by an estimated 3% in 2023 from the year before, according to the FBI report released in September. Murders and non-negligent manslaughter also dropped nearly 12%.

That is the good news if you live outside of the state of Washington.

Here is the bad news for the rest of us:

According to FBI data analyzed by the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, (WASPC), rates of violent crime have surged nearly 20% in our state since 2019. Rates of robberies in Washington have increased almost 20% since 2019, while the national rate decreased by 18%.

And it isn't only violent crime that our communities are experiencing. While car thefts are up 45% nationwide, Washington state residents have seen a 110% increase in car thefts — over double the national average compared to four years ago.

Why is Washington going in the wrong direction? I would point to bad public policy with no accountability in Olympia.

In my short time as a state representative in Olympia, I have fought against legislative Democrats limiting our state to the fewest number of law enforcement officers per capita in the nation; banning police pursuits of criminals; waiving court fees and penalties paid by criminals that help victim services; and decriminalizing the possession of dangerous drugs. Those are just some of the policies passed by the majority that prioritize the rights of criminals over victims and the rest of Washington.

You might think this op-ed is too partisan. However, it is important to note that during this increase in crime, Washington state politics has been monopolized by one political party. House Democrats have been in power of the Washington state House of Representatives since 2002, the past 22 years. Senate Democrats have been in power of the Washington state Senate since 2018, the past seven years. Democrats have been in power of the governor's office and state agencies since 1985; the past 40 years.

Although public safety may not be directly on the ballot this year, balanced and accountable government is always on the ballot through the people we choose to represent our communities and values. If one party controls everything you can expect the same or worse.

Several bills introduced or passed by House Democrats in 2023-2024 that are likely to return during the 2025-2026 legislative sessions, include:

House Bill 1268 that reduces the sentence for criminals that commit gun, gang and drug crimes around schools, parks and bus stops; House Bill 2001 that allows murders, like the Green River Killer Gary Ridgway, to vote, serve on a jury and hold public office; and House Bill 1169 eliminating crime victim penalties imposed by courts on criminals to help victims recover.

I hope you agree that this is the wrong direction for Washington.

On the other side, House Republicans have introduced bills and amendments to hold criminals accountable, create realistic pathways to rehabilitation, recruit and compensate law enforcement officers, and help make our homes, businesses and neighborhoods safer. We must protect the most vulnerable in our community and prioritize the rights of victims over criminals. Our House Republican plan is outlined at HouseRepublicans.wa.gov.

In the 2020 presidential general election, 16% of voters, over 750,000, failed to vote. In the 2024 presidential primary election, 59% of voters, 2.8 million Washingtonians, failed to vote. Voting is the best way to have your voice and values heard. Be sure to register to vote, update your information and learn more about the election deadlines at sos.wa.gov.

Although you won't have the issue of crime directly on your ballot like the other four initiatives, the issue of crime is on the ballot through the candidates you elect to address the rise in crime in our state. Voters will have a choice in November to choose the same failed policies of the past four years, or chart a new path where safety is our priority. I encourage you to get involved, stay involved and vote.

•••

State Rep. Peter Abbarno is a Republican lawmaker who represents the 20th Legislative District. He is an attorney based in Centralia.

Paul Strophy an ideal candidate for superior court judge

Letter to the Editor

I am writing to strongly endorse Lewis County Superior Court Commissioner Paul Strophy for the position of Lewis County Superior Court judge. In today's complex legal environment, we need a judge who is not only skilled in the law but also fair, compassionate and approachable. Commissioner Strophy embodies these qualities, making him the ideal candidate.

Over the years, I have observed Commissioner Strophy's work and have been consistently impressed by his fairness and the respect he shows to every individual, regardless of their background or circumstance. The decisions made in courtrooms have significant and lasting impacts on people's lives, and Commissioner Strophy takes this responsibility seriously. He ensures that every case is carefully considered, and all parties are given the opportunity to be heard.

His impartiality is not only admirable, but essential for any judge tasked with upholding justice.

What truly sets Commissioner Strophy apart is his balanced approach to justice. He combines a deep understanding of the law with compassion for the individuals involved in each case. This balance ensures that his rulings are not only legally sound but also fair and humane. It is this rare combination of legal expertise and empathy that makes him an excellent choice for the role of Superior Court Judge.

In addition to his legal knowledge, Commissioner Strophy is also deeply connected to the community. Despite his extensive experience, he remains down-to-earth and approachable. He listens carefully to the concerns of those he interacts with, and this humility fosters trust in his courtroom. People who appear before him feel respected, which is critical in a judicial system that aims to serve all members of the community fairly.

While Commissioner Strophy is compassionate, he also believes firmly in accountability. He understands that justice sometimes requires difficult decisions, and he is willing to hold people accountable when necessary.

However, he always ensures that these decisions are fair and proportionate to the situation.

In conclusion, Commissioner Strophy is exactly the kind of judge we need in Lewis County. His commitment to fairness, his deep respect for the law, and his belief in accountability make him an outstanding candidate for Superior Court Judge.

With Commissioner Strophy on the bench, we can trust that justice will be administered with both wisdom and compassion.

I encourage my fellow community members to vote for Lewis County Superior Court Commissioner Paul Strophy for judge.

His dedication, fairness and approachable nature will serve our community well.

Bo D. Rupert
Centralia

Editorial Mission Statement

We will strive to be the voice of reason for the peaceful settlement of conflict and contention on key local issues. We will work to be fair at all times and to provide a balance of opinions. We will make our opinion pages available for public discussion of vital issues and events affecting the quality of life in Lewis County and adjoining regions. When necessary, we will be willing to take a tough, definitive stance on a controversial issue.

Letters Policy

Please type and email opinions, if possible, and limit letters to 500 words. Letters are typically printed in the order in which they are received Contributors are limited to publication of one item every two weeks, with exceptions as warranted. Items submitted are subject to editing and will become the property of this newspaper. Poetry is not accepted.

To Send Your Letter

Address letters and commentaries to "Our Readers' Opinions." Please sign them and include your full address and daytime telephone number for verification and any questions. Send them to 321 N. Pearl, Centralia, WA 98531. E-mail letters can be sent to letters@chronline.com.

Editorials

Editor-in-Chief Eric Schwartz can be reached by email at eschwartz@chronline.com.

Debate

Continued from the front page

auditorium after interrupting an answer from Gluesenkamp Perez.

Restrictions on abortion

Asked to clarify his stance on abortion, Kent, who is making his second bid for Congress after losing to Gluesenkamp Perez two years ago, said he "100%" supports the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade.

"I would not support a federal abortion ban. I support full access to (in vitro fertilization) and contraception," Kent said. "What I really want to focus on is, I want to focus on bringing down the cost of raising children. I want to make it much easier and much less costly to give birth. I want to make things like baby formula and diapers, make those tax-free."

Asked if there were any limits to abortion access she would consider, Gluesenkamp Perez said federal regulations are often written by "staffer bros with ties" who "don't know what it's like to be pregnant."

"The idea that we're going to have a federal regulation that accounts for all of that difficulty and nuance is just not reality," Gluesenkamp Perez said. "And that's why I support a woman's right to access health care. Full stop."

National debt

With the national debt surpassing $35.6 trillion and growing at roughly $2 million a minute, Gluesenkamp Perez highlighted her proposed constitutional amendment to require Congress and the president to adopt balanced budgets.

"I think the national debt is something that does not get the attention it merits. We are on an unsustainable path with the federal deficit," Gluesenkamp Perez said. "That's why I'm proud to have introduced a bipartisan constitutional amendment to balance the budget. I take this very, very seriously."

If passed, the amendment would require appropriations that add to the national debt to pass with a three-fifths majority vote from both chambers of Congress and require the president to propose a balanced budget.

In response to the same question about reducing the national debt, Kent called for a return to passing individual appropriations bills, a proposal he has repeatedly proposed on the campaign trail.

"No more omnibus spending. No more continuing resolutions," Kent said. "Putting an actual cap on spending. This is what American families have to do every single month, right? You see how much money you take in, you see how many bills you have, and then you go from there. Congress must do that."

If elected, Kent said his "No. 1 promise" would be to balance the federal budget.

Immigration

As noted by a debate moderator Wednesday, both candidates have pledged in campaign advertisements to "secure the border" if elected.

When asked to specify what they'd do to uphold the pledge, Gluesenkamp Perez said "from day one" she's taken on the President Joe Biden administration for "their failed policies" to secure the Southern border.

In April, Gluesenkamp Perez was one of five Democratic representatives who supported the End the Border Catastrophe Act, which would have also reimplemented a "Remain in Mexico" policy and restarted construction of a wall along the Southern border, among other immigration restrictions.

"I hear our community when they hurt from fentanyl deaths. That's real. That's hurting us right now," Gluesenkamp Perez said. "It's critical that we secure the Southern border."

In mid-February, Gluesenkamp Perez joined a bipartisan group of seven representatives in introducing the Defending Borders, Defending Democracies Act, which would have tied foreign aid to immigration legislation.



Kody Christen / kody@chronline.com
Congresswoman Marie Gluesenkamp Perez speaks during a debate with Joe Kent, right, at Lower Columbia College in Longview on Wednesday, Oct. 2.

Election 2024

Kent, meanwhile, criticized Gluesenkamp Perez for not supporting House Resolution 2, the Secure the Border Act of 2023, immigration legislation that advanced out the House of Representatives but died in the Democrat-controlled Senate.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, the legislation would require the Department of Homeland Security to construct at least 900 miles of wall and physical barriers along the Southern border and direct Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to hire enough agents to maintain staffing at 22,000, among other requirements.

"HR-2 would have actually finished construction of the Southern border wall. It would have increased resources down there," Kent said. "Most importantly, HR-2 would have stopped this foolish asylum process that we have right now where we let people come directly into the country to claim asylum and then they're paroled into the interior of the country and given legal status."

During the discussion, Kent noted that he had visited the Southern border twice.

The candidates, who will face off for the second election in a row, will meet four more times before the Nov. 5 election, including on Oct. 7 in a debate hosted by KATU News and on Oct. 14 hosted by KOIN 6 News.


Incumbent U.S. Rep. Marie Gluesenkamp Perez, left, reacts to a statement from challenger Joe Kent during a Washington Third Congressional District debate at Lower Columbia College in Longview on Wednesday, Oct. 2

In Loving Memory Of

Susan Richert



4/26/1955 ~ 9/27/2024

Susan Marie Richert died peacefully at age 69 during the early Friday morning hours in Shoreline, Washington, on Sept. 27.

Susan is survived by her brother, Steve Richert (Margo), of Beaverton, Oregon; niece, Jenny Hammer; and nephew, Matthew Richert.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William (Bill) and Lena Richert; and sisters, Kathryn Warner and Patricia Richert.

Susan was educated at St. Joseph's School and W.F. West High School in Chehalis, received a degree from Centralia College and graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in biology at Central Washington University in Ellensburg. She first worked several years at the Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle as both a cashier and zookeeper. In later years, she was associated with two social service organizations in King County, AGAPE and NAMI, dedicating her life to serving others, focusing on troubled youth and families dealing with homelessness and mental health issues. In addition, her activities with various churches further expanded her attention to both religious and charitable matters.

A memorial for Susan Richert will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, at the Bethany Community Church, 8023 Greenlake Drive N. in Seattle. Donations in her honor should be made to Shoreline Health and Rehabilitation Center, to NAMI Seattle or to the King County Humane Society.

To view the obituary, please go to chronline.com/obituaries.

In Loving Memory Of

LeRoy Bluhm

1930 ~ 2024



LeRoy (Lee) Lavern Bluhm passed away quietly on Sept. 23, 2024, at his home at the age of 94, just three days after celebrating his 72nd wedding anniversary. Lee was born in Milford, Nebraska, on Feb. 18, 1930, to Ervin Bluhm and Lillian Neitzel. When he was 5, he left Nebraska for Washington with his dad. He lived here with his aunt, Louise Thompson, and her family until his mom and brothers could make the trip West. Lee attended school in Napavine until he finished the eighth grade. After that, he left the family home and went to live in Port Angeles with his cousins and to get a job. In 1947, at the age of 17, he enlisted in the Navy, where he served four years.

After he left the Navy, he returned to the Napavine area where he met his soon-to-be wife, Bertha Muller. They met on a blind date and were married three months later, on Sept. 20, 1952. They raised four children, Brien, Lyle, Allen (deceased) and Shirley, in the Chehalis area.

Lee worked for the Union Pacific Railroad for 36 years as an engineer. After retiring in 1990, he spent his time on the farm in Winlock raising beef cows until they sold it in 2006 and moved to Littlerock to be closer to family. As he got older, Lee enjoyed having family near, going to his USS Boxer reunions, meeting monthly for lunch with his extended family, and breakfast with fellow retired railroad workers.

Lee was not adventurous but was content being home surrounded by his surviving three children, eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. He enjoyed growing his carrots and garlic and always had enough for anyone who stopped by.

There will be a graveside service at Claquato Cemetery on Oct. 18, at 2 p.m., reception to follow. We love you dad.

To view the obituary, please go to chronline.com/obituaries.

In Loving Memory Of

Carol Ecklund

1943 ~ 2024



Carol Ramona Allender Thompson Ecklund passed away unexpectedly due to a brain aneurysm on Sept. 23, 2024. Carol was born Jan. 28, 1943, in Ryderwood, Washington, to Ralph (Barney) and Jackie (Riegger) Allender. In third grade, the family moved to Winlock where she later met and married Clifford Gene Thompson March 28, 1958. They lived in Napavine where they raised two children, Rosemarie, born in 1959, and Gene Ryan, born in 1961. After Gene passed away in 2009, she met and married Mike Ecklund in April 2010. She enjoyed camping, spending winters in Yuma, Arizona, gardening and especially the company of her grandkids and great-grandkids,

She was preceded in death by her parents; son-in-law Mike Watkins; first husband, Gene Thompson; and great-granddaughter Taylor Thompson. She is survived by her husband, Mike Ecklund, at home in Napavine; daughter Rosemarie Watkins, Napavine; son Ryan Thompson (Nancy), Napavine; stepdaughter Tami (Randy) Haag; stepson Jim (Michelle) Ecklund; grandchildren Rachelle (Eric) Gordon, Nicole (Shamus) Gilligan, Michael Watkins, Ashley (Alan) Peters, Emily Ecklund and Jolee Ecklund; great-grandchildren Lane, Colton, Conner, Gunner, Grayson and Willow Gordon, Saydee and Jewell Gilligan, Cameron, Amelia and Brody Peters; brother, Ralphie (Mary) Allender; sisters, Linda (Phil) Brown and Sue Wickert.

Services will be held Oct. 10 at Sticklin Funeral Home, 1437 S. Gold St., Centralia, at noon.

To view the obituary, please go to chronline.com/obituaries.

In focus: Rutledge Family Farm open for the Halloween season



Halloween decorations are pictured outside of the haunted corn maze at the Rutledge Family Farm on Thursday, Oct. 3.



Varieties of pickled produce sit on shelves at the Rutledge Family Farm on Thursday, Oct. 3.



Halloween themed walls and decorations line the outside of the haunted corn maze at the Rutledge Family Farm on Thursday, Oct. 3.



Lizzie Fox places pumpkins in a bin after weighing them at the Rutledge Family Farm on Thursday, Oct. 3.



Photos by Ridley Hudson / ridley@chronline.com

Elicia Shopfer places pumpkins in a bin after weighing them at the Rutledge Family Farm on Thursday, Oct. 3. The pumpkin patch is open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. until Oct. 31. Everyday activities at the farm include a corn maze, wall ball, swings, spun chairs, a bubble barn, tetherball, a calf roping practice station, the Spookley Story Trail and Zach the Singing Tractor Weekend-only activities include the cow train, corn cannon, wagon rides and a jump pad. There's also a haunted maze and private fire pit rentals. The farm is located at 302 93rd Ave. SE, Olympia. Learn more by following Rutledge Family Farm or visiting https://rutledgecornmaze.com/.



Gabbie Overholtzer, left, and Meaghan Thai jump on an inflatable at the Rutledge Family Farm on Thursday, Oct. 3. Fall on the Farm runs from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays. Friday and Saturdays run until midnight.



A photo area and "Zach the singing tractor" are pictured at the Rutledge Family Farm on Thursday, Oct. 3. Fall on the Farm runs from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays. Friday and Saturdays run until midnight.



A lemonade stand sits in a sunflower field at the Rutledge Family Farm on Thursday, Oct. 3.

CHRONICLE PUMPKIN PATCH TOUR

To suggest a local pumpkin patch for The Chronicle to feature, email news@chronline.com.

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Earthquake activity at Mount Adams increased last month, USGS reports

SHAKING: *Stratovolcano remains at lowest volcano alert level*

By The Chronicle staff



Owen Sexton / owen@chronline.com

Mount Adams towers over the surrounding scenery as it glows at sunset as seen from Peters Road in Randle on Saturday, March 16.

September saw an increase in earthquake activity at Mount Adams, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Cascades Volcano Observatory and the Pacific Northwest Seismic Network.

A total of six earthquakes ranging between 0.9 and 2.0 in magnitude were recorded on a seismic station near the Cascade stratovolcano last month. Previously, the station only recorded one earthquake every two to three years, according to USGS.

"This represents the most earthquakes located at Mount Adams in a month since monitoring began in 1982. No earthquakes were felt at the surface," USGS stated. "The locations and depths are not well constrained due to the sparse Mount Adams seismic network, and smaller earthquakes have occurred that seismologists have been unable to locate."

The Mount Adams seismic network only has a single seismic station about 7 miles southwest from the stratovolcano's peak.

With the sharp increase in earthquake activity, though, the USGS Cascades Volcano Observatory and the Pacific Northwest Seismic Network are installing more temporary seismic stations to the south and southwest of Mount Adams.

These additional seismic stations will allow them to better detect and pinpoint earthquakes in the area.

Despite the increase, the USGS volcano alert level for Mount Adams remains at its lowest level — green/normal — meaning the seismic activity observed is still considered typical background activity for an active volcano.

Aside from earthquakes, other background activity for the green/normal alert level includes steaming, thermal venting and other thermal features, none of which have been reported at Mount Adams. Satellite imagery shows no detectable ground deformation.

Degassing is another green/normal alert level activity; however, Mount Adams currently lacks a dedicated volcanic gas sampling program, according to the USGS news release. It is unknown whether or not the stratovolcano has vented gas recently.

A part of the Cascade Volcanic Arc, which includes Mount Rainier and Mount St. Helens among 16 other volcanoes stretching from northern California to British Columbia, Mount Adams is located around 50 miles southwest of Yakima and 30 miles north of the White Salmon-Hood River area along the Columbia River.

At 12,277 feet tall, it is the second tallest active volcano in Washington state behind Mount Rainier, and the largest in the state by area and volume. According to the USGS, Mount Adams last erupted between 3,800 and 7,600 years ago.

While currently at a green/normal volcanic alert level, the USGS still considers Mount Adams a high-threat volcano per its national volcanic threat assessment — the second highest level.

To learn more about Mount Adams and the recently observed seismic activity, read the USGS Cascades Volcano Observatory news release at https://bit.ly/47UpMNM.

As for earthquake activity at Mount Adams' neighbors, the Pacific Northwest Seismic Network's earthquake tracker reported Mount St. Helens had 77 earthquakes over the past 30 days while Mount Rainier had 16 over the last 30 days.

Despite more frequent earthquake activity, Mount Rainier is also at the USGS green/normal volcano alert level.

But it is still considered the most likely volcano to erupt next in the Cascade Volcanic Arc and the most dangerous volcano in the nation.

Mount Rainier was named to the Decade Volcanoes list, which includes what are considered to be the 16 most dangerous active volcanoes in the world — due to both high eruption risk and proximity to densely populated areas — as identified by the International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earth's Interior.

While Mount St. Helens had the most seismic activity in September, it is also the most recent in the Cascade Volcanic Arc to erupt, with its last major eruption occurring on May 18, 1980.

Both Mount Rainier and Mount St. Helens are considered very high-threat volcanoes according to the USGS national volcanic threat assessment — the highest level.

To view the Pacific Northwest Seismic Network's seismic activity tracker, visit https://www.pnsn.org/volcanoes.

For more information on the USGS Cascades Volcano Observatory, visit https://www.usgs.gov/observatories/cvo.

For more information on the USGS' volcano alert levels, visit https://www.usgs.gov/programs/VHP/alert-level-icons.

To read the most recent USGS national volcanic threat assessment conducted in 2018, visit https://pubs.usgs.gov/publication/sir20185140.

News in Brief

Cantwell gains support for anti-fentanyl bill

By The Columbia Basin Herald

Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Washington, has obtained support from the Spokane police chief and other Washington leaders for her Stop Smuggling Illicit Synthetic Drugs on U.S. Transportation Networks Act of 2024.

"Drug traffickers should not be allowed to exploit the U.S. transportation system to smuggle fentanyl and precursor chemicals to make illicit synthetic drugs," Cantwell said in a Sept. 26 press release announcing the bill, also known as SB 5284.

If passed, the bill would create inspection strategies to stop drug smuggling by commercial aircraft, railroads, vehicles and ships by supporting state, local and tribal local law enforcement and deploying next-generation non-intrusive detection technologies. It would also increase inspections at ports of entry into the U.S. Cantwell worked with Sens. Jon Tester, D-Montana, Tammy Baldwin, D-Wisconsin, Jacky Rosen, D-Nevada and Ben Ray Lujan, D-New Mexico, in authoring the bill.

"Our bill equips federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement with the tools they need to curb drug smuggling by accelerating the development of non-intrusive technologies to inspect our commercial aircraft, trucks, trains, and ships — while boosting resources to deploy this technology and drug-sniffing dogs, improving forensic science at crime labs, and building a better system to share intelligence and information between federal authorities and the private sector," Cantwell said in the press release.

Spokane Police Chief Kevin Hall, Seattle Police Chief Sue Rahr, Seattle Mayor Bruce Harrell, King County Sheriff Patti Cole-Tindall, Washington State Patrol Chief John Batiste and Jonathan Weiner, executive director of the Northwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, a specially designated drug prevention, treatment, education, training and enforcement region in Washington state, have all expressed support for SB 5284.

"The infiltration of fentanyl into the United States has become untenable," said Cole-Tindall. "We need to make this as difficult as possible for drug traffickers every step of the way."

If passed into law, the bill would direct the Office of National Drug Control Policy to develop a comprehensive strategy to examine the U.S. transportation network and ports of entry to prevent transport of illicit synthetic drugs. It would also enhance the inspection of private and commercial aircraft, railroads, commercial vehicles and maritime vessels through non-intrusive methods such as K-9s to detect illegal drugs. It would support the development of technology, including artificial intelligence, to help identify fentanyl and other opioids and add point-of-entry drug detections at border crossings and other entries into the country. Finally, it would improve support for law enforcement workforce development and improve data sharing to prevent drug trafficking.

"This critical legislation addresses the urgent need to combat the trafficking of dangerous synthetic drugs that threaten our communities. By enhancing our combined law enforcement capabilities across the country and improving coordination across transportation networks, this act will protect individuals and communities from the devastating impacts of substance abuse. We can build a safer environment and future locally and nationally with the thoughtful application and funding provided by this legislation," said Hall.

Cantwell was first elected in 2001 and is running for reelection, facing challenger, Dr. Raul Garcia, a Republican, in the November election. The Columbia Basin Herald does not endorse any political candidate and encourages our readers to research each candidate thoroughly prior to submitting their ballot. For more information on Cantwell's campaign, visit www.cantwell.com. Garcia's campaign website may be found at www.garciaforwa.com.

Neighbor rescues woman from dog attack in Eastern Washington

By The Columbia Basin Herald

A 67-year-old woman from rural Ephrata was hospitalized Tuesday morning after being attacked by six dogs, according to a statement from the Grant County Sheriff's Office.

The incident occurred around 7 a.m. in the 8000 block of Road 10 Northwest when a neighbor heard the victim's cries for help.

"The quick action of the neighbor undoubtedly helped save the victim's life," the statement said.

After the neighbor intervened, the victim was transported back to her home, where emergency medical technicians began treating her injuries before transporting her to Columbia Basin Hospital for further care, according to the statement. The victim's current medical condition remains unknown.

The dogs, which belong to a nearby resident, have been surrendered to GCSO Animal Control Officers. All six dogs, described as either pitbull or pitbull-mixed breeds, are currently on a standard 10-day hold at Grant County Animal Outreach to assess their vaccination status. Following this period, the dogs may face euthanasia due to the severity of the attack.

The dogs' owner has received infractions for each of the six animals classified as potentially dangerous or dangerous dogs, totaling $6,150 in fines, according to the statement.

The responding agencies were GCSO, Multi-Agency Communications Center, LifeLine Ambulance, Columbia EMS and Grant County Fire District 3.

Washington state tribes receive $800,000 for wildland fire training

By The Columbia Basin Herald

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources has initiated a program to enhance access to wildland fire training for tribal members, following the allocation of $800,000 in legislative funding, according to a DNR press release.

DNR said the investment aims to cover various expenses related to training, including per diem, travel, and course fees for enrolled members of Washington's tribes seeking wildland firefighter qualifications.

"Wildfire has an outsized impact on many Native American communities, which is why it is critical we are training state, local and tribal firefighters side by side, so we're all ready to work side by side when we fight fires," Commissioner of Public Lands, Hilary Franz said in the DNR press release.

Franz emphasized the importance of supporting tribal responses to wildfires, facilitating collaboration between governmental bodies during emergencies, the press release said.

In partnership with the Washington State University Extension Service, the agency will provide training workshops focusing on fire suppression and prescribed fire — essential elements of fire management. Half of the funding is earmarked for this educational initiative.

"The DNR is proud to support tribes by facilitating wildfire training," said Wildland Fire Management Division Manager at DNR Russ Lane.



Bail set at $250,000 for woman arrested with 1,300 fentanyl pills after allegedly breaking into Lewis County residence

By Emily Fitzgerald

emily@chronline.com



Natasha Denise Burris, 35, of Tacoma, appears in Lewis County Superior Court on Wednesday, Oct. 2.

Bail is set at $250,000 for a woman accused of breaking into a Lewis County residence while carrying a bag containing more than 1,300 fentanyl pills on Tuesday.

Lewis County Sheriff's Office deputies arrested Natasha Denise Burris, 35, of Tacoma, sometime before 9:35 p.m. on Oct. 1 after deputies received a report that Burris had entered a house she was trespassed from on Berry Road, located south of Chehalis and west of Napavine.

Burris was reportedly trespassed from the property after she attempted to burn it down in August, according to charging documents filed in Lewis County Superior Court on Wednesday.

Responding deputies found that the house "appeared to have been rummaged through, with empty envelopes spread out on the floor and drawers left open."

Burris was reportedly found "hiding under a blanket next to a bed in the bedroom."

Deputies reportedly saw a black bag underneath Burris, who allegedly claimed the bag was hers.

Inside the bag, deputies found more than 1,300 suspected fentanyl pills and approximately 11 grams of fentanyl powder.

They also found drug paraphernalia, clothing, personal items and a crystal container filled with quarters and other change, according to court documents.

The homeowner confirmed that the crystal container was likely his, and said "he usually kept it in his bedroom filled with change."

Burris was booked into the Lewis County Jail just after 9:35 p.m. on Oct. 1, according to jail records. She was charged Oct. 2 in Lewis County Superior Court with one count each of second-degree burglary, third-degree theft and possession of a controlled substance with the intent to manufacture or deliver.

The alleged Oct. 1 incident occurred less than 24 hours after Burris was sentenced for an unrelated third-degree assault case, according to Deputy Prosecutor Will Halstead, who recommended that Burris' bail be set at $250,000.

In that case, which was charged exactly one year ago on Oct. 2, 2023, Burris allegedly assaulted a health care provider on Sept. 14, 2023. She entered an Alford plea, which allows defendants to take advantage of a plea deal without admitting guilt, to one count of third-degree assault on Tuesday, Oct. 1. She was sentenced to 45 days in prison, with credit for time served, followed by 12 months of community custody.

The change of plea and sentencing hearing took place at 9 a.m. on Tuesday — approximately 12 hours before her arrest on the new charges.

"I was the judge that sentenced Ms. Burris just yesterday. I'm not sure I've ever seen such quick recidivism before," Judge Joely Yeager said during Burris' preliminary hearing on Wednesday. "Very concerning, Ms. Burris. Very disappointing."

Defense attorney Rachael Tiller said Wednesday that Burris had "mitigating circumstances" that would come to light as the case progresses.

Due to Burris' risk to reoffend, her warrant history and the community safety risk posed by the allegations, Yeager granted the prosecution's high bail request.

Arraignment is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 10.

News in Brief

After three-hour hearing, it's still unclear whether group behind Washington state initiatives violated campaign laws

By Ellen Dennis

The Spokesman-Review

After a three-hour hearing Thursday, state officials held off on announcing a ruling over whether a conservative political action group behind several initiatives on the November ballot broke the law in its signature-gathering campaigns.

The state Public Disclosure Commission heard the allegations brought against Let's Go Washington, which is sponsored by billionaire hedge fund manager Brian Heywood. Heywood's group is the driving force behind three initiatives set to appear on November ballots that, if passed, would overturn a large portion of the state's Climate Commitment Act, abolish the state's long-term care tax and end the capital gains tax.

Essentially, Thursday's hearing was based on allegations that Let's Go Washington failed to keep accurate and timely reports of the money spent on its signature-gathering campaigns to get initiatives onto the ballot.

The complaint against Let's Go Washington accused the organization of muddling the amount of campaign money spent on signature-gathering efforts for each individual initiative it backed.

"A voter reviewing the committee's C-4 reports had no way of knowing what initiative a particular expenditure supported," said Chad Standifer, a senior assistant attorney general who served as legal counsel for the Public Disclosure Commission in Thursday's hearing.

In response to the allegations, Let's Go Washington asked the Public Disclosure Commission to dismiss all charges against it.

"With respect to the reporting of the signature gathering expenditures, there is no question that Let's Go Washington disclosed to the public every penny that was spent in signature gathering," said Callie Castillo, the attorney who represented Let's Go Washington in Thursday's hearing.

Castillo added that its contracts with paid signature gatherers were to gather signatures for all of the initiatives that the organization supported.

Immediately after the hearing that lasted three hours and 17 minutes, the Public Disclosure Commission went into an executive session, behind closed doors and off-camera to deliberate. Commission Vice Chair Robert Leach said the state agency's deliberation Thursday did not mean they were promising to release a decision that day.

"I want to tell the parties that does not necessarily mean that we will be announcing a decision today," Leach said. "We may decide that we need to work some on a decision, or to review some documents further and to consider the arguments further."

If the Public Disclosure Commission finds Let's Go Washington did break state law, the organization will likely be fined thousands of dollars.

Troopers ID Ocean Beach Highway crash victim

By The Daily News

Washington State Patrol has released the name of the driver killed in Friday's two-vehicle crash on Ocean Beach Highway.

Vincent D. Vey, 48, of Cathlamet, died at the scene after the Chrysler 300 he was operating veered into the oncoming lane, striking a Jeep Wrangler head-on as he traveled westbound on state Route 4, also known as Ocean Beach Highway.

The crash occurred just after 5 p.m., on Sept. 27, near milepost 54, east of the Coal Creek Boat Launch. The crash remains under investigation, the revised press memo states.

Rebecca R. Osmailowski, 39, of Longview, was the driver of the Jeep Wrangler. Troopers report she was sent to PeaceHealth St. John Medical Center after suffering injuries.

80-year-old hiker falls 50 feet in Columbia River Gorge

By The Oregonian

An 80-year-old hiker trekking with her friend fell almost 50 feet from the Bridal Veil Falls trail on Wednesday but escaped serious injury.

Deputy John Plock, a spokesperson for the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office, said his office received a call about the fall around 1:30 p.m. A deputy arrived just before 2 p.m. and found the hiker conscious and breathing.

Corbett Fire crews performed a high angle rope rescue about 15 minutes later. An hour later, the hiker was taken to a hospital for a precautionary examination.

She has not been identified.

Providence to sell four Vancouver clinics to PeaceHealth

By Kristine de Leon

The Oregonian

PeaceHealth has agreed to buy four Providence medical clinics in Vancouver by the end of the year, the two nonprofit Catholic health systems announced Thursday.

PeaceHealth, which is headquartered in Vancouver, expects to finalize the acquisition sometime in December, pending regulatory approval. PeaceHealth and Providence declined to disclose the terms of the deal, including the price of the acquisition.

Providence officials declined to say why it sold the clinics. PeaceHealth noted in a press release Providence's footprint in Vancouver is limited, and that it doesn't have an acute care hospital in Clark County

The four Providence clinics are:

• Providence Medical Group Esther Short Clinic, 700 Washington St., Suite 105

• Providence Camas Medical Office Building, 3101 S.E. 192nd Ave.

• Providence Mill Plain Medical Office Building, 315 S.E. Stone Mill Drive

• Providence Vancouver Rehabilitation, 222 Park Plaza Drive, Park Tower 3, Suite 120

The clinics collectively employ around 100, including physicians, nurses, medical assistants and administrative workers to provide primary care, outpatient rehabilitation and walk-in services.

According to the announcement, Providence employees at the clinics will be offered similar positions within the PeaceHealth system. PeaceHealth said the only service not part of the acquisition is an occupational medicine practice at the Mill Plain building, which will close. The health systems said that Providence will try to place those employees at other Portland-area clinics.

Dr. Melissa Edwards, chief medical officer of PeaceHealth Medical Group, said she expects the transition to be "seamless" and that both health systems would work to make sure it "does not disrupt quality patient care."

Robbery suspect hid behind bush, threatened woman with gun outside ATM in Pierce County

By The News Tribune

Pierce County sheriff's detectives are looking for a person who threatened a woman with a gun outside an ATM in Parkland on Sept. 26.

The person was hiding in the bushes and waiting for the woman to finish withdrawing cash from the Bank of America ATM in the 11000 block of Pacific Avenue South. The person robbed the woman at 4:35 a.m. after threatening her with a gun. They reportedly ran off, according to a Crime Stoppers of Tacoma-Pierce County bulletin.

The suspect was pictured wearing a ski mask. There is a reward of up to $1,000 for information that leads to an arrest and charges being filed, the bulletin said.

Tips can be made to tpcrimestoppers.com or 1-800-222-TIPS.

Chehalis-Centralia among Washington airports preparing for electric aircraft

By Tom Banse
The Washington Standard



Courtesy photo

Washington airports have applied for federal grant funding to install electric aircraft charging stations, like this one in Vermont near the headquarters of manufacturer Beta Technologies.



Owen Sexton / owen@chronline.com

A Cessna 337 Skymaster, left, sits parked next to a Mooney M20 on an apron at the Chehalis-Centralia Airport on Wednesday, March 20.

The managers of half a dozen Washington airports see a future where you could hop across Puget Sound or the Cascade Mountains in minutes on a non-polluting electric commuter plane or air taxi. They want to be ready for that day by winning government funding to install pricey charging stations for battery-powered aircraft now.

A bunch of manufacturers have flown small prototypes of all-electric passenger aircraft, but none are certified for commercial service in North America. The electric aviation sector is still at a very early stage where many things are unclear, including key questions such as what charging standard to use and whether rechargeable batteries will even be broadly adopted for flight propulsion.

The six public airports that threw in together on a federal grant application for airside charging infrastructure are Chehalis-Centralia, Yakima, Friday Harbor, Port Angeles, Everett's Paine Field and Boeing Field in Seattle. Chehalis-Centralia took the lead on the nearly $10 million funding request, which would pay for one or two charging stations per airport.

"Right now, we are in somewhat of a chicken-and-egg type scenario where we don't have the aircraft certified yet and we don't have the infrastructure to support the aircraft yet," said Chehalis-Centralia Airport Director Brandon Rakes.

"Our responsibility is to have the infrastructure in place to be ready for this," Rakes told the Washington Legislature's Aviation Caucus during a briefing on Sept. 28. "If we get out ahead of this, it will make it much easier for all of us."

The U.S. Department of Transportation has $800 million to distribute nationally for this round of a competitive grant program to build out the nation's electric charging and alternative fuels network for all types of vehicles. The money was set aside by Congress as part of the big bipartisan infrastructure package passed in late 2021.

A Transportation Department spokeswoman on Wednesday declined to estimate when the current grant applicants would be notified if they were successful.

The states of California, Oregon and Washington secured a hefty $102 million during a previous round of grant awards under this program to launch an electric truck recharging and hydrogen refueling network along the length of Interstate 5.

The electric aircraft that would potentially plug in locally in the future are not the type to whisk you across the country, but Rakes said they could carry you across the state. A visualization his airport presented to legislators and staff portrayed a new terminal with vertical takeoff and landing hexacopters outside capable of carrying four to six passengers.

"We're talking 30-minute flights," Rakes said. "Here in the Northwest, that provides a lot of opportunity for us."

Yakima stands out with a declared objective to relieve crowding at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport by giving short-haul travelers an alternative. The long-term aspiration is to turn Yakima's airport into a centrally located mini-hub where passengers who board at a community or regional airport near their home could bypass SeaTac on the way to another airport using small electric aircraft.

"We've been working aggressively on a strategy to be able to accommodate multiple electric aircraft of various different sizes from locations across the state, but in particular focused on 17 airports in the greater Puget Sound, to be able to take the pressure off of SeaTac," Yakima Air Terminal Director Rob Hodgman said.

The lower refueling and maintenance costs of electric engines could improve the viability of airline service to smaller cities. Port Angeles lost its only scheduled passenger airline service in 2014 and Chehalis-Centralia never has had it in modern times.

The Pacific Northwest is home to quite a bit of research and development activity to reduce aviation's carbon footprint, including private companies focused on designing all-new electric planes and converting existing propeller aircraft to electric or hydrogen power. These companies are finding the path to getting Federal Aviation Administration or Transport Canada certification of their alternative energy powertrains is taking years longer than initially anticipated.

Chehalis-Centralia airport manager Rakes is hedging his bets by lining up multiple state and federal grants for possible fuels of the future. Notably, the municipal airport last month secured nearly $1 million from the U.S. Department of Transportation for feasibility and pre-design work for a hydrogen production and fueling center. That facility is envisioned to serve both ground and air vehicles. The airport is located close to I-5.

Rakes said the electric aircraft charging stations would also be dual-use ideally, as more and more airports are switching to all-electric ground handling vehicles.

Weight and space are at a premium in an airplane, a reason why airline executives are cautious of battery power. Jet fuel has much greater energy density than current lithium-ion batteries. Consequently, more money is flowing toward biofuels and synthetic jet fuel – known in industry-speak as sustainable aviation fuel or SAF for short. Green hydrogen has vocal champions too as a long-term answer for aviation fueling.

If the allied Washington airports receive their desired charging infrastructure grant, a vendor they are likely to consider is Beta Technologies. That Vermont-based company is developing related business lines in electric aircraft manufacturing and charging stations. The charging stations are rolling out quicker, with about 20 airports in the eastern and southern U.S. already online and some 50 more in permitting or under construction.

COMPANIES IN THE NORTHWEST FOCUSED ON CLIMATE-FRIENDLY AIRCRAFT AND WHAT THEY DO:

- Eviation: Arlington, Washington, electric commuter plane designer
- MagniX: Everett, Washington, electric airplane motors
- ZeroAvia: Everett, Washington, hydrogen-electric powertrains
- AeroTEC: Moses Lake, Washington, electric and hydrogen fuel cell flight testing and engineering
- Twelve: Moses Lake, Washington, zero fossil fuel synthetic jet fuel
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News in Brief

Last week's Southwest Washington odor still remains a mystery

By Matt Esnayra

The Daily News

Officials say the source of the smell that reportedly caused headaches and sore throats from Centralia to Portland last week is still undetermined.

Despite reports of negative reactions, Brittny Goodsell, communications manager for the Southwest Region Office for the Washington State Department of Ecology, said the smell has not been deemed as dangerous.

She added that when people smell dangerous odors like the chemicals added to natural gas to alert them of a possible spill, the exposure isn't immediately hazardous.

The Cowlitz County Department of Emergency Management reports calls to the Cowlitz County 911 center regarding the odor first started around 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 24, and the smell progressed from south Kelso to Kalama, down to Clark County, and then eventually to the Portland metro area.

People compared the smell to burning rubber, garbage, ammonia or natural gas, and folks reported the smell caused them to have such reactions as itchy eyes, headaches and sore throats.

However, PeaceHealth spokesperson Debra Carnes said they didn't receive any patients connected to the odor last week.

Cowlitz County Fire District 5 and the Cowlitz County Department of Emergency Management reported they checked with companies including Longview's Nippon Dynawave and Kalama's LanXess, but no operational issues were reported.

At the time, the fire district reported the affected area as the I-5 corridor and advised concerned residents to stay indoors, close windows and doors.

Goodsell said her agency followed leads received last week but have received no new tips lately.

She said the Department of Ecology recently fixed air monitoring stations — one in Longview and two in Vancouver — which were collecting data during the reports of the smell last week.

Goodsell added a Cowlitz County fire agency also performed roving air monitoring the evening the odor was first reported on Sept. 24.

"Our understanding is that they weren't measuring any readings at levels that would be of concern," she said.

Goodsell said her department and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency performed such roving air monitoring tests in the Longview area two days after the odor was first reported, but also nothing abnormal was detected. The agencies drove around the city and checked different areas, she said.

Holly Weiss-Racine, a geologist and outreach coordinator for Cascades Volcano Observatory in Vancouver, said last week's odor is not related to any activity from Mount St. Helens.

"We have a bunch of gas sensors in Mount St. Helens crater and there were no increases in gas emissions," she said.

Weiss-Racine said the types of odors connected to volcanic activity are detectable by people are sulfur dioxide, which smells like rotten eggs, and hydrogen sulfide, which smells like a lit match.

Driver crashes car in Yelm area yard, then spits in officer's face, Thurston Sheriff says

By Ty Vinson

The Olympian

Thurston County Sheriff Derek Sanders said on social media Friday morning that a man was arrested in the Yelm area after crashing his car into someone's front yard, then shoving and spitting in an officer's face.

Sanders posted the incident at 1:44 a.m. Friday morning. He said deputies were dispatched to a DUI crash in the Yelm area that ended up in someone's front yard.

The driver attempted to flee the scene but was located and arrested by deputies and Yelm police officers. The keys to the wrecked vehicle were still in the man's pocket.

Sanders said the man was taken back to the Yelm Police Department to administer a breathalyzer. The man shoved an officer and spit in the face of another officer, which Sanders said abruptly ended the man's opportunity to be cited and released.

A search warrant was granted to obtain the man's blood, which will be sent off to the Washington State Patrol crime lab for testing. Sanders said after the blood is seized for evidence, the man's final stop was the Thurston County Jail where he was booked for alleged DUI and two counts of felony assault.

Van De Wege resigns Washington state senate seat

By Jerry Cornfield

The Washington Standard

Democratic state Sen. Kevin Van De Wege, who lost his bid for Washington public lands commissioner in August, resigned from his legislative office Wednesday, three months before the end of his term.

Van De Wege, 50, of Lake Sutherland, was first elected to the House of Representatives in 2006 and served in the Senate since 2017. He represented the 24th Legislative District encompassing Clallam, Jefferson and Grays Harbor counties.

"It has been the honor of my life to serve in the Legislature these past 18 years but it is time for me to move on," he wrote in his resignation letter to Gov. Jay Inslee on Monday.

Van De Wege, in a statement issued Wednesday, said it was "a dream come true" to hold elected office. "Now I'm ready to turn the page and begin the next chapter of my life," he said.

"I leave with many great memories and the belief I always did my best. I didn't win every fight — no one in Olympia ever does — but I think I won more than my share. I sure tried, and I'm proud of what was accomplished. I know that," he said. "I step aside knowing our communities are in good hands. I couldn't have asked for better seatmates or better people to work for."

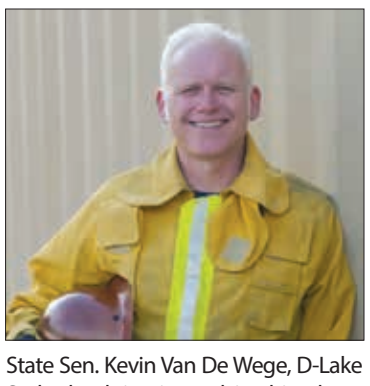
Van De Wege, a fire district captain in Clallam County, chaired the Senate Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks Committee through his two terms and also served on the Ways & Means and the Health & Long Term Care committees.

In June 2023, he launched a campaign for commissioner of public lands. He described his first run for statewide office as "the culmination of my political career."

It didn't turn out as the moderate Democrat had hoped. In the August primary, Van De Wege finished sixth in the seven candidate field. He was one of five Democrats in the race.

Democratic state Rep. Mike Chapman and Republican Marcia Kelbon are competing in the Nov. 5 general election to succeed Van De Wege in the Senate. Chapman won the primary with 54% of the vote.

When results are certified in December, it is likely the winner will be appointed to serve the unexpired portion of Van De Wege's term.



State Sen. Kevin Van De Wege, D-Lake Sutherland, is pictured in this photo from his campaign website.

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News in Brief

WDFW seeks public comment on strategy to prioritize fish passage barrier removal

By The Chronicle staff

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is seeking public input on a draft statewide strategy to prioritize the removal of small-scale barriers that prevent salmon and steelhead from swimming upstream, according to a news release.

"At the direction of the Legislature, the draft strategy offers a coordinated approach that focuses Washington's various fish passage correction programs to maximize recovery of depressed, threatened and endangered salmon stocks as well as the endangered Southern Resident killer whale population," WDFW stated in the release.

WDFW consulted with and continues to work with tribes, partners and a science panel in developing the draft strategy, as well as the Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board, which evaluates fish passage projects and identifies priority projects for funding considerations.

The public is invited to view the draft strategy at https://tinyurl.com/mr2ab6az and provide comments through Oct. 14. Comments can be submitted online at WDFW's website, or by mail to Dr. Jane Atha, fish passage strategist, P.O. Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504

WDFW also held a hybrid workshop to discuss and hear feedback on the plan on Oct. 2 at the Confluence Technology Center in Wenatchee.

Washington state researchers to use drones to survey seals and sea lions

By The Chronicle staff

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has finalized a drone use plan that authorizes staff to conduct pinniped research and management surveys in the state's coastal and inland waters, according to a news release.

Department staff and researchers will use drones to survey for seals and sea lions in the department's southwest, coastal and North Puget Sound regions.

This fall, WDFW will fly drones in the Nisqually, Dosewallips and Duckabush river estuaries to count harbor seals. The drone flights will occur a few times per month and are scheduled to continue through October 2025.

"Counting these harbor seals will help WDFW estimate the consumption of salmon and steelhead by seals in these locations," said Casey Clark, WDFW lead marine mammal researcher.

These and future pinniped drone flights will be conducted over known haul outs and pinniped habitat in coastal and marine waters, as well as in rivers and estuaries where seals and sea lions are found.

Where access may be restricted or additional regulations apply, WDFW will obtain appropriate permissions and permits before conducting operations. No flights will occur over private land without prior approval from the landowner.

All drone operations will comply with Federal Aviation Administration drone use regulations and with WDFW's National Marine Fisheries Service research permits. Drone surveys are subject to necessary flight conditions and may be rescheduled or terminated if conditions change or are not conducive to fly. WDFW drone operators will consider potential impacts to user groups in the flight area, such as hunters, anglers or recreationists, when planning flights, according to the release.

Friends of Winlock Library hold silent auction to raise funds

By The Chronicle staff

The Friends of the Winlock Timberland Regional Library will hold a silent auction fundraiser 0ct 5 through Oct. 19.

Auction items will be displayed at the library at 322 NE First St., Winlock, during regular library hours. Bidding will begin at 2 p.m. and end at 2 p.m. Oct. 19.

"Items up for bid have been meticulously created by local and PNW artists and craftsmen and can be viewed prior to the opening on the Friends of the Winlock Timberland Library Facebook page," organizers stated in a news release. "This was a popular event in Winlock prior to 2020 and the (Friends of the Winlock Timberland Regional Library) are delighted to be able to offer the community the opportunity to bid on these one-of-a-kind art works while supporting the Winlock regional library — and just in time for Christmas shopping."

Items include jewelry, large maple and walnut bowls, a framed watercolor painting, copper wall art, a hand-crafted wooden flute and more.

The Friends of the Winlock Timberland Library is a nonprofit charitable organization committed to literacy and the support of the Winlock library. All proceeds will benefit the library and its programs.

Anyone interested in joining the group can contact them through their Facebook page, Friends of the Winlock Timberland Library.

•••

To submit photos or news tips to The Chronicle's newsroom, email news@chronline.com. Information can also be mailed to The Chronicle at 321 N. Pearl St., Centralia, or submitted through a form at chronline.com. Call 360-736-3311 for more details.

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Napavine Assembly of God
Pastor Jimmy Smith
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360-262-0285. Sunday Services, Sunday School: 9:30am, Morning Worship: 10:30 am. Evening Service: 6pm. Wednesday: Bible Study: 7pm. Royal Rangers & Missionettes

Vader Assembly of God
302 6th St., Vader. Pastor: Tracy Durham. Services: Sundays 11:00 am & 6 pm., Wednesdays 7 pm. 360-295-3756

Winlock Assembly of God
706 SE First St. Winlock, WA, 360-785-3011, Sunday School 9:30am, Sunday Services 10:30am and 6pm, Wednesday mid-week service 6:00pm, Pastor Jared Hunt.

BAHA'I FAITH

Local Bahai devotionals meeting currently include a once a month prayer for peace at the Centralia Public Library meeting room. So far we have arranged to meet October 5 and November 9.
Join us in conversation to explore this idea! For other contacts, please call 505-615-3075 or on our website: bahai.org

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To none is given the right to question their words or disparage their conduct, for they are the only ones who can claim to have understood the patient and to have correctly diagnosed its ailments. No man, however acute his perception, can ever hope to reach the heights which the wisdom and understanding of the Divine Physician have attained."
Baha'u'llah

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Pastor Chris Kruger
Dayspringbaptist316@outlook.com
www.dayspringbaptistchehalis.org
www.facebook.com/daysprингbaptistchurch.106

Sunday Services:
Adult and Children's Sunday School: 9:00 am
Worship Service: 10:30am
Family Night Dinner and Worship: Wednesday 5:30-7:00pm

Dryad Community Baptist Church
112 Olive Street, Dryad, Wa.,Bible Study for all ages: 10:00 am. Morning Worship: 11:00 am. Adult Discipleship 6:00 pm.
360-245-3383 or 509-230-6393

CONSERVATIVE BAPTIST

Mountain View Baptist Church
1201 Belmont, Centralia. (1 block west of I-5 interchange on Harrison, right on Belmont) 360-736-1139. Pastor Josh Holland. Sunday School (all ages) 9:45 a.m. Sunday Services: 8:30 & 11 a.m., Youth Group at 5 pm. AWANA, Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m. (Sept-May). passion4christ.or

Christian Fellowship of Winlock
630 Cemetery Rd, Winlock (360)785-4280
Pastor Terry Sundberg. Sunday Worship & Children's Church at 10:30 a.m.
Various Bible Studies throug.hout the week.
AWANA Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. (Oct-Apr).
www.cfwinlock.org

INDEPENDENT BAPTIST

Centralia Bible Baptist Church
1511 S. Gold Street
360-669-0113
www.centraliabbc.org
Pastor, Andrew Fix
Sunday: 10:00 am & 5:30 pm
Wednesday: 6:00 pm

Napavine Baptist Church
Sunday: 11:00 am
Wednesday: 6:00 pm
www.NapavineBaptist.com

CALVARY CHAPEL

Calvary Chapel Centralia
2308 North Pearl Street
Centralia, WA 98531
(360) 827-3291
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Sundays @ 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Thursdays @ 7 p.m.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

First Church of Christ
Scientist, 89 NE Park St., Chehalis, Sunday School & Service 10:30 am, Wed. Service 7:00 pm. Nursery provided. Reading room hrs., Tues. & Thurs. 11am - 1pm (Except holidays).

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Centralia, 502 E Plum St. Welcome! We look forward to worshiping with you. Sunday Bible Study at 9:30 am, Worship at 10:30am. Wednesday Bible Study at 6:30pm. Thursday Ladies Class at 11:00am. 360-736-9798.

Toledo, 300 St. Helens St., Toledo, Welcomes You! 10 am Sun. Bible Study, 11 am Worship. 6 pm Sun. Worship, 6 pm Wed. Bible Study, 11 am Tues. Adult Bible Class. (bag lunch at 12 noon) Evangelist John Gadberry, 360-274-8570

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Centralia Community Church
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Sunday Service is at 10:00 am, with Nursery care provided.
Pastor Devin Burton, 3320 Borst Ave.
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360-736-7606 www.cccog.com.

Cooks Hill Community Church
2400 Cooks Hill Road, Centralia,
Pastor Emily Faley
Sunday Mornings:
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10:00 a.m. Youth & Children's Ministry
(Classes available birth – 5th grade).
Call the church for more Information at (360) 736-6133 or check out our website at http://www.cookshillcc.org

EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Central Bible Evangelical Free Church
2333 Sandra Ave
Centralia WA 98531

Pastor: Randy Sortino
Phone: 360-736-2061

Sunday School - 9:30am
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30am
Sunday Evening Service - 6:00pm
Wednesday Night: Venture Club - 5:00pm
Thursday Night: Choir Practice - 5:30pm
Friday Night: Fireside Discipleship - 6:00pm
Saturday Men's Fellowship
Breakfast - 7:00am

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Chehalis, WA 9853
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Chehalischristian.org
Pastor Mike Harden
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Worship Service – 11:00 a.m.
Sonshine Seekers – monthly
Wednesday Bible Study - 2 p.m.
Sunday Evening Worship Service - 6 p.m.

Centralia Christian Church
Sunday Morning Worship at 9:00 am & 10:30 am
(9:00 am service has classes for Nursery–5th grade. 10:30 am service has Nursery only.)
Wednesday Evening Youth Group for Middle School & High School at 6:30 pm
Lead Pastor: Brad Brenner
1215 W Main St.
360-736-7655
centraliachristian.org

LUTHERAN

Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA
1209 N. Scheuber Road, Centralia.
Pastor, Peter Mohr, 360-736-9270,
Sunday Worship 10am
Online services can be found at GodWithUs.Today. For more information:
www.ilccentralia.org
or email admin@ilccentralia.org

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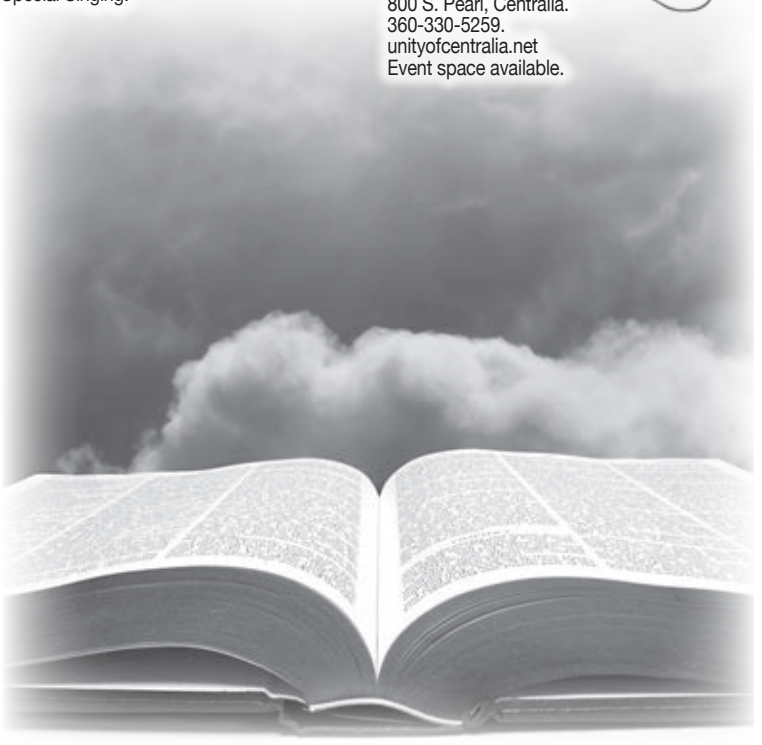

Local candidates for public office to face off again next week

By Mitchell Roland

mitchell@chronline.com

Candidates for local office will again gather for a debate next week ahead of the general election in November.

The debate, organized by the Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce, will include candidates for both Lewis County commissioner seats and the Lewis County Public Utility District (PUD) Commission. These include Republican Sean Swope and Democrat Damian Bean, who are battling to represent District 1, and Republicans Lindsey Pollock and Christina Riley, who are seeking to represent District 2.

Lewis County PUD commissioner candidates Dave Fenn and Angie Brown will also be in attendance.

The event will take place at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 10, on the second floor of O'Blarney's in Centralia at 221 N. Tower Ave.

The chamber will accept two audience questions for each position. Questions must be submitted in writing. Beginning at 11 a.m., index cards will be available for audience members to submit questions. Questions will be selected at 11:25 a.m.

Last month, the candidates gathered for a debate at Centralia College hosted by The Chronicle. The event, which included prepared and audience questions, can be viewed on The Chronicle's Facebook page.







Ridley Hudson / ridley@chronline.com

Top left: Commissioner Sean Swope answers a question during a debate hosted by The Chronicle in the TransAlta Commons at Centralia College on Thursday, Sept. 26.

Top right: Lewis County Commissioner candidate looks at Commissioner Lindsey Pollock as she answers a question during a debate hosted by The Chronicle Sept. 26.

Left: Lewis County PUD Commissioner candidate Angie Brown answers a question during a debate with Dave Fenn hosted by The Chronicle Sept. 26.

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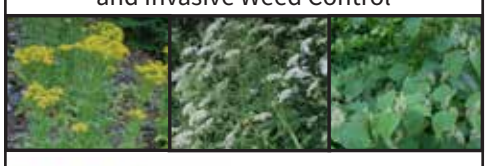

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Tenino man airlifted to Harborview, Chehalis woman hospitalized after 7-vehicle crash in Thurston County

By The Chronicle staff



WSDOT

All northbound I-5 lanes were blocked in Tumwater while emergency crews responded to a collision Wednesday morning. Life Flight landed on the freeway to take a Tenino man to Harborview Medical Center for treatment.

A Tenino man was airlifted to Harborview Medical Center and a Chehalis woman was hospitalized in Olympia following a crash involving seven vehicles in Thurston County on Wednesday, according to the Washington State Patrol.

The crash on northbound Interstate 5 in Tumwater occurred at about 9:35 a.m. and blocked the freeway for four hours and 40 minutes, the state patrol said in a news release. Troopers initially blocked the entire northbound lanes of the freeway and later allowed a single lane to open as they investigated the scene, The Olympian reported.

Trooper John Dattilo told The Olympian the wreck happened after traffic built up behind a separate two-vehicle collision. He said the two-vehicle collision did not result in serious injuries, fatalities or arrests, The Olympian reported.

"We are grateful for the patience of the drivers that were caught in the backup," Dattilo said.

"Thank you to all the motoring public for allowing us to investigate and we really do hope for a quick and full recovery for the person that was injured."

Daniel G. Curulla, 38, of Elma, was traveling north at mile marker 103 when his Nissan van struck the back of a Subaru driven by Sheryl L. Rogers, 62, of Chehalis, as she was stopped for traffic. Her passenger, Knut I. Larsen, 61, of Tenino, was injured and transported to Harborview following the crash. Rogers was transported to Providence St. Peter Hospital in Olympia.

After their Subaru was struck, it collided with a stopped 2023 Ford Escape driven by David C. Pucalik, 35, of Pennsylvania. Pucalik and his passenger, Dequan D. Barnes, 30, of Pennsylvania, were not injured.

The Ford Escape then crashed into a Nissan Versa driven by Daniel T. Gillum, 47, of Fairview, Oregon. He was not injured.

Gillum's vehicle struck the rear of a Toyota Corolla driven by James A. Casey, 31, of Centralia, and a Freightliner driven by Ivan Muntian, 31, of Gresham, Oregon. Casey and Muntian were not injured.

Katie Scherz, 34, of Olympia, was in the southbound lanes of Interstate 5 when her Dodge Journey was struck by debris from the northbound crash. She was not injured.

The northbound vehicles all came to rest in the two left lanes.

All motorists involved were wearing seat belts. Drugs and alcohol were not a factor in the crash, according to the state patrol, which listed the cause of the crash as negligent driving.

Curulla faces possible second-degree negligent driving charges, according to the state patrol.

The Nissan van, Subaru, Ford Escape and Nissan Versa were all totaled while the other vehicles all had reportable damage, according to the state patrol.

News in Brief

Arrest made in random attack on 61-year-old woman at Fred Meyer in Oregon

By The Oregonian

A Tigard man has been arrested after police say he attacked a woman at a Fred Meyer grocery store last month.

Tigard police responded to a call from the grocery store on Southwest 72nd Avenue and Oregon 99W on Sept. 19. An employee told dispatchers a customer was leaving the store when a man punched her in the head twice.

The woman, a 61-year-old Tigard resident, said she did not know the attacker. She was taken to the hospital for evaluation and released.

Police were unable to locate the suspect, who fled the scene on foot, despite a K-9 search. During the investigation, officers identified Isaiah Marquis, 25, as the suspect.

Marquis turned himself in to police on Thursday. He was arrested on suspicion of fourth-degree assault, police said.

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Photos by Kody Christen / kody@chronline.com

Wildland firefighters spray down a pile of burning brush as the Washington Department of Natural Resources assists Lewis County firefighters from the Boistfort area in responding to a brush fire off of Beaver Creek Road on Thursday, Oct. 3. Lewis County Fire District 13 in Boistfort reported that local resources were released from the scene Thursday afternoon as the state Department of Natural Resources mopped up the scene. The fire was listed at about a quarter of an acre. The cause of the fire hasn't been announced, but the Boistfort Firefighters Association had a message for residents in a Facebook post: " Please remember burn piles do require a permit and are limited in size to 10 feet by 10 feet by 6 feet high."



The Washington Department of Natural Resources assists Lewis County firefighters in responding to a brush fire off of Beaver Creek Road in Boistfort on Thursday, Oct. 3.



Wildland firefighters spray down a pile of burning brush as the Washington Department of Natural Resources assists Lewis County firefighters in responding to a brush fire off of Beaver Creek Road in Boistfort on Thursday, Oct. 3.

In focus: State, local firefighters knock down blaze in Boistfort



The Washington Department of Natural Resources assists Lewis County firefighters in responding to a brush fire off of Beaver Creek Road in Boistfort on Thursday, Oct. 3.



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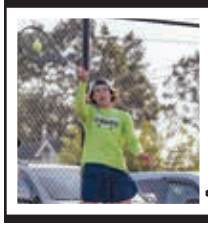

T-Birds too much for Bearcats

<<< Tumwater takes EvCo match ... B3

Falcons win in OT

NFL: Kirk Cousins leads Atlanta to tight win on Thursday Night Football

See B5>>>

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Thursday's Prep Cross Country

Depth powers Morton-White Pass boys to victory

By The Chronicle staff

Ignited by a 3-4-5 finish from their three best runners, the Timberwolves totaled 35 points to triumph in a multi-team meet with several C2BL foes on Thursday at Toledo High School. Rainier was second with 57 points while Winlock (79) and Toledo (92) finished third and fourth. Adna was seventh with 177 points.

Vanson Armstrong (18:09), Hunter Brackett (18:13) and Aiden Kampa (18:27) were the backbone of the MWP performance. Aiden Kampa finished seventh in 19:41 and Owen Loucks rounded out the scoring five by placing 16th.

Toledo went 1-2 at its home meet with senior Treyton Marty running 16:58 and freshman Conner Hill was the only other runner that ran sub-18 minutes.

Rainier had two runners in the top-10 in Caleb Stover (sixth) and James Meldrum (ninth) and its other three scoring runners finished 12th, 13th and 14th.

Winlock's Xavier Sancho-Carrillo placed eighth and Jacob Trodahl was 11th.

On the girls side, Rainier only had four runners but went 1-2-3-4 despite not having ace Madison Ingram. Freshmen Komaire Robles and Alexis Myers ran 21:15 and 22:39 while sophomores Rayanna Wisner and Kinsley Barlow were separated by 17 seconds.

Mossyrock's Joan Wedam took fifth, Winlock's Natalie Cardenas Hernandez was seventh, Toledo's Lilly Cooper placed ninth, Adna's Megan Price finished 10th and MWP's Gemma Jakubowski crossed the line in 11th.

Thursday's 2B Volleyball



Dylan Wilhelm / dylan@chronline.com

Toledo's Ellie Fallon leaps to spike the ball during Toledo's win over Napavine on Oct. 3.

Toledo battles back to top Tigers in five

By Dylan Wilhelm

dylan@chronline.com

TOLEDO — Early in the fourth set against Napavine, Toledo trailed by four. Already down one set, the Riverhawks needed to rally to force a fifth if they wanted to leave with a victory.

They did just that on Thursday night in their league opener, as the Riverhawks forced a fifth and won it to complete an 18-25, 25-23, 16-25, 25-23, 15-13 comeback win.

"It means so much," Toledo coach Kelli Larson said. "A lot of the things we've been working on, to see them bring it into the game, it was awesome."

Toledo's offense funneled through their outside hitters, and the Riverhawks were able to have a lot of success there over the course of the game.

Ellie Fallon tallied 24 kills, Abby Umbriaco added 13, and Taysia Miller logged six. Setter Sidney Kruger finished the game with 49 assists.

"We just couldn't slow down their outside hit," Napavine coach Monica Dailey said. "We were just really late on that outside. And they did a really good job feeding their outsides the ball. Credit to them."

When the Tigers were able to time the block well, it often either split the two blockers or deflected off of them and went out of play.

The momentum didn't truly swing into Toledo's favor until Set 4, as the Tigers handedly took two of the first three sets of the game. Napavine ended the first set on a 14-7 run, and followed that up by going on an 18-9 run to end the third.

please see **TOLEDO,** *page B3*

Mountaineers handle Loggers in league opening-sweep

By Dylan Reubenking

dylan@yelmonline.com



Dylan Reubenking / Nisqually Valley News

Rainier's Anika Plowman (5), Allyson Ooms (4) and Annabelle Whiteman (21) celebrate after Whiteman records a kill against Onalaska on Oct. 3.

RAINIER — The Rainier High School volleyball team made quick work of its first Central 2B League opponent by sweeping Onalaska on Thursday, Oct. 3.

Rainier earned its fifth win via sweep this season, 25-16, 25-20, 25-14, in what was perhaps its most complete team effort so far.

The Mountaineers tussled with a scrappy Loggers team in the first set, with neither team holding a lead larger than three points for the majority of the frame. After taking a 15-13 advantage, they raced past the Loggers with a 10-3 stretch, led by timely blocks by Anika Plowman and the finishing kill by Acacia Murphy.

Onalaska tested Rainier in the second, capitalizing on several poor serves by the Mountaineers to build a 19-14 lead. What followed was the most dominant stretch of play that head coach Carrie Ooms has seen from her veteran team this season. The Mountaineers pummeled the Loggers to the tune of an 11-1 run to close out the frame.

"We didn't let up. We started off strong and we didn't let up from there. Last season, we kind of got comfortable and let up a little bit," Ooms said. "This season, we're really working hard on keeping the pressure on and constantly giving our best no matter what."

Senior Brooklynn Swenson flashed her versatility in the second as she lined up at her normal setter spot and also showed off her hops in the frontcourt, protecting the net with key blocks. She finished the game with 23 assists.

"She's gotten a lot better at reading the ball and what's happening on the other side of the court," Ooms said.

The Mountaineers kept their foot on the gas to start the third,

please see **RAINIER,** *page B5*

Thursday's 2A/1A Girls Soccer

Centralia secures first home win in PK triumph over Black Hills

By The Chronicle staff

Behind a pair of clutch penalty shootout makes and saves from Braylee Blankenship, the Tigers nabbed their first home victory of the season with a 2-1 (3-2 PKs) triumph over the Wolves on Thursday night in an Evergreen Conference matchup.

Cyndal Sills and Bella Gomez made the last two Centralia (4-2-3, 3-0 EvCo) penalty kicks after trailing 2-1 in the shootout. Black Hills' last two kicks were wide and over the crossbar.

"Very intense match," Centralia head coach Luis Magana said. "We got to give the fans what they came for, a dub."

Olivia Gruginski, who also scored in the shootout, put the Tigers out front in regulation with her 11th goal of the season in the 38th minute. The Wolves knotted the match at one apiece in the 65th minute.

Centralia will face W.F. West in the first meeting of the Chronicle Cup and Black Hills faces its county rival Tumwater, both on Tuesday night.

W.F. West shuts down Aberdeen in preparation for Chronicle Cup

Fueled by 14 of the 20 total shots landing on frame, the Bearcats eventually broke down the Bobcats back line and secured a 2-0 verdict in an Evergreen Conference contest on Thursday night at Stewart Field.

Wyatt Rogerson netted the opening goal in the 20th minute on an assist by Ashlen Gruginski. W.F. West (6-2, 2-1 EvCo) head coach Kevin Schultz viewed it as a total team goal. It started with a Kaija Economou pass to Rhylee Beebe then Gruginski then Rogerson.

"Felt like we controlled a lot of the game, especially in the second half," Schultz added. "We put them under pressure."

Lauren Kelley scored on a set piece, being in the right place at the right time off a Madi Otten head flick. W.F. West's defense only allowed two total shots by Aberdeen and just one was on target.

Next up for the Bearcats is the first game against arch rival Centralia at home on Tuesday.

"We know very well it could be a defensive battle," Schultz said. "We know the intensity is going to be high."

Gonia nets game-winner in Tenino close victory

After getting pummeled by Montesano and Elma, the Beavers got back on the right track with a 2-1 victory over the Grizzlies on Thursday night at Olympic Stadium in 1A Evergreen league action.

Tenino (5-4-1, 1-2 Evergreen) had 20 shots on the night and 18 of them were stopped by Hoquiam goalie Emily Brodhead. Beavers head coach Dave Montgomery bluntly stated it was "The greatest goalkeeper

please see **SOCCER,** *page B2*

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Wednesday's 2B Volleyball

Napavine snaps losing streak with win in White Pass

By The Chronicle staff

The Napavine volleyball team snapped a three-game losing streak on Wednesday, as the Tigers ended their non-league slate with a 25-21, 25-12, 25-21 road win over Morton-White Pass.

Napavine coach Monica Dailey said that on Wednesday, the Tigers played really well as a team, specifically defensively.

In Tuesday's loss to Adna, Dailey said she saw glimpses of what the defense could look like, and against the Timberwolves, there was more consistency.

"We've been working a lot with blocking and coverage behind our blocks," Dailey said. "Tonight, they did really well. I think it finally sunk in, and they did a lot of really good things."

Dailey was also pleased with the overall communication, saying the Tigers were talking and moving well most of the match.

"They were just being really good teammates to each other," Dailey said.

Jessie McCoy led the tigers with 13 assists, eight kills, and three block kills, while Emily Kang added 19 digs. Kennedy Purvis added eight kills and Stephanie Camacho-Chavez tallied eight digs.

Kang, Lillian Blair, and Lilly Grabianowski were all perfect from the service line.

Dailey also gave a shout out to freshmen Ava Ondong and Mya Garrett, saying that they played excellent defense at the net and that they were ready to go at all times.

Snapping the losing streak was especially important on Wednesday, as the Tigers will go into league play at Toledo on Thursday on a high note.

"It's really nice for them to put some things together," Dailey said. "We've got a tough league, and we need to make sure we're limiting our mistakes to the best of our ability. It's about just putting the importance on going into each game prepared mentally and physically."

Wednesday's 2A Boys Golf

Flores, Casler lead Black Hills past Centralia in 18-hole matchup

By The Chronicle staff

Preparation for district tournaments are underway, as local golf teams begin playing 18-hole matches.

Centralia played the first of three 18-hole matches against Black Hills at Tumwater Valley on Wednesday, and the Wolves came out on top 424-499.

"It was a little bit of a challenge," Centralia coach Hal Gronseth said. "But we enjoyed it."

Tyler Fagerness led the Tigers with an 82, while Jake Johnson shot a 92. Paul Guthrie added a 106, Tristin Henning recorded a 109, and Kynon Meek rounded out the Centralia scorecard with a 110.

Black Hills had each of their top-five shooters post a score under 100, led by Phoenix Flores and Jack Casler, who shot a 77 and 79.

Logan Stallings and Kendall Roberson each added an 86, and Ezra Harris logged a 96.

The Tigers will play another 18 at Highland Golf Course against Aberdeen next Wednesday, Oct. 9, and the EvCo tournament is set for the following week at Riverside Golf Course in Chehalis.

The Wolves will also be back in action next Wednesday, as they'll host W.F. West at Tumwater Valley.

T-Birds clip W.F. West

Behind their top-two golfers firing under an 80, the Thunderbirds maintained their spot atop the Evergreen Conference with a 400-417 18-hole victory over the Bearcats on Wednesday at Tumwater Valley.

Braeden Konrad was the medalist after carding a 3-over par 75 and teammate Landen Baydo registered a 6-over par 78. Zane Laposky, Scott Ellis and Liam Gustafson were all separated by a combined one stroke.

W.F. West were led by a pair of sophomores in Jamie Conzatti and Emmett Goodman each with an 80. Jax Potter and Weston Potter recorded an 83 and 84, respectively, while Fox Rogerson finished the day with an 85.

These two teams will play again on Monday — along with Black Hills — at Salish Cliffs.

Wednesday's 2A Cross Country

Black Hills girls claim team victory at Stan Hedwall Park

By The Chronicle staff

The Black Hills girls cross country team came away with a win in a three-team meet on Wednesday, as the Wolves topped Aberdeen and W.F. West at Stan Hedwall Park in Chehalis.

The course that the teams ran on is a slower one, but Maddie Knight (23:44.87), Makenna Legault (24:48.46), and Averie Reynolds (24:53.56) were able to grab second, third, and fourth to lead the Wolves.

Adeline Rice (26:49.90) and Jane Birchard (26:58.14) were also able to finish in the top-10, placing seventh and eighth, respectively.

As a team, Black Hills finished with just 24 points, 21 fewer than second-place Aberdeen and 37 fewer than third-place W.F. West.

Mercedes Ricks led the Bearcats with a time of 25:01.02 and a fifth-place finish, while Loren Kattenbraker placed ninth with a time of 27:37.91.

On the boys side, Aberdeen came away with the victory with 21 points, but W.F. West was able to take second with 46.

Ezra Birchard was the top W.F. West finisher, as he took third in 19:14.60. David Moeckel (20:11.94) and Adam Butterfield (21:22.71) also finished in the top 10 at eighth and tenth. Connor Clary (21:37.67) and Rowan Clary (21:38.12) finished back-to-back at 12th and 13th.

Seth Thomasson was Black Hills' best runner on the boys side, taking fourth in 19:32.43.

O'Dell cruises to victory in four-team meet

Centralia's Elyse O'Dell secured a win at Pioneer Park on Wednesday afternoon, winning the girls race by nearly 40 seconds in a meet that featured Tumwater, Rochester and Shelton.

Only the Tigers and Highclimbers had enough girls to score as a team, with the former beating the latter 25-32. Esther Hopkins and Eva Stout – a pair of sophomores – finished seventh and eighth separated by one second while Riley Meade (10th) and Anna Jones (12th) rounded out the scoring five.

Rochester's Merecedies Dupont was second in 22:16.07 and Seraschel Aldrich was 11th. Tumwater's Raegan Smith and Mirian Ore placed fifth and sixth, respectively.

On the boys side, the individual race was a tight one between Rochester's Gunnar Morgan and Tumwater's Joshua Morgan, with Gunnar triumphing over Joshua 16:14.79 to 16:15.36. The T-Birds nudged by Centralia 37-49 for the team title with the Warriors finishing with 67 points.

Soccer

Continued from page B1

performance I've ever seen at the high school level."

Still, they got out in front early in the fourth minute on a Callie Mickelson goal that was assisted by Chloe Grayless. The Grizzlies found the equalizer in the 47th minute, then Tenino's eighth grader Kylie Gonia snared a signature moment.

Off a corner kick by Kyla Watson, Gonia was in the right place at the right time in a scrum to tap the ball behind the net for the game-winner in the 52nd minute.

"Our bench brought a ton of energy," Montgomery said. "To be able to hang our hat on a good win, it felt good to get this one."

Tenino will face Rochester next week in the first contest as league foes in a while.

MLS

Sounders coach Schmetzer 'confident' he'll be extended

RENTON (TNS) — The Sounders are nowhere near their pinnacle — a seemingly insurmountable height since becoming the first MLS club to win the CONCACAF Champions Cup in 2022.

But the team has climbed from depths coach Brian Schmetzer said he hasn't seen since joining the club as a teenaged forward/midfielder in 1980.

The turnaround is marked by two matches against Cascadia rival Vancouver.

The Sounders shutout the Whitecaps 3-0 on Wednesday at BC Place to move into third place in the Western Conference standings. The team is 11-2-2 in its past 15 league matches — the hottest run among the 29-team MLS.

Schmetzer's hot seat seems to have cooled in the process. In April, a 2-0 loss to Vancouver at Lumen Field dropped the Sounders to 12th in the West with a 1-4-3 record, the worst start since joining the league in 2009.

Fans have left matches at Lumen Field early and questions regarding Schmetzer's job stability have circulated. He signed a multiyear deal in January 2021 that's due to expire this December.

"I'm confident that something is probably going to get taken care of," Schmetzer said recently when asked about his contract negotiations. "Finishing the year out strong, that would be the best case I could make for myself."

The Sounders didn't offer comment regarding the negotiations and general manager Craig Waibel has a policy of not discussing contracts publicly until agreements are reached.

Lewis County Sports Scoreboard

Local Schedules

Saturday, Oct. 5

Women's Soccer
Centralia at Tacoma, noon

Men's Soccer
Centralia at Tacoma, 2:15 p.m.

Cross Country
John Payne Invite (Curtis HS), 10:20 a.m.
Black Hills, Rainier at Nike Twilight Invite (Marysville), 5:25 p.m.
Toledo, Mossyrock at Harvest Classic, TBA

Monday, Oct. 7

Volleyball
RSB at MWP (at White Pass), 7 p.m.
Pe Ell at Ocosta, 7 p.m.

Girls Soccer
RSB at Onalaska, 6 p.m.
Napavine at Winlock, 6 p.m.
Adna at Toledo, 6 p.m.

Boys Tennis
W.F. West at Centralia, 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 8

Volleyball
W.F. West at Centralia, 7 p.m.
Black Hills at Tumwater, 7 p.m.
Rochester at Tenino, 7 p.m.
Rainier at Adna, 7 p.m.
Winlock at MWP (at White Pass), 7 p.m.
Toledo at Onalaska, 7 p.m.
Toutle Lake at Napavine, 7 p.m.
ONR at Firm Foundation, 7 p.m.

Girls Soccer
Centralia at W.F. West, 7 p.m.
Tumwater at Black Hills, 7 p.m.
Rochester at Tenino, 7 p.m.

Boys Golf
W.F. West vs. Hockinson at Newaukum, 3:30 p.m.

Swimming
Combined Program vs. Shelton at Centralia, 4 p.m.

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Wednesday's 2A Boys Tennis

Thunderbirds top Bearcats for second time in two weeks

By The Chronicle staff

The W.F. West boys tennis team got another crack at Tumwater at home on Wednesday, but the T-Birds topped the Bearcats 5-1.

Just like the first meeting between the two teams last week, Javyn Han and Bryce Kuykendall came away with W.F. West's lone win of the day in the top doubles match, as they topped Cody Lambert and Kaleb Peterson 6-1, 6-3.

Will Cummings and the duo of Ryan Bender and Colin Bradley battled back to force an extra game in their second sets, but they both fell.

First singles: Bodie Jackson (TUM) over Will Cummings (WFW) 6-3, 7-5

Second singles: Kieran Cox (TUM) ove Braden Newman (WFW) 6-4, 6-3

Third singles: Matt Merchant (TUM) over Sawyer Cothern (WFW) 6-2, 6-3

First doubles: Javyn Han/Bryce Kuykendall (WFW) over Cody Lambert/Kaleb Peterson (TUM) 6-1, 6-3

Second doubles: Max Bunn/Luke Houk (TUM) over Andre Tseng/Jaxon Velazquez (WFW) 6-0, 6-0

Third doubles: Henry Walter/Thomas Williams (TUM) over Ryan Bender/Colin Bradley (WFW) 6-2, 7-5

The Bearcats hosted Aberdeen on Friday.



Kody Christen / kody@chronline.com

Tumwater's Max Bunn and Luke Houk compete in a tennis match at W.F. West High School on Wednesday, Oct. 2.

Wednesday's 2B Girls Soccer

Pirates obliterate Fishermen, 10-0, on the road

By The Chronicle staff

It only took two minutes for Adna to take the lead on Ilwaco on Wednesday, and the Pirates never looked back in a 10-0 blowout win.

"It was a good feeling getting league play started with a win," Adna coach Patrick Richardson said. "Tonight we played a very solid match, putting a lot of the things we have been working on the last month."

The Pirates led 7-0 at halftime, hit double-digits by the 60th minute, and outshot the Fishermen a whopping 40-0.

Tobin finished with two goals and four assists, while Hagseth finished off a hat-trick in the second half with another goal. Bailey Naillon added a pair of goals and an assist, and Haley Roundtree, Lillian Montat, and Alyson Terry also scored.

"I told the girls 'now you can see how it should look.'" Richardson said. "I told them the more they work on it, the more we will be able to execute against the stronger teams in the league. We are definitely not where we want to be yet, but we are trending in the right direction."

Adna (2-4, 1-0 C2BL) will head to Yakima for non-league games against Granger and Mabton on Thursday and Friday before returning to league play next Monday at Toledo.

Tigers top Ravens for fourth consecutive win

The Napavine girls soccer team entered their league opener of Wednesday winners of three straight, and the Tigers kept rolling in a 5-1 win over Raymond-South Bend.

"They're coming together," Napavine coach John Bates said. "It was a difficult start, but then we got into a groove."

Jenna Gallagher opened the scoring in the 23rd minute off a pass from Haley Gallagher, and Hayden Kaut made it 2-0 just three minutes later.

The Ravens were able to get on the board seven minutes later, but Hannah Fay pushed the cushion back to two in the final moments of the first half.

Kaut added two more goals in the second half to finish off the hat-trick and the Napavine win.

"They showed a lot of good promise tonight," Bates said. "It's all coming together, we'll see how it goes."

Bates also pointed out Clara Fay and Maddie Dickinson, saying they played excellent defense on the Napavine back line.

The Tigers (4-2, 1-0 C2BL) will hit the road on Monday to face Winlock.

Sandridge, Loggers roll to big win over Ducks

The Onalaska girls soccer team had little issue against Toutle Lake on Wednesday, as the Loggers cruised to a 4-0 victory.

Onalaska dominated the entire way, outshooting Toutle Lake 23-1 and maintaining possession nearly the entire way.

Kaiyah Sandridge had another stellar offensive outing, scoring a hat trick to account for three of the four Onalaska goals, while Sylvie Little also got on the scoresheet in the 52nd minute.

Kate Zandell tallied a pair of assists, and Oleana Rimmeried also logged an assist.

The Loggers (4-3-1, 1-0 C2BL) will return home on Monday to face Raymond-South Bend.

Toledo hands Ocosta first loss in league opener

Toledo came away with an impressive win on the pitch on Wednesday night, as the Riverhawks downed previously unbeaten Ocosta 2-1 to open C2BL play with a victory.

"We played them well at home," Toledo coach Horst Malunat said. "I told the girls, we need to win our home games, and we did that tonight."

Toledo outplayed Ocosta for most of the match, outshooting them 13-3 and limiting the Wildcats' chances offensively.

The Riverhawks scored the first two goals of the game, as Peyton Holter scored in the 11th minute and Xtyn Norberg also found the back of the net in the 35th. Ryah Stanley got the assist on both goals.

Ocosta's lone goal came on the final play of the first half, when Kylee Denny connected on a free kick.

"It's just one rung on the ladder," Malunat said. "We climbed the first rung, and now we have to climb the second, and so on."

Coming up next for the Riverhawks (4-4, 1-0 C2BL) is a familiar foe, as they'll take on Adna at home on Monday. Malunat led Adna to the state title game in 2021, which the Pirates lost in penalty kicks to Kalama.

After heading to Winlock next Wednesday, Oct. 9, Malunat will get another chance to top former Kalama coach John Bates, who is now at Napavine, at home on Monday, Oct. 14.

Toledo

Continued from page B1

"I felt like we gave ourselves quite a bit of hitting opportunities," Dailey said.

Lillian Blair, Emily Kang, MaKayla Brett, and Lilly Grabianowski were all perfect from the service line, while Kang and Grabianowski added 16 digs each.

Kennedy Purvis finished with 19 kills and 18 digs, while Jessie McCoy logged 27 assists, eight kills, and four block kills. Nicholle Valentine also tallied nine kills.

"They're right there," Dailey said. "We just make dumb mistakes at inopportune times. And it's costing us."

The Tigers (4-5, 0-1 C2BL) will have the chance to bounce back at home on Tuesday against Toutle Lake, a team that they beat in four sets in non-league play.

"We definitely will have to be ready to play," Dailey said.

The Riverhawks pounced on the opportunities they were given late, and their block got better as the game went along. Mila Jones finished with a team-high five blocks, while Kruger and Miller both added three.

The win was especially nice for Toledo because of the way it lost to Morton-White Pass in its non-league finale on Tuesday. In the four-set loss to the T-Wolves, Larson said that they beat themselves by not playing up to their ability.

"This was wonderful to follow up with," Larson said. "I hope this brings that confidence through the teams we are about to face."

After a non-league game on Saturday in Ilwaco, Toledo (3-5, 1-0 C2BL) will hit the road to face Onalaska and Rainier next week.

Larson knows the road next week will be tough, but she is also cautiously optimistic about the Riverhawks' chances.

"If we can play like this," Larson said. "It will hopefully be a battle."

College Basketball

Notebook: Here's where media think UW men will finish in Big Ten

Percy Allen

The Seattle Times

ROSEMONT, Ill. — Heading into the 2024-25 season, Washington was picked 15th in the Big Ten men's basketball preseason poll conducted by The Columbus Dispatch and The Indianapolis Star.

"That's higher than I thought," UW coach Danny Sprinkle said with a laugh. "We'll take that. It's good because it sets a benchmark for us and let's us know that's how good this league is. Now, it doesn't mean that we have to finish 15th."

Last season, Sprinkle led a Utah State team that was picked ninth in the 11-team Mountain West preseason poll to a 28-7 record and a conference title.

"That's something that we'll use as motivation, but at the same time you still got to go and prove it," Sprinkle said. "You have to have that chip on your shoulder every time you go into the weight room and every time you go into the gym for extra shots. Our guys should be thinking about that No. 15."

Two-time defending league champion Purdue, which received 20 first-place votes from the 33-member media panel and 572 points, is the preseason favorites followed by second-place Indiana, which garnered seven first-place votes and 549 points.

The Boilermakers lost two-time national college player of the year Zach Edey, but bring back three starters, including preseason MVP Braden Smith and brought in a top-20 recruiting class to a team that finished 34-5 in the national championship game last season.

"We didn't have anybody leave to go into the portal," Purdue coach Matt Painter said. "That was big for us because we didn't have to deal with recruiting all spring and into the summer and not knowing who we are. Now, we're able to develop and know the guys on our team."

UCLA (510) and Illinois (458) each nabbed two first-place votes and were picked third and fourth, respectively. Michigan State (448) was slotted fifth and received a first-place vote.

Old faces, new places

UCLA coach Mike Cronin drew laughs from a gaggle of reporters when he said: "You know, I used to hear the Pac-12 wasn't a basketball league. OK, we're in the Big Ten now and I see a lot of Pac-12 guys on Big Ten teams. So, maybe we did have some basketball talent in the Pac-12."

To his point, Indiana replenished its roster with Pac-12 transfers Oumar Ballo (Arizona), Myles Rice (Washington State) and Kanaan Carlyle (Stanford).

Before departing, Oregon raided former Pac-12 rivals and plucked TJ Bamba (Washington State) and Brandon Angel (Stanford) while former Arizona guard Kylan Boswell landed at Illinois.

NCAA tourney expansion

Big Ten commissioner Tony Petitti said there's "positive feelings toward (NCAA tournament) expansion" and pushed back on speculation of making fundamental changes to the Big Dance.

"We're committed to the NCAA tournament the way it is," he said. "I know there's been talk about ... expansion in terms of adding teams."

Petitti didn't offer any specifics on possible changes.

"I just need to hear more about how that would work depending on how many teams they had, what the seeding looks like, what the first two days look like," he said. "It's just not as simple as saying add more teams."

College Sports

CC Roundup: Trailblazers swept by South Puget Sound

By Dylan Wilhelm

dylan@chronline.com



Ridley Hudson / ridley@chronline.com

Above: Centralia's Morgan Rogerson hits the ball during a volleyball game against South Puget Sound at Centralia College on Wednesday, Oct. 2.



Left: Centralia's Cadence Gumanas digs the ball during a volleyball game against South Puget Sound at Centralia College on Wednesday, Oct. 2.

In the first few minutes of Centralia's match against South Puget Sound on Wednesday, it appeared that the two teams would trade blows the whole way through.

Neither team scored more than two points in a row over the game's first 16 points, until Centralia went on a run to force a Clipper timeout.

The Clippers came out firing out of the break, however, kicking into gear and riding that momentum to a 25-20, 25-16, 25-15 win over the Trailblazers.

"SPSCC did a good job of pushing us out of system tonight," Centralia coach Ceanna Larson-Michalek said. "We definitely struggled in our serve and pass game, but we also had some great plays."

After the timeout in the first set, the Clippers outscored the Trailblazers 16-6 over the rest of the set, and they raced out to a 14-5 lead in Set 2. The third set was a similar story, as the Trailblazers went down 10-5 and 15-8 before calling a timeout to regroup.

Centralia looked better out of the timeout, getting as close as three points, but South Puget Sound finished the match by scoring the final six points to seal it.

Paige Miller led Centralia with 15 kills and two aces, while Avery Starr tallied 26 assists and nine digs.

The Trailblazers (13-9, 3-2 NWAC) will be back at home on Friday against Pierce College, their final game before an 11-day break.

Women's soccer bounces back against Highline

The Centralia College women's soccer team came away with a 3-2 win at Highline on Wednesday, as the Trailblazers won 3-2.

It's the first time in program history that the Trailblazers have beaten the Thunderbirds on the road, and they did it in comeback fashion.

Avery Braun scored the first goal of the game in the first minute, but Highline scored two goals in a five minute span to take a 2-1 lead.

Maylania Mikaele tied the game for CC in the 29th, and after 50-plus minutes deadlocked at two, Rubi Serrato drained a PK to give the Trailblazers a lead they wouldn't relinquish.

Brooklyn Alkire was huge in net for Centralia, tallying seven saves.

The Trailblazers (7-2, 3-2 NWAC) will return to the field on Saturday at Tacoma Community College.

Men's soccer blanked by Thunderbirds

The men's soccer team had less luck against Highline on Wednesday, as the Trailblazers were shut out 7-0.

Highline led just 2-0 at the break, but they added a goal in the 51st minute before adding four more in the final 23 minutes of the match.

Like the women's team, Centralia (2-8-2, 2-4-1 NWAC) will be back on the road on Saturday at Tacoma Community College.

ESPN analysts: Gonzaga's Pac-12 move makes sense for variety of reasons, including financially

By Jim Meehan

The Spokesman-Review

By ESPN college basketball analyst Sean Farnham's estimation, he's been courtside for well over 125 Gonzaga games in his 15 years at the network.

His call on Gonzaga's decision to join the Pac-12 Conference?

"They've been searching for awhile to find a new home," Farnham said. "There's been discussion with the Big 12 as potentially a destination point and a couple times it looked like it was actually happening. The one thing you want to make sure of is you are well positioned so you're not left out down the road. This was a move that keeps them in the recruiting zone and allows them to be among the nation's best.

"One hundred percent of (realignment) moves have been based solely on football and football revenue generated for a conference. This was the first time where basketball was at the forefront of the process and I suspect it won't be the Pac-12's only move in that regard."

Seth Greenberg, Farnham's teammate at ESPN, agreed that Gonzaga made the right decision.

"No matter what league Gonzaga was eventually going to move into they were going to be a flagship program," Greenberg said. "They're one of the programs that sets the standard as an elite basketball program. Obviously change is necessary in the current world of finances in college athletics. The Pac-12 does fit their footprint, but Gonzaga's brand is a national brand.

"This is a great opportunity for Gonzaga and obviously a home run for the new Pac-12. Truth be told, the Pac-12 needed Gonzaga more than Gonzaga needed the Pac.12."

Gonzaga announced Tuesday it will leave the West Coast Conference for the Pac-12, joining Boise State, Colorado State, Fresno State, Oregon State, San Diego State, Utah State and Washington State for the 2026-27 season.

Financial details haven't been announced, but GU athletic director Chris Standiford acknowledged "this is a better situation for us financially, without question."

"The most important thing is by being in the Pac-12, the revenue that's going to be available to them is going to maintain their level of success," Greenberg said. "The cost of college athletics is only going up and you need to be affiliated with a conference then enables you to compete and have the resources to compete with the best in college basketball."

"As far as media rights going forward, and (Big 12 Commissioner) Brett Yormark has talked about this that basketball rights might be sold separately from football, that basketball rights have been devalued to some extent," Farnham said. "It's not equal to football but there's more value than currently being shown. And now the Pac-12 has two of the best programs in the West over the last 15 years at least with Gonzaga and San Diego State."

Farnham, stressing he doesn't have insider knowledge, predicts the conference will probably seek "multiple platforms, it won't be one size fits all."

"Gonzaga's relationship with ESPN has been great. Gonzaga does move the needle, and they're widely considered a top 10 program as far as audiences. I think the Pac-12 would be wise to look at multiple platforms and streaming."

Six of the eight future Pac-12 members participated in last year's NCAA Tournament. San Diego State has the strongest resumé behind Gonzaga and the Aztecs joined the Zags in last year's Sweet 16 — GU's ninth consecutive Sweet 16, the longest streak in the country.

The Aztecs, who lost to UConn in the 2023 national championship game, beat Gonzaga 84-74 last December at the McCarthey Athletic Center. The teams square off again Nov. 18 at SDSU's Viejas Arena.

"In your mind, you can check off (the Pac-12) as a multiple-bid conference every year," Farnham said. "As we've seen in the past, when you have a Gonzaga, you have a team that could bring along one or two more bids.

"It's going to be high-level basketball on a nightly basis, and there will be more components added. How they do it will be interesting to see. It's important for the Pac-12 to value all sports because you're not going to be able to compete with the SEC and Big Ten solely on football. So it's how else can you generate revenue and how can you strengthen other sports to be relevant."

Both ESPN analysts said there was little or no risk in leaving the WCC, GU's home since 1979.

"Extra resources," Greenberg said. "Mark (Few, Gonzaga head coach) is a relentless recruiter who knows who he is, how he wins and who he wants in the program."

"No risk, and the reason why is because Gonzaga is a national brand and that's not associated with an individual conference," said Farnham, adding that he hopes GU continues playing WCC rival Saint Mary's annually if the two schools are in different conferences.

Asked if the Zags might absorb more losses in the Pac-12 than the WCC, Greenberg said it's possible because the Pac-12 appears to be deeper but he's not convinced GU's win-loss record will change much.

"When Gonzaga comes in and plays on the road, one thing won't change: They'll be the biggest game on everybody's schedule."

Gonzaga-USC exhibition game set for Oct. 26 in Palm Springs

By The Spokesman-Review

The date and tip time are set for the Gonzaga-USC charity exhibition game later this month in Palm Springs, California.

The teams will meet at Acrisure Arena at 5 p.m. on Oct. 26, Field of 68's Jeff Goodman reported. Proceeds will benefit Eisenhower Health's cardiovascular institute in Rancho Mirage, about 12 miles southeast of Palm Springs.

Gonzaga and USC have split four meetings, with the Trojans posting wins in 1991 and 1992.

GU handled USC 89-76 last December in Las Vegas and rolled to an 85-66 Elite Eight victory in Indianapolis in the 2021 NCAA Tournament. USC was led by Andy Enfield in both of those games, but he left to take the head coaching job at SMU after last season.

Eric Musselman, who guided Arkansas to a 74-68 upset over top-seeded Gonzaga in the 2020 Sweet 16 in San Francisco, is USC's new head coach after taking the Razorbacks to the NCAA Tournament in three of five seasons.

Tickets are expected to go on sale next week and the game will be streamed on B1G+ (Bigtenplus.com).

Gonzaga's road game vs. San Diego State on Nov. 18 will tip at 7 p.m. at Viejas Arena and will be televised on the CBS Sports Network.

Gonzaga and San Diego State will be future rivals in the Pac-12 Conference beginning in the 2026-27 season.

CHRONICLE_PHOTOS

NFL

On a masterful night, Kirk Cousins and the Falcons look like the real deal

By Ken Sugiura

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution



Kevin C. Cox / Getty Images

Atlanta Falcons wide receiver KhaDarel Hodge (12) celebrates with running back Bijan Robinson (7) after a game-winning, 45-yard touchdown reception against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers during overtime at Mercedes-Benz Stadium on Thursday, Oct. 3, 2024, in Atlanta.

Ever the dad, Kirk Cousins made sure to give his caveats. The Falcons can't get complacent after their wild 36-30 overtime win over the Tampa Bay Buccaneers Thursday night at Mercedes-Benz Stadium.

It was important, he said, for players to return Monday after the weekend off with the same urgency that they called upon to pull off this win.

"There's so much football ahead, you're going to enjoy these two, three days and then get right back to work and keep your foot on the gas, because when you let up, it can hurt you," he said.

But that said, throwing for a franchise-record 509 yards on 42-of-58 passing yards and four touchdowns and the succession of spirals spinning tightly out of his right hand that homed in on their targets through the tightest of windows, as well as his explanation of his performance afterward, Cousins gave assurance to Falcons fans that it's O.K. to believe in this team. Put aside the unevenness that you saw in the first four weeks. The fifth game, which lifted the team to 3-2, was the genuine deal.

"I feel like there was a drive in the second quarter when I threw a couple passes where I was basically anticipating where Kyle (Pitts) was going to be or where Drake (London) was going to be," Cousins said. "I was ahead of it a little bit in a good way and threw decisively. I just haven't been that decisive the first few weeks. I've been trying to kind of ensure that that's where they're going and ensure that that's what I'm seeing before I let it rip. I felt (Thursday night), there was a little bit more now after four games, 'No, I know where they're going. I know where they're going to be.'"

Mercedes-Benz Stadium has staged more than its share of shootouts in its brief existence. Thursday night's will take its place among the top. Sixty-six points, four lead changes, two gigantic stops by the Falcons defense in the final three minutes of regulation to give the offense a chance to force overtime with the team down 30-27, one more Younghoe Koo clutch bomb (this one after missing two field-goal tries earlier in the night) and, finally, wide receiver KhaDarel Hodge's 45-yard catch-and-run touchdown to chase the Buccaneers back to Florida.

"This is the moment of my life," said Hodge, a grinder who has had to fight to keep his spot in the NFL. "I'm not going to even downplay it."

Sure, Cousins is right. The Falcons could get fat and happy and backslide. You could also posit that it was just one of those weird Thursday night outcomes. But, after giving Falcons fans a taste of what he could do in leading the game-winning drive in Philadelphia, Cousins gave a more compelling full-game argument that the guy Falcons fans saw Thursday night is the real deal, not the one they watched with varying levels of anxiety in the first four weeks, when he averaged a modest 216 passing yards per game.

Regarding the anticipation he felt with his targets, "That's what I was used to having when you play with guys for three, four, five, six years, and I can feel it starting to come," Cousins said.

As anyone familiar with the Falcons knows, surrendering your time, lungs and particularly your heart to this team is a proposition fraught with peril. But the way Cousins directed the offense against a Buccaneers defense that started the game fourth in the NFL in opposition passer rating looked a lot like something worth diving into.

He completed passes to seven different targets, five for 66 yards or more. The tight end Pitts, whose role in the offense to this point was a major question mark, finished with seven catches for 88 yards — arguably his most productive game since his rookie year when he was paired with Matt Ryan and made the Pro Bowl.

Moreover, Cousins did it on a night when offensive coordinator Zac Robinson — speaking of members of the organization whom the fan base was starting to wonder about — piled the game plan on his quarterback's shoulders. Through four games an offense with a 42/58 run/pass ratio, the Falcons tilted to 22/78.

"We knew that they were going to try to stop the run, so we had to dish it out in the pass game," running back Bijan Robinson said. "Obviously, we did that very well."

And the Falcons also pulled it off on a night when the defense — which had been the stronger unit of the two to this point — was off its game, giving up three touchdowns and three field goals in Tampa's first seven possessions (not counting a kneel-down to end the first half). You would have to think that side will be better over the long term than it was Thursday. And the Falcons still only gave up 333 yards and, most importantly, delivered a fumble recovery (forced by safety Jessie Bates III) and a three-and-out after, respectively, Koo's try to tie the game was blocked and Cousins made his big mistake of the night, an interception on a gotta-have-it fourth-and-15 deep in the Falcons end just inside the two-minute warning. The latter opened the door for a Cousins-led drive to force overtime with a Koo field goal as time expired. With new life, Cousins and Hodge ended it on the fourth play of overtime.

The offensive exuberance proved a most appropriate tribute to Falcons legend Matt Ryan, who became the 14th member of the organization to be inducted into the team's Ring of Honor.

Introduced by Pro Football Hall of Famer Tony Gonzalez, Ryan hit all the right notes, thanking by name owner Arthur Blank, former general manager Thomas Dimitroff, coaches Mike Smith and Dan Quinn, teammates Tony Gonzalez, Todd McClure, Roddy White and Julio Jones, wife Sarah and sons Johnny, Marshall and Cal, along with coaches, teammates, support staff, his family and, finally, Falcons fans.

He spoke of Atlanta becoming his home and his motivation to perform for the team's fans.

"I want you to know that it was the thrill of a lifetime to be your quarterback," he said.

He finished in 123 seconds, one final two-minute drill, flawlessly executed.

After the game, as players charged through the tunnel toward their locker room, London yelled out a question to no one in particular: "You like that?"

It was a tribute to a famous Cousins moment, when he shouted similarly after leading a dramatic comeback win for Washington in 2015.

On a wild night at MBS, the answer for Falcons fans was simple.

Will ex-Giants Love, Williams return from Seahawks injuries to face NY?

By Gregg Bell

The News Tribune

Uchenna Nwosu readied on the practice field's edge. Julian Love jogged past, right into practice.

And into the Seahawks' plans to play the Giants (1-3) Sunday.

Love, a former team captain in New York, was full go in Seattle's practice Thursday. He left the team's loss at Detroit Monday night in the first half with a thigh injury and did not return. K'Von Wallace replaced the Pro Bowl safety.

Love is on track to start again next to Rayshawn Jenkins in the back of coach Mike Macdonald's defense for the first-place team in the NFC West (3-1).

Communication problems occurred in the middle of the Seahawks' defense against Detroit after Love got hurt.

On the Lions' 70-yard touchdown pass from Jared Goff to Jameson Williams running free across the middle of the defense late in the third quarter, the game-turning score after the Seahawks had closed to within 28-20, Seattle did not have a middle defender for Williams' deep post route. The Seahawks were in two-deep instead of three-deep coverage, as Macdonald had called.

"Obviously, we work together a majority of the time, so (it's) just having that communication," Jenkins said Thursday. "Sometimes we are not able to say things before the snap, but us being out there all the time 99% of the time we see the picture (of the offense) as the same picture. We didn't even need to communicate on a few plays here and there.

"(it's) just having that chemistry of knowing where he's going to be, even though I didn't have to say anything to him."

Uchenna Nwosu status

Nwosu was a limited participant in practice for the second consecutive day.

The key outside linebacker is trying to make his season debut coming back from his sprained knee he got on a cut block by Cleveland's Wyatt Teller in the final preseason game Aug. 24.

Nwosu practiced last week for one day, then had to miss the next two practices and was unable to play in Detroit.

Williams, Baker, Mafe progress

Fomer Giants defensive end Leonard Williams (ribs) and starting weakside linebacker Jerome Baker (hamstring) also practiced on a limited basis Thursday.

Williams really wants to play against his former teammates Sunday, of course.

Macdonald said after the Detroit game Baker was the closest of his five injured defensive starters who missed the game to play in the loss to the Lions.

Starting outside linebacker Boye Mafe practiced Thursday after missing the Seahawks' walk-through drills Wednesday. That's a positive sign Mafe, with three sacks through three games, will play Sunday. He missed the Lions game.

DK Metcalf's hand

DK Metcalf was limited in practice. The wide receiver has had a hand issue the last two weeks.

It did not keep him from playing Monday night in Detroit and becoming the first Seahawks to have three consecutive 100-yard games Monday night. He had seven catches for 104 yards against the Lions, as quarterback Geno Smith completed 38 of 56 passes for 395 yards — all career highs.

Byron Murphy still out

Defensive tackle and rookie first-round draft choice Byron Murphy missed his sixth consecutive practice since he injured his hamstring in the first half of Seattle's win over Miami two weeks ago.

He appears likely to miss his second straight game.

Mike Morris has gotten more time on the defensive line with Murphy out. Myles Adams played 20 snaps, 38% of the defensive plays, against the Lions. That's 20 times the defensive snaps Adams had through three games entering Monday.

Defensive coordinator Aden Durde said Adams was a standout on his D-line in Detroit.

"I thought Myles Adams played really well," Durde said.

Adams is in line for more than 20 snaps Sunday against the Giants.

Chiefs place wide receiver Rashee Rice on injured reserve

By Blair Kerkhoff

The Kansas City Star

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — There's some clarity now surrounding receiver Rashee Rice's knee injury

The Chiefs announced Thursday that their star wide receiver has been placed on the injured reserve list, meaning he'll miss at least four games — starting with Monday's home contest against the New Orleans Saints.

Rice was injured in the first quarter of Kansas City's 17-10 victory at the Los Angeles Chargers on Sunday. His right knee smashed into quarterback Patrick Mahomes after Mahomes had thrown an interception and both players were attempting to make a play on the return.

Initially the thought was perhaps Rice, who was carted off the field, had suffered an ACL injury. That was before he had been examined by doctors. That diagnosis hasn't been dismissed, but it also hasn't been confirmed.

Chiefs coach Andy Reid said Thursday that Rice will undergo additional tests next week, once the swelling in his knee has diminished. Reid was asked if he was more optimistic about Rice's recovery now than he was earlier in the week.

"Lets just wait and see where we're at," the coach said. "For his sake, we're really hoping that things work out for the best. Let's just see where it goes and leave it up to the doctors."

Rice, in his second NFL season, was walking in the Chiefs' locker room on Thursday with his right leg in a full sleeve. He wasn't using crutches.

Rice got off to a hot start this season, leading the Chiefs with 24 receptions and 288 yards and sharing the team lead with two touchdown receptions.

Mahomes said he wasn't sure what happened immediately after the play.

"I didn't notice in the moment," Mahomes said. "I was more worried about trying to get the ball, trying to make a play."

Then he learned about the collision between his helmet and Rice's knee.

"When I saw the replay, I felt like ... 'I hit Rashee,' " Mahomes said. "I wasn't worried about myself. I was worried about his injury and hopefully it wasn't as bad as it looked because I was the one that hit him."

After Rice left Sunday's game, rookie Xavier Worthy became a featured target. He hauled in a 54-yard pass for a touchdown and was on the receiving end of the game-clinching play, a 15-yard gain on third-and-6 with two minutes remaining that allowed the Chiefs to take a knee on the final snaps.

The Chiefs' tight ends also came up big Sunday. Travis Kelce had his best game of the season, with seven receptions for 89 yards, and Noah Gray caught a career-best four passes for 40 yards.

For now, other receivers — such as Justin Watson and JuJu Smith-Schuster — are likely to take on bigger roles in Rice's absence.

"Rashee has had a phenomenal year, but unfortunately in this league injuries happen, and life goes on," Reid said. "We always expect the next guys to step up and roll. It's no different now.

"There's not another Rashee, but there are guys that are very, very good. We'll be fine."

Clyde Edwards-Helaire update

Running back Clyde Edwards-Helaire returned to practice Thursday for the first time since he was placed on the non-football illness list after dealing with recurring PTSD.

Wednesday started a 21-day practice window for Edwards-Helaire, and the Chiefs will have that time to decide whether to activate him ... or shut him down.

"We'll get him back in the swing of things and see how he does over the next couple of days," Reid said.

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Thursday's 2A/1A Volleyball

Black Hills nabs Evergreen triumph over Centralia

By The Chronicle staff

In an early-season Evergreen Conference contest, the Wolves jumped out to a two-set lead and fended off the Tigers en route to a 25-19, 25-19, 18-25, 25-18 on Thursday night in Tumwater.

It snapped a three-game skid for Black Hills (2-5, 1-1 EvCo) and also marked its first league win of the fall. The Wolves will return to the court for an in-county rivalry matchup with EvCo-leading Tumwater next week.

Centralia head coach Marti Smith was pleased with her group and stated it was the best serving match of the season. The Tigers missed just two serves in four sets with 11 aces.

"I felt like the entire time we were in this match," Smith said. "There were just moments in those first two sets where we were on the losing end of those rallies."

Madison Breckel, one of three Tigers that were 100 percent from the service line, was the engine in helping Centralia (2-5, 0-3) score the first seven points in the third set. McKenna Smith had 11 assists and 10 digs while Hollynn Wakefield finished with 12 digs and four kills.

The Tigers will face W.F. West next week in the first of two Swamp Cup showdown.



Centerville 3D / Courtesy Photo

Centralia's Payton Baumel (15) rises up for a kill against Black Hills during an Evergreen Conference match on Oct. 3 in Tumwater.

Rochester struggles in loss to Montesano

Despite 37 combined digs from defensive specialists Cheyenne Justice and Addi Morgan, the Warriors attack never kept up and the bulldogs came away with a dominating 25-5, 25-17, 25-6 sweep on Thursday night in Rochester.

At 0-9 and 0-2 in the Class 1A Evergreen league, Rochester was swept for the first time in three weeks. It kept it competitive in the second set, but head coach Courtney Baird felt her girls "handed" Montesano the first and third sets.

"I was having an out-of-body experience, I don't know what was going on," Baird admitted. "We already had it in our head that they're a strong team."

McKenna Vassar had two kills, Lexi Dupont finished with two blocks and Arissa LeBaron registered two service aces for the Warriors. They will renew a longtime rivalry with Tenino next week.

"They're very set on beating Tenino; I hear it everyday," Baird said. "I don't think I've heard that with every other game. If we can get those close matches and get a win soon, we can trend upward a little bit."

Rainier

Continued from page B1

forcing an early Onalaska timeout by scoring six of the set's first seven points. They led by as many as 11 in the final frame and completed the sweep thanks to more stellar play from Plowman and Allyson Ooms. Rainier (8-1, 1-0 C2BL) outscored Onalaska (6-3, 0-1 C2BL) 36-16 over the final set and a half after the Loggers led 19-14 in the second.

Katelyn Eckroth had a strong start to the C2BL season, dishing out 14 assists and adding four aces. Allyson Ooms tallied 13 kills and 21 digs, Murphy put up eight kills and two blocks, and Janess Blackburn logged 19 digs and six kills. Ellie Pringle recorded 17 digs and Liberty Adair added 12 digs.



Dylan Reubenking / Nisqually Valley News

Rainier's Janess Blackburn goes up for the spike against Onalaska on Oct. 3.

For Onalaska, Emalie Jacoby shined with 20 kills, 12 digs and two aces, while Braelyn Babb dished out a game-high 25 assists. Despite being swept for the second straight match, Loggers head coach Susan Gordon liked what she saw from her team on the court.

"We played much more intense tonight and fought hard. They never gave up, and I felt we made Rainier earn each of their points," she said. "We need to be able to put together a match like this every time we step on the court. Consistency is something we need to learn."

With a rematch of the 2023 state quarterfinals against Adna (8-0) approaching on Tuesday, Oct. 8, Carrie Ooms wants her team to leave it all on the court against a Pirates team that defeated Rainier in three of four meetings last year. The most recent matchup saw Rainier upset an undefeated Adna in five sets in Yakima on Nov. 9, 2023.

"I have seen as good as this team can be, and they're unbeatable when they play that way," Ooms said of Rainier. "What's missing is when they hesitate, when they stop communicating, when they second guess rather than being confident and playing how they know how to play. That's probably the hardest thing for them is just [playing] all out all the time."

Tuesday's matchup against the Pirates is scheduled for 7 p.m. at Adna High School.

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College Football

Keeler: Ralphie's running! If Colorado OC Pat Shurmur keeps this up, he'll win Hunter a Heisman

By Sean Keeler

The Denver Post



Julio Aguilar / Getty Images

Colorado's Travis Hunter (12) reacts after scoring a touchdown in the first quarter against UCF at FBC Mortgage Stadium on Sept. 28, 2024, in Orlando, Florida.

BOULDER, Colo. — If Pat Shurmur keeps this up, he'll win Travis Hunter a Heisman Trophy.

Remember Hunter's touchdown catch this past weekend, that smooth, too-easy, 23-yard grab that launched Colorado's 48-21 rout?

Watch the tape again.

See No. 12 at the top of your screen, racing up the left boundary? Single coverage. Seriously. Travis Hunter. Single coverage. LOL!

Why single coverage? Check out the linebackers. Check out the safeties. One man blitzes. Everybody outside the box hesitates. Pauses. Some even lurch forward.

Why the lurch? Because Buffs quarterback Shedeur Sanders drops back and immediately fakes a shotgun handoff to Micah Welch.

Why the hesitation? Because two plays prior, Welch, the Buffs' powerful freshman tailback, took a draw out of the shotgun for 15 yards, exploding past the line of scrimmage. Because on the play after that, Welch took a Sanders handoff and turned it into a 12-yard again.

Why the pause? Because defenders are scared of being embarrassed by Welch, who at 5-foot-9, 210 pounds, runs with the fury of a young, pre-surgery Javonte Williams. Because they're afraid of getting trucked by sophomore tailback Isaiah Augustave, who checks in at 6-foot-2 and 210 pounds.

I mean, yeah, you could throw it to #He12Man every play. Hunter can turn any handoff, any screen, into a home run. He's got the superpower to flip the odds of every 50-50 ball into a 99.999999% certainty that No. 12 comes down with the rock.

But isn't it funny how running to set up the pass makes Hunter's job look … easier? How a little balance makes the Heisman front-runner seem … even more wide open?

Oh, play action. You beauty. How we've missed you.

"I'm always looking at tendencies. I broke a lot of them last week (vs. UCF), which helped us," Shurmur said during a media scrum Tuesday as the Buffs hit a bye week before a massive Oct. 12 showdown with No. 20 Kansas State.

"Sometimes the answer is to do more of the same and do it better. Sometimes the answer is to (say), 'You know what? In a former life, that was a really good play, but it doesn't work for us. Let's put it on the shelf.' And so those are things that we as coaches will do."

Byes are a window to self-scout. But we're telling you, Pat, don't change a thing. CU's found a sweet spot. One of the best passing games in the country finally has a complimentary rush element that looks downright sustainable. You've got a bevy of tailbacks running with glorious rage. You've got an offensive line that's not just gelling — it's mauling people, and having fun doing it.

More importantly, you've got linebackers guessing. And steaming.

Watch the tape again.

On Hunter's TD, watch UCF 'backer Deshawn Pace, in the middle of your screen. No. 3's caught in No Man's Land. He leans in when he sees the fake handoff to Welch. He doesn't go with a receiver. He hesitates. He's already lost.

Because behind him, Hunter's got four or five steps on his defender by the time Shedeur's pass is airborne. It's over.

The defender doesn't quite catch up, it's a zip-zip-zip score, putting the Buffs up 6-0.

Now look at Pace. He throws his hands up in frustration. He looks around at his teammates as if to ask what just happened.

And that's the point. So is this: You know how that play was set up? Two runs. In fact, during that 11-play, 80-yard drive, CU stayed on the ground five times. More importantly, after the first three runs — all by Dallan Hayden — went for 0, 4 and 4 yards, respectively, they didn't give up on it.

The Buffs are even sneaking the odd tight end into the formation. Heck, sometimes two.

"Obviously, the world knows we're primarily a '10' personnel (one back, no tight ends) team because that fits what we are, personnel-wise," Shurmur explained. "But I think in order to play a balanced offense where you can run the ball and protect the passer, we have to play in a little bit of 11. And obviously, the impact the tight end makes in that is important …

"Each week it's different, right? Each week, each team you play presents a different challenge. Some weeks, we can stay in four-(wide), '10' personnel. In other weeks, it's going to make sense to be in '11' and sometimes '12.' And so, you know, the tight ends doing what they're supposed to do and what we're asking them to do, it's big."

It's working. After two tilts, including a humbling loss at Nebraska, CU was running it on first down just 39% of the time and running it 55.5% of the time on third-and-3-or-fewer. The Buffs averaged 20.5 points.

The last three games, CU's been running it on first down 45% of the time, and running it 75% of the time on third-and-three-or-fewer. The Buffs won all three contests, while scoring 38.0 points per tilt.

It's no coincidence that Hunter's Heisman bona fides have never felt stronger. And The Pencil's never looked sharper.

Boling: Washington State fans need bigger bag to ward off portal poachers

By Dave Boling

The Spokesman-Review, Spokane

Real fans don't have a portal.

Maybe we could rig one that could transport them back to the days when college sports were simpler, stabler and less transactional.

Through all the changes, though, the real ones sustain allegiance to their teams.

It's the finest quality of real fans — and Washington State has some of the most loyal and avid, those who offer the vaguely mystical explanation that "there's just something about the place."

But suddenly, like so many fan bases around the country, Cougar faithful are being asked to not only relinquish loved ones on an annual basis, but to also help finance the temporary workers brought in to replace them.

Fans are having to adapt to this new era of fanning. And it can be painful.

Picture having to watch a young player develop with your team and then leave to find extraordinary success elsewhere.

How to react? For Cougar fans, quarterback Cam Ward is a test case.

The former WSU quarterback is now the darling of Miami Hurricane fans, and is one of the front-runners for the 2024 Heisman Trophy. The Hurricanes are undefeated and ranked No. 8, powered by Ward's nation-leading 18 touchdown passes.

And, in some numbers very relevant to this examination, his name-image-likeness value has been reported at roughly a million dollars, but may have risen to twice that with new endorsements.

How, then, are the Cougar fans supposed to feel about Ward's emergence? Is he a mercenary ingrate? Or do they appreciate his two-season contribution to WSU and offer all well-wishes?

"I think it's kind of split, honestly; there are people who wish him well and some who don't, because he left the school," said Paul Sorensen, a former Cougar defensive back who is now vice-president of the Cougar Collective, which raises funds for WSU's NIL program.

"Cam did it right," Sorensen said. "He did his two years and graduated from Washington State, and went on and got the big bag."

According to reports, Miami and Florida State offered the most prodigious bags, with Miami winning out.

"To be honest, the going rate for a starting Power 5 (conference) quarterback is a million bucks right now," Sorensen said.

Even though he's involved in the financial part of conscripting talent, Sorensen confesses "I hate the NIL stuff. I understand it, but what you have now is basically free agency with no salary cap. It's totally unsustainable in college football and college basketball."

Sorensen believes that legislation eventually will restore some order to the costly bidding wars.

Football coach Jake Dickert, probably the person most affected by the departure of Ward, said last summer that he was fully supportive of his move, understanding the life-changing income, and the advantages in NFL preparation Miami might provide.

If insiders like Dickert and Sorensen are supportive of Ward's move and motives, it might be instructional for fans, too.

Ward's departure opened the way for redshirt sophomore John Mateer to emerge at quarterback for the 4-1 Cougars, and he's responded with 13 touchdowns passing and five more rushing.

It would be hard to compare him to Ward, but he plays with real competitive flair and should be fun to watch ... as long as he stays around.

Mateer this week agreed to an NIL deal with Northern Quest Casino, which should significantly boost his portfolio, adding to his endorsement of Miss Huddy's Barbecue in Pullman.

Representing a barbecue food cart is not only delightfully Coug-y, but also a unique NIL deal in which the benefits may be received in an actual bag. Perhaps with a side of slaw.

Sorensen acknowledged the historical reality — other universities often enjoy greater support of major corporations and high-roller donors.

"Let's be honest, Washington State has always been considered a have-not school, in terms of the perception of where we stood with money, donations, all that stuff," he said.

And when big-budget programs bailed on the Pacific-12 Conference, "everybody wanted WSU and (Oregon State) to crawl off the road and die in a ditch somewhere. But we (WSU supporters) are not going away. We're going to hang in here and rebuild this thing and be relevant again."

To be fair, WSU may not be so much of a "have-not" as much as differentially-haved. They've always had to be creative and highly motivated, and rely on the kind of tenacity their fans share with their teams.

"To be honest, you've got to be a kind of special cat to play in Pullman," Sorensen said.

And that attracts a kind of special fan.

Sorensen cited the appeal of the Pike Brewing product, Ol' Crimson Lager. A portion of the profits support the Cougar Collective.

"We're going to drink ourselves to success," Sorensen kidded. (Note to WSU marketing department, re: potential new motto).

A more conventional means of contribution is via cougarcollective.org.

"The Cougar Collective gives people skin the game," Sorensen said. "The average fan has the opportunity to say, 'I'm helping out; we want to keep these kids together and not develop them and have them go off and play for somebody else'."

With reluctance, I'll tout a soft-drink commercial, featuring the acting talents of former Seahawks linebacker Brian Bosworth, for insight into dealing with the intransience of contemporary college sports.

Bosworth plays the sheriff of the mythical town of Fansville. He's called up to witness players being sucked into a massive swirling vortex. "It's the transfer portal, it's out of control," Bosworth warns.

Fansville's favorite quarterback starts being pulled at by the supernatural force. He grabs the hand of a fan, desperately trying to save him. But the fan decides he can't offer his other hand because it's holding a Dr. Pepper, and the quarterback disappears into the black hole.

Resigned to the sight of the beloved player disappearing, one of Bosworth's cohorts sighs: "Quarterbacks are replaceable."

But not cheaply.

It's hard to argue that players deserved a slice of the massive enterprise of college athletics.

Resigned to this new reality, last week I donated $50 to the only college team I'm professionally allowed to root for, my old school, Louisville.

The quarterback, a 25-year-old in his seventh college season, responded to my largesse with an early fumble in a loss to Notre Dame. I took it as a personal affront.

Concerned that examining the topic of Ward's departure would only be a painful reminder to some WSU fans, I donated $25 to the Cougar Collective. With apologies.

Here's what is becoming clear: The metaphoric subtext to the Bosworth commercial is that the powerful portal represents everyday life as a sports fan.

Sometimes, it just sucks real hard.

Jedd Fisch addresses red-zone issues before UW's CFP rematch vs. No. 10 Michigan

By Andy Yamashita

The Seattle Times

Just one season ago, Jedd Fisch was coaching the No. 10 red-zone offense in the country at Arizona.

Fisch and the Wildcats offense was prolific inside 20 yards during the 2023 season. Arizona scored on 93% of its 57 red-zone trips, including 38 touchdowns.

So far, that hasn't been the case during the 2024 campaign. Through five games, Washington's red-zone offense ranks No. 116, scoring on 72.2% of their red-zone attempts.

"This is a process where mistakes are going to occur," Fisch said on Monday. "And we're going to try and limit them the closer we get to the red zone."

Washington hosts No. 10 Michigan in a rematch of the 2023 College Football Playoff championship game at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday at Husky Stadium. The Huskies are the No. 21 total offense and the No. 10 total defense nationally this season, yet poor efficiency in the red zone has cost them in losses to Washington State and Rutgers this season.

"We've got to get better coaching it," Fisch said. "We've got to get better executing. We've got to get better calling it. We've got to get better making the play, whatever it might be. Starts with me, and if my job is to continue to get us better in those areas, I know we can do that."

The Huskies (3-2, 1-1 Big Ten) have enjoyed 18 trips to the red zone this season. They've scored during 13 of them — four rushing touchdowns, five passing touchdowns and four field goals.

Their red-zone scoring percentage is comparable to schools like Florida Atlantic (No. 112), Texas State (No. 114) and Georgia State (No. 118). Northwestern (No. 120) and Michigan State (No. 123) are the only teams that have a worse percentage among Big Ten schools.

Fisch pointed out the Huskies have a small sample size of red zone trips because it's still early in the season. Here's a list of UW's five red-zone trips that did not result in points:

* The failed speed-option play on fourth-and-goal from the Washington State 1-yard line.

* A turnover on downs after running back Jonah Coleman was stopped for no gain late in the fourth quarter against Northwestern on fourth-and-1 from the NU 9-yard line. Washington already led 24-5.

* A 42-yard missed field goal by junior Grady Gross against Rutgers in the second quarter. Washington briefly got to the Rutgers 20-yard line, then got hit by a low-block penalty which moved UW back to the 35-yard line.

* An incompletion on fourth-and-goal from the Rutgers 2-yard line after quarterback Will Rogers' pass intended for sixth-year wide receiver Giles Jackson was tipped by Rutgers linebacker Tyreem Powell.

* A 37-yard missed field goal by Gross in the fourth quarter after Washington reached the Rutgers 20-yard line.

During those five drives, Washington had 16 plays inside an opponents' 20-yard line. The Huskies ran nine times, passed six times and attempted a field goal.

Coleman had seven carries for 23 yards in the red zone. Four of his attempts went for one yard or less.

Fifth-year quarterback Will Rogers completed only two of his six passing attempts during those five drives. One was the nine-yard drag to sophomore receiver Denzel Boston to set up the fourth-and-goal play against Washington State. The other was wiped out by the low-block penalty called on sixth-year running back Cameron Davis.

Poor red-zone passing is notable considering how good Fisch's offenses were in the red zone in 2023. Arizona threw 25 red-zone touchdowns, second in the nation behind Oregon.

Fisch said he predicates his offensive play calling off the defense's alignment in the red zone. Good teams, he said, generally run the ball well near the end zone but he added "there's some issues" when the defense out numbers the blockers inside the red zone. Fisch also noted it took the Wildcats time to improve their red zone efficiency.

During his first season at Arizona in 2021, Fisch's red-zone offense converted 74.4% of its opportunities, ranking No. 118 in the country as they went 1-11. A year later, they were the No. 84 red-zone offense, scoring during 81.5% of their trips inside the opponent's 20-yard line.

"We weren't 10th in the nation in year one," he said. "We were 10th in the nation in year three. But I do believe the more experience we have, the better we will be down there."

MLB

Calkins: Why the Mariners got what they paid for in 2024

By Matt Calkins

The Seattle Times



Stephen Brashear / TNS

On Sept. 18, 2024, Julio Rodriguez of the Seattle Mariners reacts in the dugout after striking out during the fifth inning against the New York Yankees at T-Mobile Park in Seattle.

So there's this former Seattle Times sports columnist named Larry Stone. You might have heard of him. He wrote Edgar Martinez's autobiography, won Washington state sports writer of the year and doesn't spill things nearly as often as people say.

He texted over the weekend to tell me he still saw thousands of merry Mariners fans at T-Mobile Park, even with Seattle being been eliminated from playoff contention after blowing a 10-game division lead.

A couple of conclusions can be drawn from the observation. The first is that, regardless of the resources poured into this organization, it's still just a game meant to entertain and bring joy. As the late, great LA Times sports columnist Jim Murray once said: "I've never been unhappy in a ballpark."

But there's a second conclusion to be drawn as well — one that's less Pollyanna and more pragmatic. And that's that some fans, after decades of frustration, have simply learned not to expect much from this team.

It has been several days since this Mariners season came to another disappointing end, and relief doesn't appear to be on its way. Mathematics tricked fans into thinking Seattle was in contention through the end of September, but this season was lost weeks ago.

It's true that the M's have put together four consecutive seasons in which they've won at least 85 games — the victory totals being 90 in 2021, 90 in '22, 88 in '23 and 85 in '24. But the idea of an imminent playoff run? The thought of ending this 23-year American League West title drought? There is little reason for hope.

On Saturday, Mariners president of baseball operations Jerry Dipoto fielded a spontaneous Q&A with reporters. He acknowledged that payroll was likely to go up — just as it has over the past couple of seasons — but part of that was due to the increased salaries waiting for players such as Julio Rodriguez, Cal Raleigh and Logan Gilbert, among others. This confirmed the sourced understanding that Mariners chairman John Stanton had promised he would increase payroll.

Does anyone think this will translate to a newfound commitment to winning, though?

For one, payrolls generally increase across the league simply because more and more money is being poured into the game. And though it's notable that the Mariners' payroll has gone from 25th to 21st to 18th to 16th over the past four years, they are still in the bottom half of MLB.

I've criticized Dipoto a number of times in this space over the past few months. His big offseason acquisitions — Jorge Polanco, Mitch Haniger and Mitch Garver — contributed almost nothing despite their sizable salaries. I've also criticized the likes of Rodriguez and other Mariners mainstays for underperforming this season. If J-Rod put together another in-the-MVP-conversation season, the M's may have made the playoffs.

But this team's problems start with ownership. That doesn't mean Stanton directly — he's the chairman, not the emperor — but a group that has yet to dole out top dollar for a potential World Series-winning roster. And that is the goal, right?

Right now, the Mariners' "natural rival" — the San Diego Padres — are in the midst of a playoff run themselves. This marks the third time they've been in the postseason in the past four years, and that's largely due to the financial commitment from deceased owner Peter Seidler.

Seidler was beloved in San Diego, in part because of his perpetually positive demeanor but also due to his dedication to the Pads. That team was in the top five in MLB in payroll in '22 and '23, and top 10 in '21. He was all-in, so perhaps it was no surprise to locals when, upon clinching a playoff berth with a triple play last week, Padres outfielder Fernando Tatis Jr. said "we are definitely doing it for Peter."

Do you see anyone in the Mariners' front office getting that kind of love anytime soon?

In an interview with The Times during the season, Stanton noted that the team had increased payroll in each of the past three seasons.

"Maybe not as much as you would like us to," he added. "But we all deal with constraints, right?"

Yes, most of us do. But the winners are usually the ones willing to push beyond those constraints.

I predict that the Mariners do increase payroll slightly but not to any noticeable degree. I also suspect they will field another roster that will win more than half of their games next season, namely thanks to a young, top-tier pitching staff that carried the team in 2024.

But this organization has showed its fan base that it is a true midmarket team. And when your spending is middling, the results will be, too.

Will chaos reign for the Tigers or Guardians in the AL Division Series?

By Paul Hoynes

cleveland.com

CLEVELAND, Ohio — There are no strangers in the big leagues anymore. Not with MLB's balanced schedule making sure every team plays every other team each season.

A lack of familiarity will not be the problem when the Tigers and Guardians open the American League Division Series on Saturday afternoon at 1:08 p.m. at Progressive Field. This will be more like brother vs. brother.

The Guardians and Tigers played each other 13 times during the regular season as rivals in the AL Central. The Guards won seven of the 13 games, but the Tigers outscored them, 60-50.

"Detroit played us tough the whole year," said catcher Austin Hedges. "We were saying the whole year how good that team was. To go 7-6 against them, especially when we were rolling through everybody, it shows they played some of the toughest baseball against us.

"We knew how good they were. They just weren't finishing some games. Once they did, they showed that they were a really good team."

The Guardians won the AL Central by 6 1/2 games. The Royals and Tigers finished tied for second at 86-76 with Royals holding the tiebreaker.

It has been an eye-opening postseason for the AL Central.

Not only did the Tigers sweep the AL West champion Astros in the wild card round, but the Royals did the same to the Orioles, the top-seeded wild card team. The Royals will face the Yankees at Yankee Stadium on Saturday in the ALDS.

"The one team that didn't make it (Minnesota) was projected to have the highest win total in the division," said Hedges. "They were in it all year, too.

"We're talking about four teams flirting with the postseason all year and three teams in the DS (division series). It shows it's the best division in baseball."

Guardians rookie manager Stephen Vogt has trumpeted the skill level in the AL Central all season.

"I think it's awesome," said Vogt, when asked about having three teams teams from the AL Central in the division series. "Playing in this division all year, we saw the caliber of the teams. They play each other tough and play very good baseball."

In the Tigers' clubhouse they talk about creating "pitching chaos" with manager A.J. Hinch's unpredictable use of his pitching staff. The Guardians spent most of the season talking about creating chaos on the bases with their speed and brand of offense called Guards ball.

It's unclear if anyone has the trademark on chaos, but both teams have made it work to their advantage.

"Who knows what we're going to do," Hinch told mlb.com after they swept Houston. "One of our things that we pride ourselves in is that we're unpredictable, and our players buy into that, leading to success."

Vogt said the Guardians and Tigers are built along similar lines.

"They create tough matchups on both sides of the ball," said Vogt. "With the versatility they have with their handedness (left and right-handed hitters), with their positional flexibility, they can get good matchups against our pitching whenever they want.

"On the flip side, they have a very balanced, very talented bullpen that can matchup with our lineup. It's going to be two similar teams going at it. They've very deep and talented."

Padres sweep Braves from wild-card series, advance to face Dodgers

By Kevin Acee

The San Diego Union-Tribune

The Padres kept going, so they are still going.

"A little up and down," Fernando Tatis Jr. said. "But we're here now. It's all that matters. And we're gonna keep showing up."

In ways both exhilarating and stressful, Wednesday night's 5-4 victory that swept the Braves from the National League wild-card series, was emblematic of how the Padres have operated all season.

A five-run second inning, their starting pitcher exiting with elbow "tightness" and four-plus innings of survival by five relievers provided the highs and the sighs on a fraught night for the Padres and the 47,705 that packed Petco Park.

When catcher Kyle Higashioka caught Travis d'Arnaud's foul pop-up while tripping over first baseman Donovan Solano for the final out, Padres players climbed the railing. After letting out a loud cheer, the crowd broke into a "Beat L.A." chant.

That is because for the third time in five years, the Padres will play the Dodgers in the National League Division Series, this one beginning Saturday in Los Angeles.

"It's a beautiful time in San Diego," Tatis said. "Can't wait to have more of this."

Still, as the Padres hugged and donned NLDS T-shirts on the field and prepared to spray champagne in the clubhouse, there was also concern.

Joe Musgrove, who missed 2½ months from the end of May to mid-August with various elbow maladies, departed the game with what the team called "right elbow tightness" with two outs in the top of the fourth inning.

"The elbow is all right," said Musgrove, who was removed after throwing a 2-0 curveball to Matt Olson. ". . I've been dealing with a little bit of tightness for the last couple weeks and just felt like I was at the point where my stuff wasn't any good. I was trying my best to get through it as best I could, but I was at the point where I either pushed through it and risk something worse, or get out of there and let our bullpen do their job."

Musgrove, who was back in the dugout in the bottom of the ninth and joined the on-field and clubhouse celebrations, is expected to get an MRI on Thursday.

The victory, the fact Musgrove has pitched through ailments before and has not been ruled out for sure, as well as the depth of their starting pitching allowed for some hope.

"I think we're in a pretty good spot," said Dylan Cease, who will start Game 1 against the Dodgers. "Joe is tough. I believe in Joe. I'm not going to be surprised when he comes back and pitches in our next series. But either way, we're going to be ready."

Bryan Hoeing replaced Musgrove and retired Olson on a pop-up before yielding a lead-off homer to Jorge Soler in the fifth inning.

Jeremiah Estrada began the sixth and allowed a single with one out and another single with two. He departed with two down and runners at the corners and the left-handed-hitting Olson coming up.

Left-hander Tanner Scott came in to face the Braves' cleanup hitter and stranded the runners when Olson lined out to left fielder Jurickson Profar.

Scott followed a lead-off walk to Soler in the seventh with three straight outs.

Jason Adam surrendered a single to Orlando Arcia and a home run to Michael Harris II before getting three outs in the eighth.

Robert Suarez, the closer who near the end of the regular season blew three of six save chances, then converted his fourth in a row with a 1-2-3 ninth.

What the Padres did to win Wednesday might have been surprising if they had not done something like it a fair amount over the past six months.

"It's a big part of our identity with our club," manager Mike Shildt said. "… With the mantra of we're going to compete regardless of circumstances."

That's their thing. It doesn't matter what happens before what happens matters.

Before Musgrove settled into being dominant, retiring nine consecutive batters right up to when he left the game, the Braves ambushed him for a run on a double, a groundout and a sacrifice fly in the top of the first inning.

The Padres then failed to score in the first inning after having the bases loaded with no outs.

An inning later, they scored five runs after having no one on with two outs.

In successive at-bats in the first inning, Manny Machado struck out and Jackson Merrill grounded into a fielder's choice on a first-pitch sweeper that was barely above the ground. In the second inning, Machado broke a 1-1 tie with a two-run double and Merrill made it 5-1 with a two-run triple.

"That's the band of brothers right there." Merrill said. "First inning, bases loaded, no outs, we don't score. We don't look back. We move forward. … That's what you call a band of brothers, just working together, trying to pack on the runs."

The five-run inning, which began with Higashioka's second home run in two nights and then five more hits, was the Padres' second in four games but also just their second in 60 games. To that point, they had scored at least five runs in an inning an MLB-leading 12 times.

That is the 2024 Padres.

Sometimes they falter. But they don't stay down. And they seem capable of anything.

As had happened for a long stretch in their 4-0 win in Game 1, the Padres didn't do much after the second inning.

In the postseason, though, the only important thing is the result.

"This team has always fought," Machado said. "All year. We're going to continue to fight, always."

Northwest News Roundup

Man shot to death by Vancouver police during standoff in September identified

By The Oregonian

The Cowlitz County Sheriff's Office has publicly identified Michael D. Williams as the man killed in a Sept. 27 shootout with police in Vancouver.

A Vancouver officer shot and killed Williams, 56, after police said he fired at law enforcement. The sheriff's office said multiple shots hit an occupied armored police vehicle.

Law enforcement had arrived outside Williams' home in the 5400 block of Northeast 71st Street after 911 callers said Williams was armed and making threats.

Officers tried to communicate with Williams and asked him to let the two female residents of the home to leave, but he threatened to shoot at the officers, police said at the time. Williams fired a round into the air and then barricaded himself in his house.

After an hours-long standoff, "the subject was reportedly observed near the rear door of his residence with a rifle in hand and appeared to be targeting officers on scene," the sheriff's office said in a statement released Thursday. "A Vancouver police officer assigned to the Southwest Washington Regional SWAT Team fired one round at this time, striking the subject."

The officer who fired the shot is on critical incident leave, as is standard practice. The Lower Columbia Major Crimes Team continues to investigate the shooting.

How about a $20 per hour minimum wage in Olympia? Idea has been pitched to city officials

By Ty Vinson

The Olympian

The Olympia City Council will hear a proposal to raise the minimum wage in the city to at least $20.29 and adopt a Workers' Bill of Rights after three council members voiced their support in a recent Finance Committee meeting.

The proposal will be discussed in a study session on Tuesday, Oct. 22. If ultimately approved, it would be about $4 more than the Washington state minimum wage, which is set to rise to $16.66 per hour on Jan. 1, 2025.

Spokesperson Kellie Purce Braseth said the council will look at what other cities are doing on the topic and will discuss a community engagement process and timeline. There won't be a public comment opportunity at this meeting.

The Finance Committee will have a special meeting Monday, Oct. 7, to discuss the proposal more as well.

Senior Planner Stacey Ray presented the Bill of Rights to the committee originally in August. It was written by Michael Hines, president of United Food and Commercial Workers Local 367, and Rachelle Martin, president of the Thurston Lewis Mason Central Labor Council.

The two wrote that wages have not kept up with the rising cost of living.

"MIT calculates that a living wage in Olympia is $24/hr for a single adult working full-time, or $41/hr to support one child and one adult," the Bill of Rights reads. "Worse still, most of the big retail, grocery, and food service corporations are adopting a "flexible" employment model, meaning fewer and fewer full-time positions."

The labor groups organized a summit in July that was attended by nearly 100 people, according to the Bill of Rights. During the event, workers spoke about how difficult it is to survive in the local economy.

Ray told the Finance Committee the conversation around Olympia having a livable minimum wage began in 2015 when council member Jim Cooper put forward a policy framework for the council to work from.

Post-pandemic, Economic Development director Mike Reid formed Olympia Strong, which helped city officials better understand issues community members are facing, including housing instability, increased cost of living, limited mobility, affordable housing, workforce issues and more.

"The priority is to look at addressing minimum wage in between now and the end of the year, and then maybe in the first quarter of next year, is to maybe take up further conversation around other items that are in the proposed Workers' Bill of Rights," Ray said.

Washington men arrested in drug raid that seized 100 pounds of methamphetamine

By The Yakima Herald-Republic

Two Outlook men were arrested following a drug investigation that seized 100 pounds of methamphetamine and at least $100,000.

However, the preliminary appearance hearing diverted into a discussion on the shortage of public defense attorneys and how that should affect setting bail.

In July and August, the Law Enforcement Against Drugs Task Force, which consists of officers from the Washington State Patrol, Yakima County Sheriff's Office and the Sunnyside, Granger, Grandview, Selah and Yakama Nation Tribal police departments, began an investigation into drug sales at an Arms Road home, according to a probable cause affidavit.

A confidential informant working with the task force purchased fentanyl powder and methamphetamine on three occasions. During one of the purchases, the informant spotted what looked like a rifle in the front seat of a vehicle in which meth was stored, the affidavit said.

LEAD raided the home Monday, taking the two suspects, ages 47 and 26, into custody on suspicion of possessing methamphetamine with intent to deliver, criminal conspiracy and maintaining a drug dwelling. The older man was hiding in a travel trailer and was only arrested after a Washington State Patrol SWAT team used a pepper ball gun to force him out after a three-hour standoff, the affidavit said.

During the raid, detectives found 80 pounds of meth in a vehicle registered to the 47-year-old, and 20 pounds of meth in a motorhome registered to the 26-year-old's wife. Investigators also found an AR-style rifle under a bed in the motorhome and multiple guns in vehicles on the property and inside the house, affidavit said.

A large amount of money, which Deputy Yakima County Prosecuting Attorney Richard Fisher said totaled at least $100,000, was found on the property.

Fisher asked Yakima County Superior Court Judge Sonia Rodriguez True to impose $750,000 bail on each suspect, noting the potential danger to the community posed by the fact that guns, drugs and large sums of cash were found on the property.

But defense attorney Melissa Derry argued for pretrial release, noting that the drugs and money have been confiscated, negating that perceived public danger. She said another concern is the delays in appointing attorneys, with the earliest date to have an attorney is likely Nov. 1, assuming they are still in custody.

The county Department of Assigned Counsel, which is coping with a shortage of felony-qualified attorneys, is prioritizing appointments for in-custody defendants, whose speedy-trial deadline is two months after indictment, Derry said. Defendants who are not in custody have to be brought to trial within 90 days.

"We are focusing on individuals who are having their speedy-trial rights violated," Derry said.

Fisher said there is no court ruling that says the DAC's failure to appoint attorneys when ordered by the court requires a defendant to be released.

"The failure of DAC to appoint counsel or assign counsel for the defense does not remove nor abrogate the fact that they still maintain and are still threats to the community," Fisher said. "The failure of the DAC to do its job is no reason not to set bail."

Yakima County Superior Court Judge Richard Bartheld issued an order that pauses the speedy-trial countdown for out-of-custody defendants who have not had an attorney appointed to represent them.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Washington filed a lawsuit against the county, demanding the release of defendants who have not had an attorney appointed to represent them.

Rodriguez True set bail for the younger man at $50,000 and $200,000 for the older man. She also ordered a review of the men's bail in two weeks, when their arraignment hearing is scheduled.

Orca tally 'frustrating' for those trying to save the J, K and L pods

By The Seattle Times

There are only 73 southern resident orcas left in our region's waters, according to the most recent count released by the Center for Whale Research. It is one of the lowest tallies since the center counted 71 orcas when it began its survey in 1976.

The 2023 census identified 75 southern residents counted in the J, K and L pods. Since then, two adult males, K34 and L85, as well as the only baby born within the census period, the male calf J60, have died. A recently born calf, L128, was confirmed Sept. 16, which is after the census date for this year.

Orca K34 was last seen in July 2023 looking thin. He was at high risk without his mother, who had died in 2017. Mothers share their salmon catch with their male offspring, even into the calf's adulthood. Losing mom often spells trouble for sons, according to the center.

L85 was looking thin in August, and was also surviving without a mother. He was adopted by mom L12, and after she also died, he clung to L25, the oldest of all the matriarchs, before he faded away, never to be seen again, the center reported. He was one of the three oldest males in the entire population, born in 1991.

The baby, J60, had a short and tumultuous life. First spotted the day after Christmas in 2023, researchers were never sure who his mother was, as the calf was seen with first one female, then another. Could it have been a case of calf rejection? Could the mother not properly nurse? Were other females trying to help? Could it even have been a case of kidnapping? Researchers could not figure it out — and the calf disappeared and was presumed dead by early to mid-January 2024 according to the center.

The recent census of southern resident orcas found only 73 members in the J, K, and L pods combined, nearly as few as when the counts started in 1976 with 71.

The J, K and L pods have been struggling since the 1960s and '70s when anyone could catch an orca and sell it to the highest bidder in the worldwide aquarium trade. For all those years, Puget Sound was the main source, and captors sought the young, who were the cheapest to ship and easiest to train. A generation was lost, and many died terrible deaths. People killed at least 13 orcas during the captures, and 45 ended up in parks across the globe. None survive today.

The last southern resident in captivity, Lolita, died where she lived most of her life, at the Miami Seaquarium in August 2023, despite extensive efforts to release her.

The southern residents are one of three distinct populations of orca whales, actually the largest dolphin, in regional waters. Northern and southern resident killer whales specialize in eating fish, mostly Chinook salmon. Transients, or Bigg's killer whales, eat marine mammals, including seals and sea lions. Offshore whales eat mostly sharks. The southern residents are the most urban population, frequenting the waters of the Salish Sea, Puget Sound and the coast all the way south to the Golden Gate Bridge. They were listed as endangered in 2005.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, which is charged with saving the whales, has set a goal of population growth in the pods of 2.3% over 28 years. However every time the population has started to grow in the past decade, there have been more setbacks.

"If the whales had more fish, there would be more whales, it's as simple as that," said Michael Weiss, research director for the Center for Whale Research. While the southern residents do eat other fish, salmon are the heart of their diet, and Chinook, the largest salmon, is their preferred prey. Chinook salmon are also in decline, and threatened with extinction, a sad tableau of an endangered animal dependent on a threatened one for survival.

Brad Hanson, wildlife biologist for NOAA who has studied the orcas most of his career, called the census report "frustrating."

"This is not where you want to see the population trajectory going," he said, "and not how you get to recovery."

The agency has identified several main threats to orca survival: lack of adequate, consistently available salmon, particularly Chinook; ocean noise that makes it harder for orcas to hunt; and pollution, which contaminates their food. Inbreeding has turned up the impact of all of those factors depressing their population growth, Hanson noted.

He remains convinced the orcas will eventually recover. "Given the proper conditions, these animals can prosper," Hanson said.

Progress is being made. Puget Sound is cleaner than it was a generation ago, and more cleanups are underway, including at the Duwamish River, which feeds into the Green River, where fish passage is also being funded at the Howard Hanson Dam, which blocks all of the best upriver habitat for salmon.

The Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe on Sept. 23 celebrated only its second coho fishery in more than a century on an open river on the Elwha, free of dams. Big Chinook right now are lumbering past logjams also being built in the lower river to create pools and side channels and riffles that salmon love. And the Yurok, Karuk, Shasta and Hoopa tribes of California and Klamath tribes of southern Oregon on Saturday will celebrate the removal of four dams on the Klamath River, the largest fisheries restoration dam removal ever in the world, opening 420 miles of salmon habitat.

But more work will be needed to prevent more losses within the southern resident families, which are on track toward extinction at an accelerating rate, said Rob Williams, chief scientist with Oceans Initiative. He is the lead author on a recent paper that showed the southern residents are at risk of what the authors called "bright extinction" — loss of a species not because people don't know it is happening, but because they refuse to sufficiently act. Extinction in plain sight.

Urgent action is needed, Williams said. Bold and dramatic restoration of salmon is still the strongest lever people can pull for orca recovery, and quieting the waters to make it possible for orcas to successfully hear and find their prey. "We are legally and morally obligated to put our shoulders to those levers, to get the whales more salmon, and quieter waters to hunt."

Democratic nominee for vice president Tim Walz to visit Seattle area

By The Seattle Times

Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz, the Democratic nominee for vice president, will be in Washington state next week.

Walz will attend a private fundraiser in Hunts Point at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 8, and no public events are planned, according to the state Democratic Party.

His visit to Washington is happening with less than a month to go before Election Day and on the heels of his first and only televised debate Tuesday night with former President Donald Trump's running mate, U.S. Sen. JD Vance, a Republican from Ohio.

Walz is embarking on a week-long travel and media blitz, including rallies, fundraisers and two national TV interviews, that begins in battleground Pennsylvania on Wednesday.

"With ballots already being cast in some states, it is more important than ever that we explain our vision for an opportunity economy that doesn't just help families get by, but helps them get ahead," the state Democratic Party said in a Wednesday statement. "We look forward to helping Governor Walz make that case in the closing weeks of this election."

Walz was selected as Harris' VP pick in early August, just a couple weeks after President Joe Biden decided not to run for re-election.

Harris visited Seattle in early June, when she was still campaigning on the Biden-Harris ticket. She delivered two speeches to supporters — one at a home in West Seattle and the second at the Westin hotel downtown — pushing what she described then as an "extreme" contrast between Biden and Trump when it comes to issues like health care.

Two more deer positive for CWD in North Idaho; prevalence low for now

By The Spokesman-Review

Two more deer have tested positive for chronic wasting disease in the Idaho Panhandle, but wildlife officials are hopeful they've caught the outbreak in time to limit its spread.

The Idaho Department of Fish and Game announced this week that the two positive tests were part of a batch of 172 samples gathered through a special hunt and private land kills in Boundary County, where CWD was found for the first time in a white-tailed deer in August.

Carson Watkins, Idaho Fish and Game's Panhandle region manager, said Wednesday that the agency has estimated the prevalence in the population at 1.2%. That's below the agency's target threshold of 2%, and the focus turns toward keeping it there.

"We don't want to see it grow at all," Watkins said.

This week, the agency announced new testing requirements and carcass transport restrictions for hunters in Boundary County east of the Selkirk Crest. Successful deer hunters will be required to get their animals tested for the always-fatal brain disease. The agency is also barring elk and deer hunters from hauling carcasses out of that area, instead requiring them to bone out the meat from the animals and leave behind the rest of the carcass.

It's the third area of Idaho where those regulations have been ordered since 2021, when the state found its first case of CWD. Near White Bird, where prevalence is much higher, the state has ordered culls to cut population densities.

Watkins said the agency isn't ready to make decisions like that in the Panhandle, and that officials will spend more time talking with locals and with the state Fish and Game Commission before moving forward.

"We don't know where we're headed yet," he said.

CWD attacks the nervous systems of elk, moose and deer. It's caused when proteins called prions become misfolded and cause other prions to misfold. As the disease progresses, it can cause animals to become emaciated and behave erratically before killing them.

Infected animals shed the prions through bodily fluids, which makes it easy for other animals to pick up the disease either through direct contact or by encountering infectious material in the wild.

In all, 35 states and five Canadian provinces have detected the disease in wild cervids. Washington found its first case in a deer in north Spokane this summer.

Puzzles

Find Answers to the Puzzles in the Next Edition

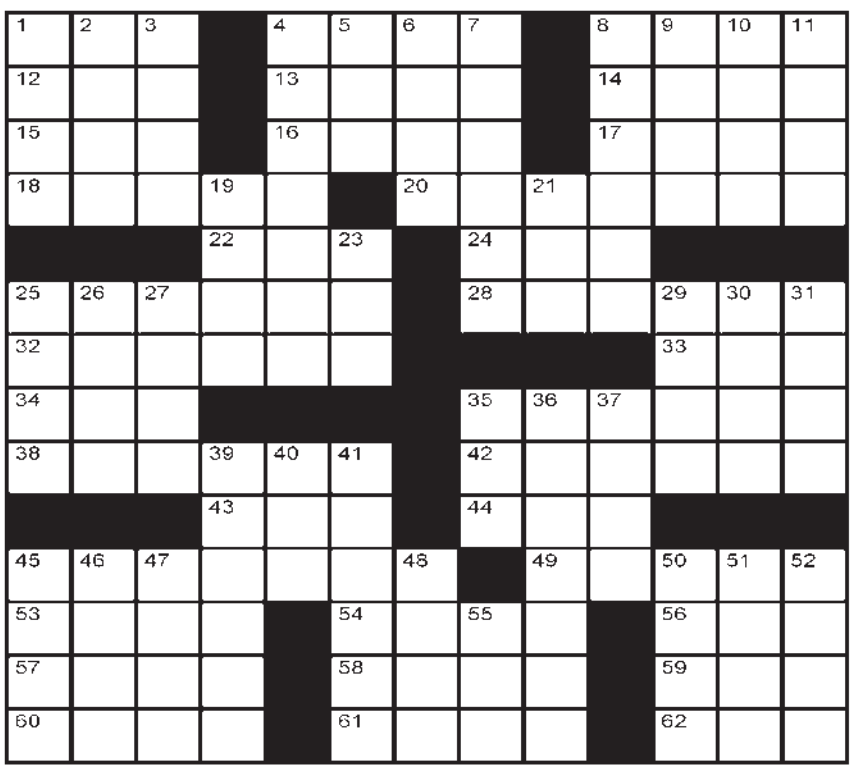
Crossword

ACROSS

1 Tangled mass
4 Cornucopia
8 Dwell on
12 Old French coin
13 Nevada's — 51
14 Small case
15 Chess pieces
16 Put one within another
17 Wine type
18 Chimp relative
20 Thudded
22 Debtor's promise
24 Literary collection
25 School grounds
28 Some milk
32 Drug
33 Kimono accessory
34 — Moines
35 Beamed
38 Optional things
42 Only just
43 Powdery residue
44 The "I"
45 Noisy insect
49 Diplomat
53 "Listen!"
54 Bank offering
56 Cakes and —
57 "Woe — —!"
58 Electrical unit
59 Actor — Gibson
60 Confab
61 Place of exile
62 Explode

DOWN

1 Note
2 Maple genus
3 Albacore
4 Place often visited
5 Mineral
6 Take a break
7 Actor — Lane
8 Writer — Melville
9 On
10 Trick
11 Colored in blotches
19 Palm tree
21 —, dos, tres
23 Employ
25 Computer instructions
26 Pinnacle
27 Fog
29 Muck one's cards
30 Genesis name
31 Shipshape
35 "— Stoops to Conquer"
36 Purple shade
37 Rigid
39 Din
40 Inquire
41 Put away for later
45 Stylish
46 Too hasty
47 Cookbook writer Rombauer
48 Implement
50 Femme fatale
51 Edible spread
52 Cry
55 Priest's vestment



1-30

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Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to mentoring.

P X S R E T E

Answer: Experts

Sudoku

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

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

1/30

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HOW TO PLAY: Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

Mentoring Word Search

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

ADVISE
ATTITUDE
CREATIVITY
EDUCATOR
EXPERIENCE
EXPERT
FEEDBACK
GUIDANCE
INTERN
LEARNING
LESSONS
LISTENER
MENTORING
NOVICE
PEER
PERFORMANCE
PROBLEMS
PROTEGE
RELATIONSHIP
RESEARCH
SOLUTIONS
SPECIALIST
TEACHER
TRAINS

GET FUZZY by Darby Conley



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE by Stephan Pastis



RHYMES WITH ORANGE by Hilary B. Price



TAKE IT FROM THE TINKERSONS by Bill Bettwy



PICKLES by Brian Crane



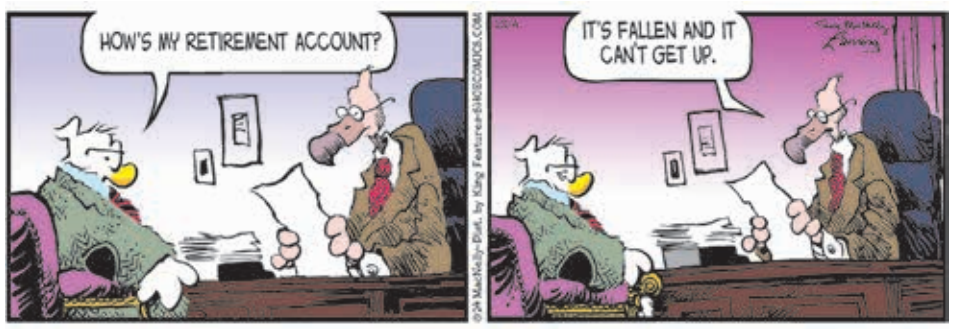
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE by Lynn Johnston



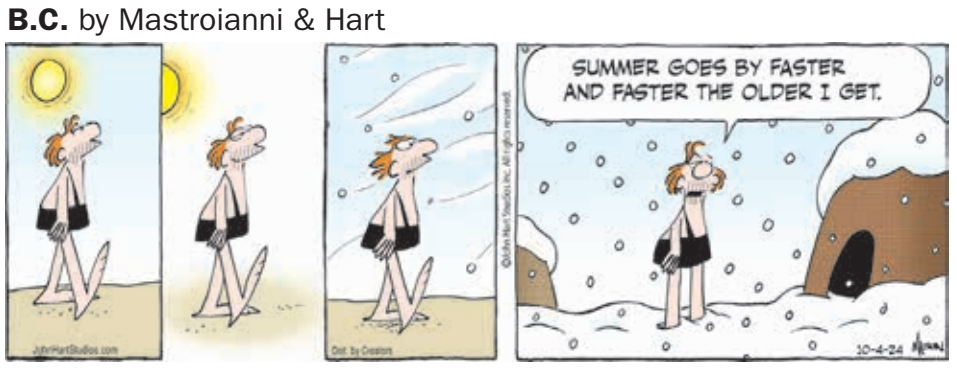
HI & LOIS by Greg & Brian Walker



SHOE by Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



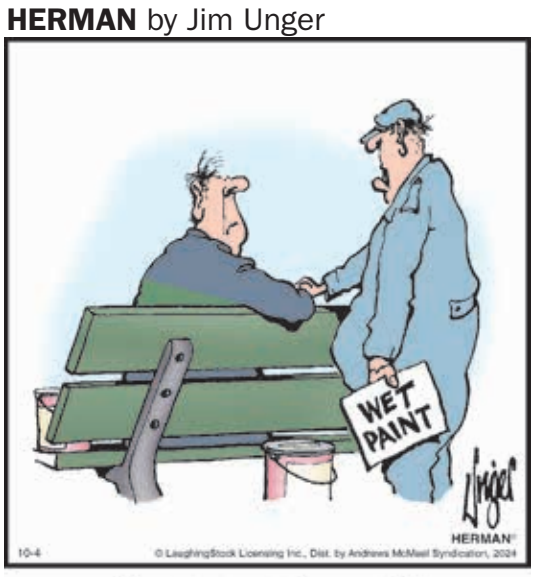
B.C. by Mastroianni & Hart



NON SEQUITUR by Wiley

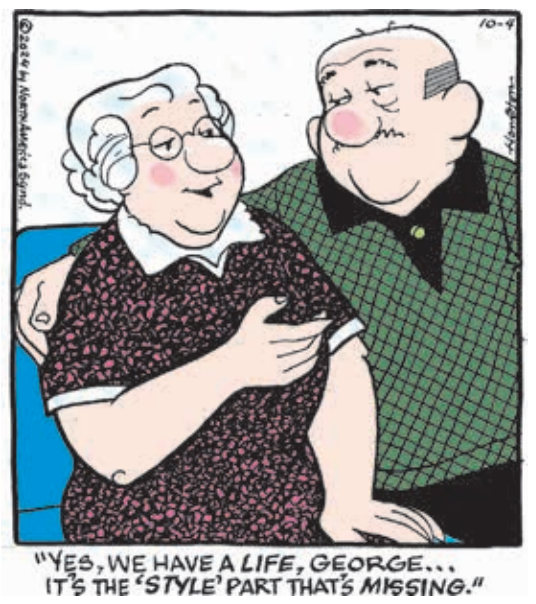


HERMAN by Jim Unger



"Are you a good runner?"

DENNIS THE MENACE by Hank Ketchum



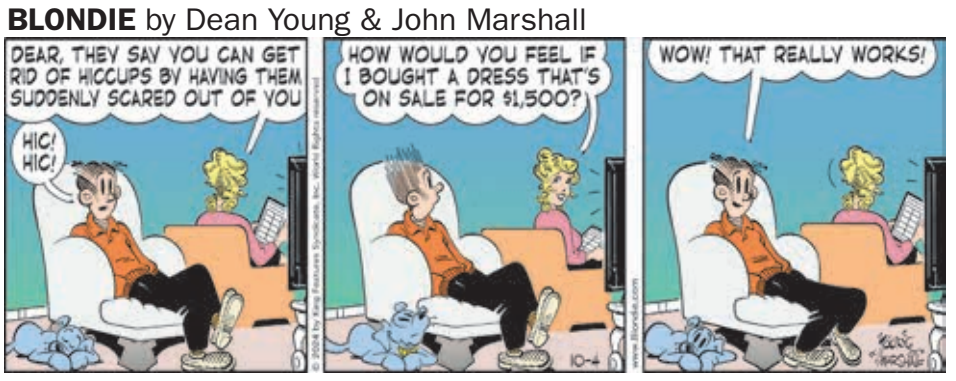
WIZARD OF ID by Parker & Hart



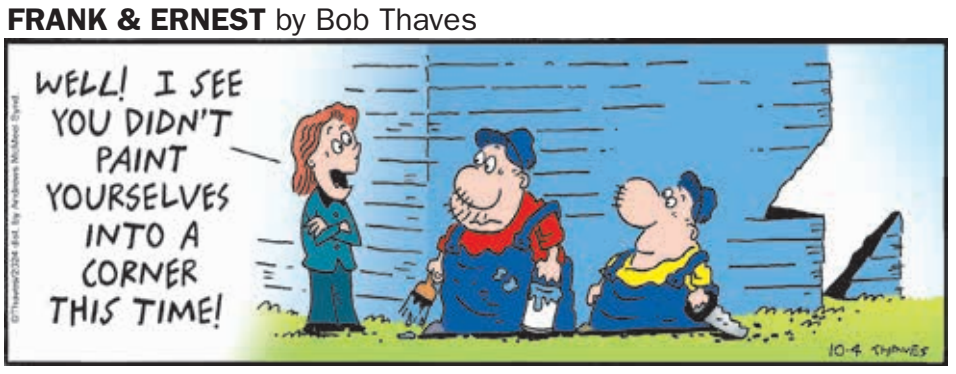
CLASSIC PEANUTS by Charles Schulz



BLONDIE by Dean Young & John Marshall



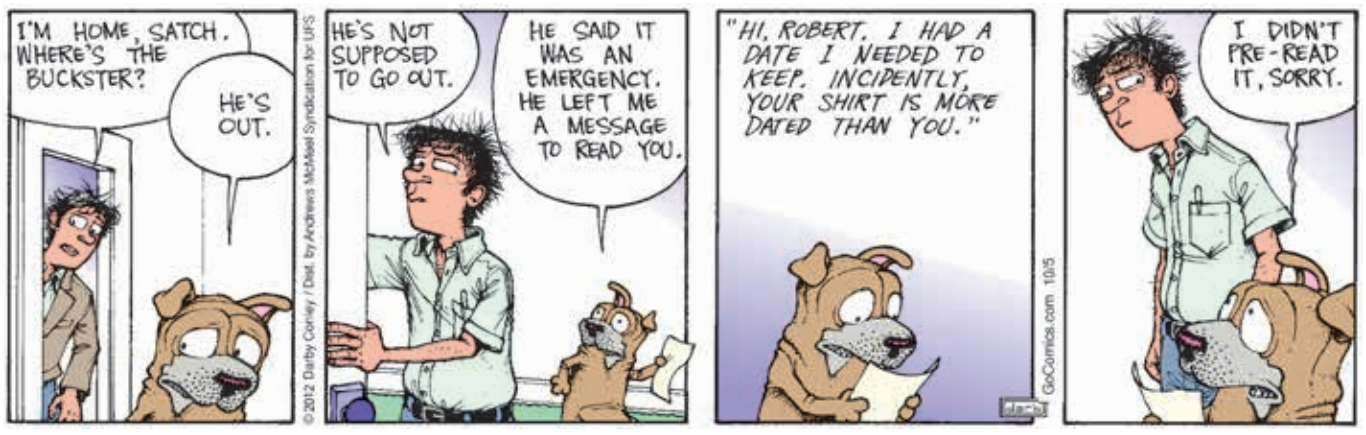
FRANK & ERNEST by Bob Thaves



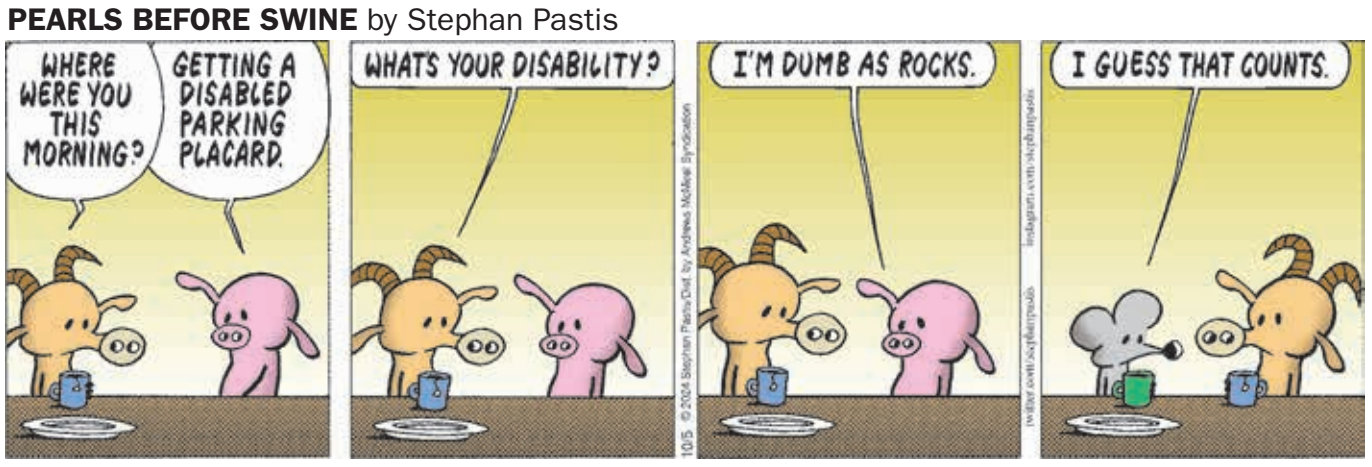
BEETLE BAILEY by Greg, Brian & Neal Walker



GET FUZZY by Darby Conley



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE by Stephan Pastis



RHYMES WITH ORANGE by Hilary B. Price



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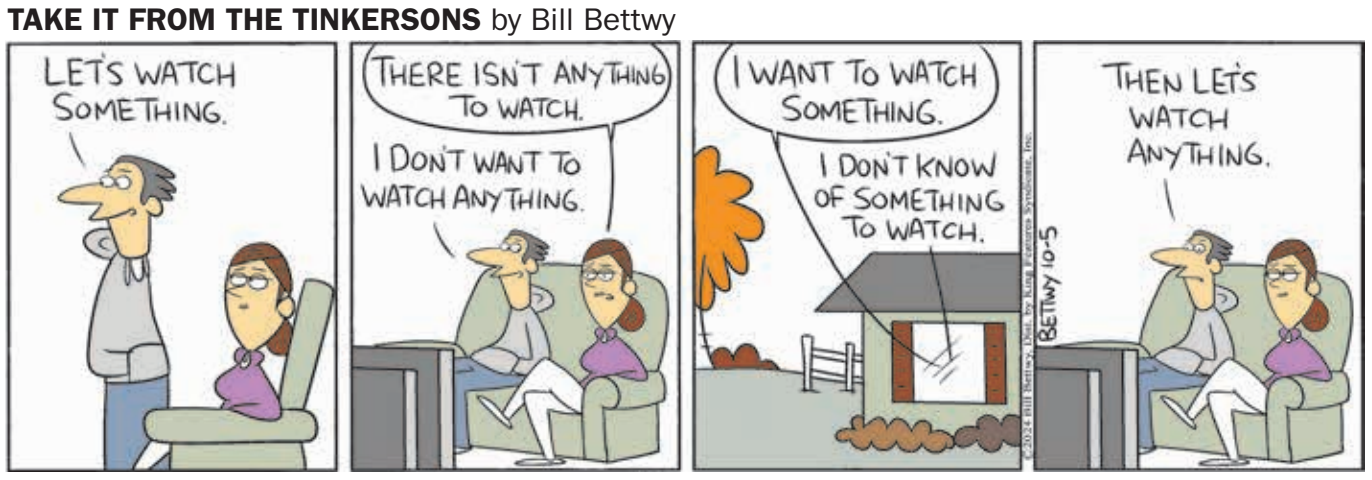
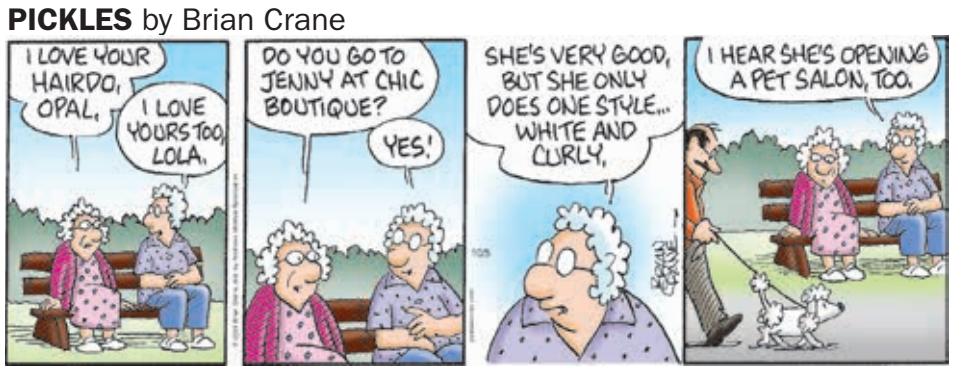


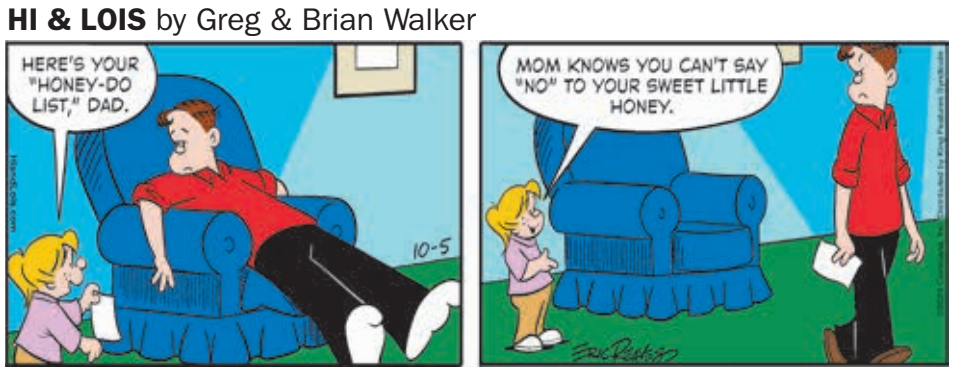
PICKLES by Brian Crane



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE by Lynn Johnston



HI & LOIS by Greg & Brian Walker



SHOE by Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



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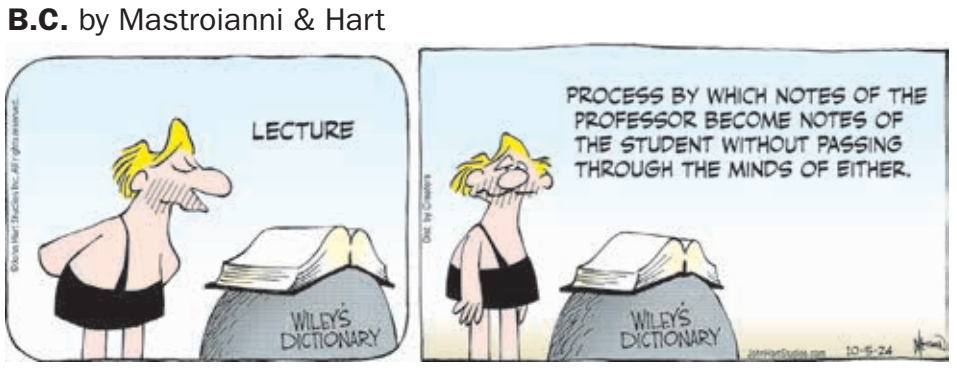


NON SEQUITUR by Wiley



HERMAN by Jim Unger

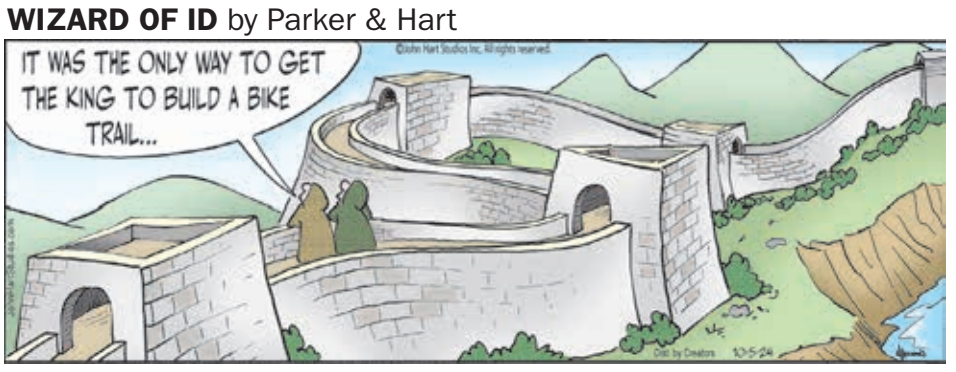


"When I shout *GUN*, duck."

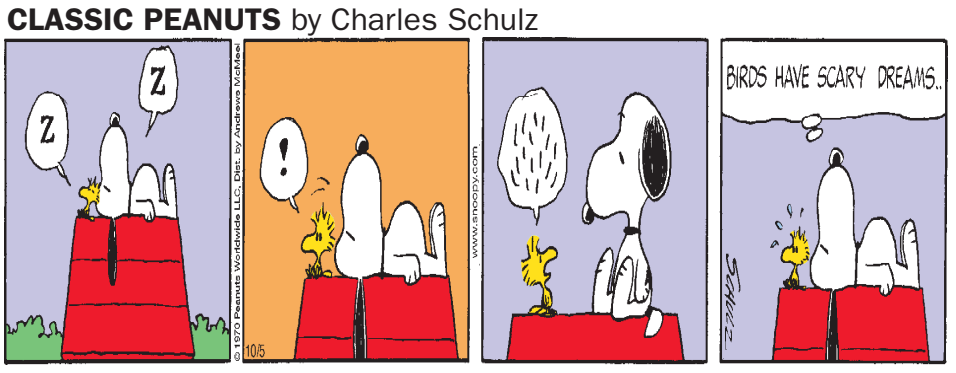
DENNIS THE MENACE by Hank Ketcham



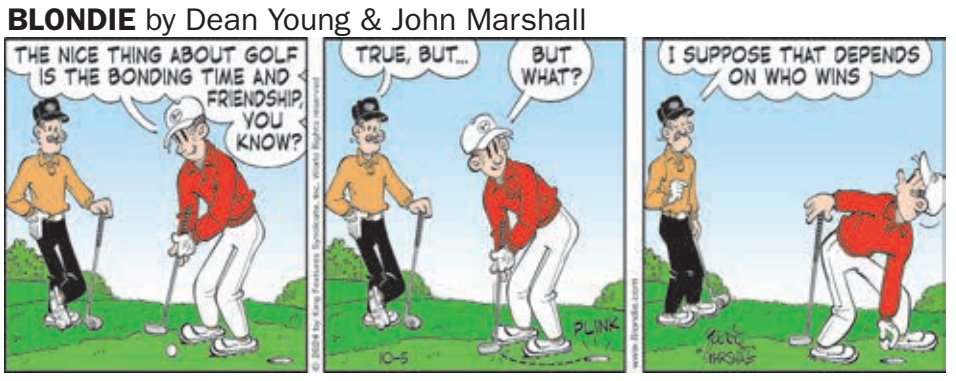
WIZARD OF ID by Parker & Hart



CLASSIC PEANUTS by Charles Schulz



BLONDIE by Dean Young & John Marshall



FRANK & ERNEST by Bob Thaves

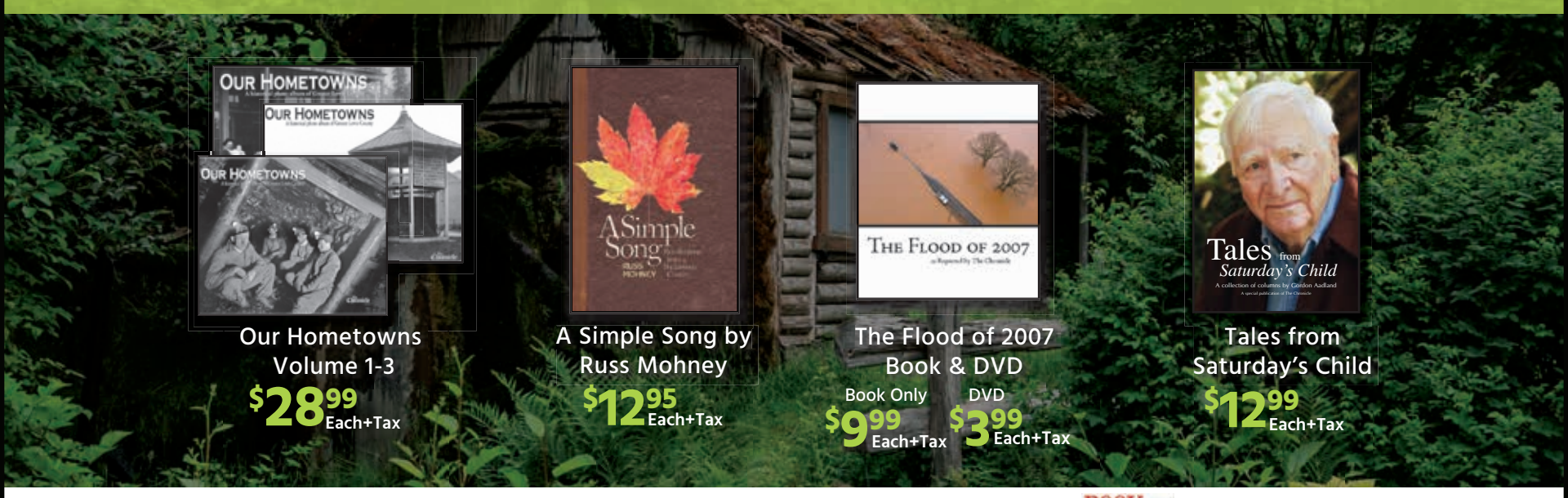


BEETLE BAILEY by Greg, Brian & Neal Walker





THE BOOKS OF LEWIS COUNTY



Our Hometowns Volume 1-3
$28.99 Each+Tax

A Simple Song by Russ Mohney
$12.95 Each+Tax

The Flood of 2007 Book & DVD
Book Only $9.99 Each+Tax
DVD $3.99 Each+Tax

Tales from Saturday's Child
$12.99 Each+Tax

PURCHASE YOURS TODAY AT LCHM Lewis County Historical Museum · The Chronicle · Book 'n Brush

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Notices

Bright Hearts & Souls
At Bright house our mission is to provide a safe drug & alcohol-free housing solution & supportive community for a diverse population of people. Visit our website for our house rules & eligibility requirements. brightheartsandsouls.org. Open beds available! Located in Chehalis, brightheartsandsouls@gmail.com or 617-987-5472. WAQRR accredited as a Level II.

DO YOU NEED BUSINESS CARDS?
Call Sign Pro,
360-736-6322

UP LATE?
Need to place an ad?
Place your ad on
chronline.com

Want your event in The Chronicle's **Community Calendar?**
Email your event to:
news@chronline.com

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted

CITY CLERK-TREASURER
City of Oakville has an opening for a full-time City Clerk-Treasurer position, salary: $50,000 - $65,000. This is a, non-union, management, Fair Labor Standards Act-exempt position which reports directly to the Mayor. Full job description available online at jobnet.wacities.org. Mail your cover letter and resume to Oakville City Hall, PO Box D, Oakville WA 98568. Open until filled. EOE

ORDER YOUR SIGN TODAY!
Choose from one of our samples in the office, or have one personalized!
Call Sign Pro!
360-736-6322

Remember to check your ad for errors and report any changes the first day.
(360) 807-8203.

Work Wanted

KTG RESIDENTIAL CLEANING & HANDYMAN SERVICE
Will beat any written estimate.
Home repairs Flexible
Bonded-Insured
Contractor Licensed-
KTGRSRC787QP
Ken - 360-520-1644
Tami 360-520-5015

TRACTOR WORKS
BRUSH HOGGING, GARDEN ROTOTILLING, small & large gardens , big lawn mowing, **BRUSH Removal**, tree, stump & root removal, **Backhoe** -trenching, ditches, new lawns, ground leveling, new & repair driveways, **HEAVY HAULING**, Junk & Garbage removal. 1-360-827-0304

FOR RENT — RENTALS

Rental Apt. Centralia

CANDLEWOOD APARTMENTS
1322 Harrison Avenue
Centralia, Washington 98531
Phone: (360) 736-5037
TDD: 711
USDA Rural Development subsidized apartment homes may be available at this time. Income restrictions apply.
USDA Rural Development is an Equal Opportunity Lender, Provider, and Employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to:
USDA Director,
Office of Civil Rights,
Washington, D.C.
20250-9410
Professionally Managed by Guardian.
An equal opportunity provider.
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Rental Homes General

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination."
We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Roommate Wanted

Room available for Veteran over 65. Share bathroom with another Veteran, meal prep, cleaning, laundry included, caregiving if needed. Private home in country on 11 acres. Onalaska, 360-978-4778.

Commercial Spaces

NEED SIGNS FOR YOUR BUSINESS???
Call Sign Pro!
360-736-6322

LIVESTOCK & PETS

Pet Sitting

Call The Chronicle at 360-736-3311 and place your ad HERE

Jr. Pet Column

2 year old female cat needs permanent home. One of my friends recently passed away & I am helping the family find "Wendy" a black spayed indoor cat a new home. She is currently being fostered to avoid being sent to shelter. Please text or call & I will make arrangements with foster family. 360-808-5852

MERCHANDISE

Miscellaneous for Sale

Go to **chronline.com** to place your ad online, just **6 easy steps** from the convenience of your own home.

$100 or Less

Turn last season's stuff into this season's spending money.
Do you have an item for $100 or less??
Call customer service today to place your AD!
The Chronicle, 360-736-3311.
Ads run 3 days, 25 words 4 $25!

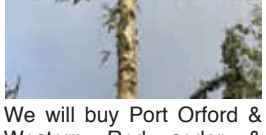
Miscellaneous Wanted

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES
- **Monday, 11:00 a.m. for Tuesday's paper.**
- Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. **for Thursday's paper.**
- Friday, 11:00 a.m. for **Saturday's paper.**

To place your ad, call 360-736-3311!
classifieds@chronline.com

ATTENTION LAND OWNERS!
Wanted cedar boughs & noble fir, branches only. Do not damage trees. Buying from Sept to Dec.
Call Caesar, 360-241-6889 or 360-762-0040. Kelso.

Attention Land Owners



We will buy Port Orford & Western Red cedar & Noble branches, we pay per pound and depending on the quality of the branches. We have more than 10 years of experience, so we will take care of your trees, September to December. Contact us for more information, Mario at 360-560-8488 or 360-355-6980.

ATTENTION LAND OWNERS WHO'S TREES NEED TRIMMING:
WE BUY CEDAR & NOBLE BOUGHS.
Make your appointment the season has began, we do all the work.
Minimum 10 trees.
Call Jamie for estimate,
360-751-0120 or 360-430-8510

Miscellaneous Wanted

RICARDO'S TREE SERVICE
Got Cedar and Noble trees? If so, we want your boughs! Top dollar paid. We do all the work, with over 20 years of experience. Call Ricardo 360-751-1045 or Jose 564-239-3090. License No. 634645

Produce & Food Items

NEW TODAY!

Apples: King & Honeycrisp: $15 per box, 678 Boistfort Rd, Curtis. 360-245-3267

Auctions Sales

NEW TODAY!

Centralia & Napavine Police Seized Cars & More Auction. Featuring 2014 Dodge Charger, Honda Accord, Chevy Tahoe & more. Auction Preview & Bidding Starts: Friday, October 18th at 2:00PM - Auction Starts Closing: Friday, November 1st at 2:00PM. Pictures and Bidding Available online at: www.MercuryAuctions.org License #2505

Silverline Towing & Transport LLC Abandoned Vehicle Auction to be held at 121 Melhart Rd., Chehalis, WA 98532. Friday, October 11, 2024 at 12:00pm. Viewing 1 hour prior. 360-789-1468

ATTENTION LAND OWNERS WHO'S TREES NEED TRIMMING:
WE BUY CEDAR & NOBLE BOUGHS.
Make your appointment the season has began, we do all the work.
Minimum 10 trees.
Call Jamie for estimate,
360-751-0120 or 360-430-8510

CHRONICLE_PHOTOS

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC -
Grays Harbor County Fire Department, Cowlitz County Sheriffs Department and Kelso PD Merchandise & Auto Auction
Sunday, October 6th
Auction starts at 10AM
Merchandise Followed By Automotive At 1PM.
PREVIEW: Tues - Sat 9am to 5pm Every Week
LOCATION: 506 E. Pine St Oakville Wa 98568
Office 360-273-5808
You Can Bid Online OR In Person
Online Bidding Open Right Now
Over 100 Vehicles with tons of merchandise!
Inspection Service Open To The Public On ALL Vehicles.
Please Read Our Terms & Conditions On Our Website, WaPublicAuction.com

Garage Sales General

600+ Indoor Sales Nov 2nd NW'S LARGEST Garage & Vintage MEGA Sale Sellers & Shoppers Wanted @ Clark County Event Center Ridgefield WA Register & Info online at www.nwgsales.com 360-907-5919

Garage Sales Chehalis

HUGE ADNA BARN SALE!
Fri & Sat, October 4 & 5, 9-4.
1221 Bunker Creek Rd., Chehalis, WA 98532.
Off Hwy 6!



4,000 sq. ft. of vintage & antiques, furniture, 2 kitchen queens, French Provencial bedroom suite, assorted vintage dishes, frames, pottery & glass, a Western section & vintage lamps & lighting. Priced to sell!
HUGE significant FREE pile & also a variety of other sales.
Proprietors Bonnie & David Smith 360-520-7722.

VISIT VISITED

GARAGE SALE!
Saturday Only!
Oct, 5, 9-3.
337 Cousins Rd, Chehalis, WA 98532.
Shop & household items.

Garage Sales Chehalis

VISIT VISITED

HELLO FALL SHOW!
Fri & Sat, Oct. 4, 9-5, & Oct. 5, 9-4.
514 Kirkland Rd, Chehalis, WA 98532.
Country, primitives, pottery, glassware, yard art , furniture, quilted table runners, Christmas, rosehips & lots more. Photos on Facebook Marketplace & Craigslist.

Bazaars

Fall Harvest Bazaar

41st ANNUAL "A SALE FOR ALL SEASONS" BAZAAR
Oct. 4 & 5, Fri, 10-5 & Sat, 10-4
The Lord Mansion "Coach House" 211 21st Ave SW, Olympia, WA 98501

Beautifully handcrafted items for all occasions. Food Bank donations accepted. More info Jdabwake@aol.com

OCTOBER MONDAY,
Group Lot Feeder Auction
Monday, Oct. 14th at 1pm

CHEHALIS LIVESTOCK MARKET

- **Preferred in: Group of 5 or more, Same Size, Color and Sex, 300-800#.**
- **Weaning and vac info available on Sale day.**
- **Deliver on Sunday 10/13 noon to 5pm and Monday morning 10/14.**

Call Office 360-748-3191 to consign your feeders.

Chehalis Livestock Market
328 Hamilton Rd N.
Chehalis, WA
Dave Balmelli
360-520-4150
Jared Balmelli
360-880-8267

HOROSCOPE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2024



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)

Put more thought into managing your investments, medical issues and personal preferences. Explore the possibilities and implement what works best for you. Mixed emotions will prompt a personal change.



PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)

Take a back seat and observe. The information you gather will help you reverse a potential problem, temptation or financial loss. Time is on your side, and being patient will pay off.



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Follow your passion and sidestep anyone who interferes with your vision. Choose to use your skills to address current applications, and it will lead to a change in how you earn or handle your money.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Confusion will surface around joint ventures. Keep your emotions out of the equation and deal with shared expenses cautiously. Be smart regarding money, ethics, contracts and your emotional well-being.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

Your charm will open doors, and your intellectual banter will seal deals. Be a good listener and gather valuable information, but refrain from divulging your intentions, secrets or passwords.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

Take the initiative and finish what you start. Your actions will have a bigger impact than your words. Protect your reputation and present your accomplishments with confidence.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Embrace what life offers. The sky is the limit if you are open to change and willing to go the distance to reach your goals. Choose to voice your opinion and take a leadership position, and you will influence people.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Rethink your plans, budget and prospects. You may crave change, but first you must take care of business. You'll miss an opportunity if you let your emotions take the reins.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

A proactive approach will bring positive results. Learn from experience, experts and example; you will be happy with the results. Do things for yourself, and you won't be disappointed.



SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)

Pay attention to what's happening in your backyard. Take the initiative and do things your way. Being innovative and open to new ideas will help you reach your objective.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)

Observe, strategize and prepare to take on anyone who stands in your way. Look for opportunities that connect you with people who have something to contribute. An equal-opportunity partnership looks promising.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Don't let your words get in the way of what you want. Demands will fall short, but incentives and compliments can encourage others to accommodate your dreams. Demonstration will make a difference; say little and do a lot.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2024



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)

Share your thoughts with people heading down a similar path, and you'll discover shortcuts that save time and money. Refrain from letting persuasive offers stunt your desire to follow your dreams.



PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)

Take time out to nurture yourself. Maintaining your health, fitness and overall well-being will help you avoid temptation and poor choices. Choose minimalism over excess.



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Be open to other perspectives, but formulate your strategy to suit your needs. Set your plans in motion and pay attention to detail. A change of heart or health will turn out well if you act fast.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Live up to your promises, and the returns will be higher than anticipated. Embrace new beginnings and let your mind and body carry you. Don't share too much information, or interference and arguments will arise.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

Stretch your mind, use your knowledge and reinforce your plans to ensure you finish what you start. Refuse to let outside interference disrupt your intentions or lead you astray.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

Stick to what you do best, and refrain from participating in heated discussions. Your mission is to complete what you set out to do and to gravitate toward people who have your back.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Participate, and you'll discover people and possibilities who can motivate you and help you thrive. Use your voice to articulate what you want others to know and understand.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Overreaction and indulgent behavior will stand between you and what you want. Think twice before you participate in a hasty decision or exchange of words.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

New surroundings will change your perspective and offer a vision of what's possible. A curious approach to change will lead to a path that excites, motivates and attracts interesting people.



SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)

Explore the possibilities of turning something you love doing into an additional income. Travel, educational pursuits and talking to an expert will help narrow the gap between dreaming and doing.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)

Emotions will surface if you let someone bait you into a disruptive discussion or lead you to believe a false narrative. The best opportunities will require dedication and gathering accurate information.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

You may want to be in charge, but if you are pushy, you will meet with opposition. Take every opportunity to enhance your knowledge, gather facts and find innovative solutions.

SPORTING & RECREATION

GUNS & ACCESSORIES

Wes Knodel Gunshows

GUN & KNIFE SHOW

October 5 & 6,
Southwest Washington Fairgrounds
1909 S. Gold St, Centralia, WA 98531
Show Hours
Saturday 9-5
& Sunday 9-3
****ADMISSION TO GUN SHOW****
General Admission
$10 Per Day
Military/Veterans
$8 Per Day
2-day Passes $16
Children 12 & Under Free

Follow us on Facebook & Instagram
For more information call 503-363-9564
wesknodelgunshows.com

LEGAL NOTICES

131519 Application of Change

PUBLIC NOTICE BEFORE THE LEWIS COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY BOARD LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

TAKE NOTICE: That on August 15, 2024, the City of Centralia, Washington, filed two Applications for Change, Numbers LEWI 24-01 and LEWI 24-02, with the Lewis County Water Conservancy Board to change the place of use, purpose of use, and point of withdrawal under groundwater certificate G2-23291C with a priority date of October 23, 1974, and groundwater certificate G2-25700C with a priority date of September 15, 1980 respectively.

The proposed changes under both Water Right Applications LEWI 24-01 and LEWI 24-02 include:

Change point(s) of withdrawal: The certificated point of withdrawal for both certificates are groundwater wells located within the NE quarter of the SE quarter of Section 16, T14N, R02W, W.M., within Lewis County. The proposed change will cease withdrawals in support of the underlying regional aquifer system and Salzer Creek/Chehalis River instream flows located within Lewis County.

Change place of use: The certificated place of use for certificate G2-23291C is parcel number 021424015004 located in the NE quarter of the SE quarter of section 16, T. 14 N., R. 2 W.W.M. The certificated place of use for certificate G2-25700C is parcel number 021424015004 located in the NE quarter of the SE quarter of section 16, T. 14 N., R. 2 W.W.M. as conveyed by deed recording under Auditor's File No. 794622 and re-recorded under Auditor's File No. 805494. All located within Lewis County. The proposed place of use is the underlying regional aquifer system and Salzer Creek/Chehalis River instream flows.

Change purpose of use: The certificated purpose of use is community domestic supply. The proposed purpose of use is aquifer maintenance/mitigation and instream flow augmentation.

To view this application as well as the underlying certificate documentation, visit our Water Right Search application and web map search here: https://appswr.ecology.wa.gov/waterrighttrackingsystem/WaterRights/default.aspx

Protests to this application must include a detailed statement of the basis for the objections. Protests must be accompanied with a fifty dollar ($50.00) non-refundable recording fee. We accept check or money order only. Do not send cash. Send your protest with the $50.00 fee to the Department of Ecology at the address below within 30 days from October 5, 2024.

Department of Ecology
Cashiering Office
PO Box 47611
Olympia, WA 98504-7611

Any interested party may submit comments, objections, and other information to the Board regarding this application. The comments and information may be submitted in writing or verbally at any public meeting of the Board held to discuss or decide on the application. This application will be on the Board agenda during its regular meetings to be held on November 21 and December 19, 2024.

Additionally, the Lewis County Water Conservancy Board may receive written comments or information through December 19, 2024 at PO Box 1345 Chehalis, WA 98532-0318.

Published: The Chronicle
September 28, 2024
October 5, 2024

131590 Notice Of Appointment & Pendency of Probate

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR LEWIS COUNTY
In the Matter of the Estate of: CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH KELLEY,
Deceased.
No. 13-4-00169-7
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT AND PENDENCY OF PROBATE (RCW 11.28.237)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on the 24th day of April, 2024, Arlene A. Kelley was appointed and has qualified as the Personal Representative of the Estate of Charlotte Elizabeth Kelley, deceased, and that probate proceedings are pending.
It is my duty to inquire of you as to your knowledge of any of Decedent's outstanding obligations. If you are aware of any, please write me promptly with the name and address of each person or organization to whom the Decedent was indebted, and any details known to you regarding such indebtedness so I may send such creditor the required notice. This procedure is required of me in order to provide the Estate with the protection afforded by Washington's creditor's claim law.
DATED this 23rd day of April, 2024.
BUZZARD O'ROURKE, P.S.
/s/
JAMES M.B. BUZZARD,
WSBA #33555
Attorney for Personal Representative

Published: The Chronicle
October 5, 12 & 19, 2024

131596 NTC: Hansen

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LEWIS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DAVID A. HANSEN,
Deceased.
NO. 24-4-00377-21
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
RCW 11.40.030

The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020 (1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in section 11 of this act and RCW 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.
Date of filing copy of Notice to Creditors 9/23/24
Date of first publication
October 5, 2024
/s/ Ryan Hansen
RYAN HANSEN
Personal Representative
c/o ALTHAUSER RAYAN ABBARNO, LLP
114 W. Magnolia;
P. O. Box 210
Centralia, WA 98531
Telephone: (360) 736-1301
Subsequent Publications:
October 12, 2024
October 19, 2024

Published: The Chronicle
October 5, 12 & 19, 2024

131535 NTC: Kalich

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR LEWIS COUNTY IN MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF GARY H. KALICH,
Deceased.
Case No.: 24-4-00388-21
AMENDED PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
RCW 11.40.030

The Personal Representative named below have been appointed as Co-Personal Representatives of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Co-Personal Representatives or the Co-Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the Court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) thirty days after the Co-Personal Representatives have served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.
DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION:
October 5, 2024
/s/ Judy Kalich
Judy Kalich,
Personal Representarive
c/o VANDER STOEP, BLINKS & UNZELMAN
Attorneys or Personal Representative
345 N.W. Pacific Ave.
P. O. Box 867
Chehalis, WA 98532
Telephone: (360) 748-9281

Published: The Chronicle
October 5, 12 & 19, 2024

131599 NTC: Sodorff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LEWIS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF TERRY SODORFF,
Deceased.
NO. 24-4-00390-21
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
RCW 11.40.030

The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020 (1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in section 11 of this act and RCW 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.
Date of filing copy of Notice to Creditors 10/02/2024
Date of first publication
October 5, 2024
/s/ Charlene Sodorff
CHARLENE SODORFF
Personal Representative
c/o ALTHAUSER RAYAN ABBARNO, LLP
114 W. Magnolia;
P. O. Box 210
Centralia, WA 98531
Telephone: (360) 736-1301
Subsequent Publications:
October 12, 2024
October 19, 2024

Published: The Chronicle
October 5, 12 & 19, 2024

131388 NTC: Swanson

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR LEWIS COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF BARBARA J. SWANSON,
Deceased.
No. 24-4-00305-21
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS [RCW 11.40.030]

The Co-Personal Representatives named below has been appointed and have qualified as Co-Personal Representatives of this Estate. Any person having a claim against the Decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Co-Personal Representatives or the Co-Personal Representatives' attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the Co-Personal Representatives served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(3); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of 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 the Decedent's probate and non-probate assets.
DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION:
September 21, 2024
/s/
Teri L. Baughman,
Co-Personal Representative
/s/
Jerry J. Swanson,
Co-Personal Representative
ATTORNEYS FOR ESTATE:
Brian J. Kelly
WSBA #7270
Scheibmeir, Kelly & Nelson, P.S.
299 N. W. Center Street
P.O. Box 939
Chehalis, WA 98532
Phone: (360) 748-3386

Published: The Chronicle
September 21 & 28, 2024
October 5, 2024

131595 Police Seized Auction

Centralia & Napavine Police Seized Cars & More Auction. Featuring 2014 Dodge Charger, Honda Accord, Chevy Tahoe & more. Auction Preview & Bidding Starts: Friday, October 18th at 2:00PM - Auction Starts Closing: Friday, November 1st at 2:00PM. Pictures and Bidding Available online at: www.MercuryAuctions.org License #2505

Published: The Chronicle
October 5 & 12, 2024

131546 Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

PLEASE BE ADVISED the Centralia City Council of the Whole will be meeting in the City Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, at 7:00 pm for a public hearing on the General Fund Revenue Sources and levying the 2024 property tax levy, and on Tuesday, October 22, 2024 for second reading and final adoption of the 2024 property tax levy.

Published: The Chronicle
October 3 & 5, 2024

131508 Student Safety Project

CITY OF CENTRALIA NOTICE TO CONSULTANTS REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS/ PROPOSAL CIVIL DESIGN OF THE WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY AND OAKVIEW ELEMENTARY STUDENT SAFETY PROJECT PW2024-16D; HLP-SR23(021)

The City of Centralia solicits qualifications and proposals from consulting firms with expertise in Civil Engineering Design. This agreement will be for approximately one year in duration with the option for the City of Centralia to extend it for additional time and money if necessary. Consultants will be considered for the following project.

The City of Centralia reserves the right to amend terms of this "Request for Qualifications and Proposal" (RFQ/P) to circulate various addenda, or to withdraw the RFQ/P at any time, regardless of how much time and effort consultants have spent on their responses.

Project Description
The work to be performed by the CONSULTANT consists of the design of project elements, development of plans, specifications and estimates, project initiation, coordination and meetings, and the preparation of graphics and visual aids for use in public involvement. All required topographical surveying has been completed and will be provided to the selected consultant.

The proposed improvements include pedestrian and bicycle facility improvements and roadway paving. This project has no assigned UDBE goal. The major features of the project are as follows:

- Installation of cement concrete sidewalks, pedestrian bulbouts, ADA Ramps and joint use path;
- Installation of pedestrian illumination system;
- Installation of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons and speed feedback signs;
- Roadway grading, asphalt paving, lane markings and permanent signage; and
- Installation of stormwater collection and/or infiltration systems.

The City of Centralia reserves the right to retain the services of the successful firm(s) for any subsequent phases associated with this/these project(s).

The solicited services are divided into phases whereby the specific scope of work and associated costs may be negotiated and authorized by phase as the project progresses. A written supplement to the agreement will be required if work that falls outside of the scope of the original agreement is requested. The method of payment shall be negotiated hourly rate contracts. The contract shall specify a maximum amount payable which is not exceeded unless adjusted by a contract modification.

Evaluation Criteria
Submittals will be evaluated and ranked based on the following criteria:

1) Qualification of Proposed Project Manager and Team Members
2) Qualifications/Expertise of Firm
3) Ability to meet schedule
4) Approach to project
5) Familiarity with WSDOT and City of Centralia standards
6) Past Performance/References
7) Experience with past Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) or City of Centralia Projects

Cost will not be used as an evaluation criteria and shall not be submitted with the proposals.

Submittal
Submittals should include the following information: Firm name, phone number, primary contact name and e-mail address; Name of Principal-in-Charge and Project Manager; and Number of employees in firm proposed to project.

Please submit three hard copies of your qualifications and proposal to the attention of Patty Page, P.E., City Engineer, City of Centralia, 1100 N. Tower Avenue, Centralia, Washington 98531 no later than 3:00 pm, Friday, October 18, 2024. Submittals will not be accepted after that time and date. Any questions regarding this project should be directed to Patty Page, P.E. by phone at (360) 330-7512 or by email at ppage@cityofcentralia.com.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Information
The City of Centralia in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), commits to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability, in all of its programs and activities. This material can be made available in an alternate format by emailing Patty Page at ppage@cityofcentralia.com or by calling 360-330-7512.

Washington's Climate Commitment
The project is supported with funding from Washington's Climate Commitment Act. The CCA supports Washington's climate action efforts by putting cap-and-invest dollars to work reducing climate pollution, creating jobs, and improving public health. Information about the CCA is available at www.climate.wa.gov.

Title VI Statement
The City of Centralia, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

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October 5, 2024

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Ridley Hudson / ridley@chronline.com

A home undergoing renovations to be raised for flood resilience is pictured during the Chehalis Basin Strategy Legislative Site Tour in Bucoda on Friday, Sept. 27.

'A huge piece of mind': Office of Chehalis Basin project elevates Bucoda home to reduce flooding concerns

By Mitchell Roland

mitchell@chronline.com



Shawn Selfridge speaks to attendees of an Office of Chehalis Basin tour in Bucoda as he explains work to elevate his home to reduce flooding concerns.



The Chehalis Basin Strategy Legislative Site Tour's bus enters Bucoda to speak to a homeowner undergoing renovations to elevate his home for better flood resilience on Friday, Sept. 27.

Shawn Selfridge's house stands out among his neighbors in the small South Thurston County town of Bucoda.

A homeowner for six years, a flood roughly five years ago sparked concerns that future events could damage the house, prompting Selfridge to submit for aid through the Community Flood and Assistance (CFAR) Program, part of the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

This summer, crews began work to lift the house approximately six feet off the ground and construct a new foundation, decreasing the likelihood that future flooding would damage the structure, which Selfridge said has helped ease his concerns.

"I want to help anybody in the future who needs their house lifted to be able to have this done for them," he said.

The visit to Selfridge's house came during a recent legislative tour organized by the Office of the Chehalis Basin (OCB), which took state officials to visit flood reduction and restoration efforts in Centralia and Bucoda and included a visit to the Skookumchuck Dam.

During the tour, the OCB revealed it will recommend an $80 million biennial budget appropriation from the Washington state Legislature to "aggressively pursue the Chehalis Basin Strategy," according to budget documents.

Established in 2016 within the Department of Ecology, the OCB directs flood control and aquatic restoration work within the basin.

The additional funding, officials said, would allow the office to continue "key on-the-ground" investments, which include installing flood reduction measures to protect homes, businesses, agriculture and infrastructure.

A one-story house on a slight hill, Selfridge's house stood lower in his neighborhood. His neighbor's house to the right sat slightly elevated, while Selfridge's neighbor to the left has a two-story house, with his home now about level to his neighbor's second floor.

"The last time we had that flood, it didn't come up that much near their house," he said.

While they may not benefit to the same degree in the program, Selfridge said his neighbors have watched the progress of the project with intrigue.

"They just sit here and watch when they can," he said. "And they're really impressed with how fast this is going."

Part of the benefit, Selfridge said, is the minimal impact that the project has had on his day-to-day life.

As crews retrofitted the house over the past two months, Selfridge continued to live in the residence. When the tour bus recently approached Selfridge, electrical crews worked to install new electrical equipment in the house.

According to the OCB, Selfridge is one of eight homeowners who have taken advantage of the CFAR program.

But the projects have taken time.

Selfridge said he initially applied for the assistance nearly a half decade ago, though the work only began this summer. Part of the delay, he said, was a lack of contractors to complete the work.

According to the OCB, previous investments have funded more than 140 habitat restoration projects, protected 200 homes and businesses, protected nearly 300 acres of habitat, helped install 14 high-water alerts and helped secure more than $61 million in additional federal funding.

"I want to say thank you, because this has given me a huge piece of mind," Selfridge said.



Photos by Kody Christen / kody@chronline.com

The corn maze at The Huntting's Pumpkin Patch and Haunted Forest is pictured from above in Cinebar on Thursday, Oct. 3. The Huntting's Pumpkin and Haunted Forest is open now through Nov. 2 and offers a massive corn maze and much more. It's located at 600 Cinebar Road. No reservations are needed. Tickets are all sold on site. Entry to the pumpkin field and parking are free. Daytime attractions open every day from 10 a.m. until dusk include: a pumpkin patch, a sunflower maze, a corn maze, a country store, a "Goblin Egg Slingshot" for a chance to win $100, a Haunted Forest scavenger hunt for kids and photo props. On weekends, Huntting's also offers a Haunted Forest and Flashlight Corn Maze until 11 p.m. and hayrides from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Food vendors on the weekends offer kettle corn, elephant ears, hot dogs, cotton candy, apple cider, tacos, corn, chicken nuggets, chicken strips, burgers, fries, Cajun food and more. "We are pet friendly. We just ask that they are kept on a leash at all times and cleaned up after," the business stated. Cash and debit cards are accepted. Those with questions can call or text 360-388-7920 or check the Huntting's Pumpkin and Haunted Forest Facebook page.

In focus: The Huntting's Pumpkin and Haunted Forest offers a massive corn maze and more



The Huntting's Pumpkin Patch and Haunted Forest is pictured from above in Cinebar on Thursday, Oct. 3.



Owner Lenord Huntting, middle, poses for a photo with his son, Landon Huntting, right, and grandson, Drayven Gerald, left, at The Huntting's Pumpkin Patch and Haunted Forest in Cinebar on Thursday, Oct. 3.



Skeletons sit along the path of the Haunted Forest attraction at The Huntting's Pumpkin Patch and Haunted Forest in Cinebar on Thursday, Oct. 3.



Jennifer McDaneld searches for the perfect pumpkin at The Huntting's Pumpkin Patch and Haunted Forest in Cinebar on Thursday, Oct. 3.



Decorations sit along the path of the Haunted Forest attraction at The Huntting's Pumpkin Patch and Haunted Forest in Cinebar on Thursday, Oct. 3.



The sun shines over trees onto a Studebaker pickup truck parked in the pumpkin patch at The Huntting's Pumpkin Patch and Haunted Forest in Cinebar on Thursday, Oct. 3.



A sign made of license plates lines the fence of The Huntting's Pumpkin Patch and Haunted Forest in Cinebar on Thursday, Oct. 3.