

2012 Regional Lakes Conference

FOR DUMMIES

For the second year in a row, organizers will likely turn away interested attendees at Saturday's conference. Organized by the Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District, the event's success is tied in part to tackling complicated subjects in a way that is not only accessible to the layman, but applicable. Only 150 people can attend; Cliff's notes for the rest of us are on **PAGE 10**



INSIDE:



THE COEUR D'ALENES
History series continues with look at tribe's early presence in and around Liberty Lake
PAGE 8



SNOW MEN
Peplinski duo share strategies and stories of clearing Liberty Lake streets when the white stuff flies
PAGE 2

GET MOVINGSM

WELCOME, JOHN KIESEL!



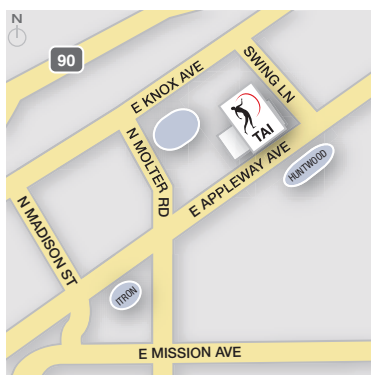
We are pleased to welcome John Kiesel PT, DPT to our team! John received his Doctorate in Physical Therapy in 2007 and is a Board Certified Orthopaedic Clinical Specialist.

John currently sees patients Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. To schedule an appointment with John please contact our office.



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Mike and Rich Peplinski stand next to their new loader fitted with a snow blade and snow wing. The father-and-son team has contracted to plow snow for the city since it was incorporated in 2001.

SPLASH PHOTO BY KELLY MOORE

Snow business

Local plowing team shares what it takes to keep LL roads clear

By Kelly Moore
SPLASH STAFF WRITER

The father and son team at Peplinski Excavation has plowed snow off Liberty Lake's streets since the city's incorporation in 2001. Rich Peplinski said the amount of work they get from the city varies, but usually averages about a third of the company's business — in the springtime, they manage Liberty Lake's road repairs.

Plowing during winters like this one is slow, but the duo was ready to work when the mid-January storm hit two weeks ago. The Splash sat down with Rich and Mike Peplinski to learn more about the action plan for a snow event and what the guys do when temperatures are unseasonably warm.

Q. So what was your first thought two weeks ago when you woke up and we finally had snow in Liberty Lake?

A. *Rich:* Great! We love it when it snows because it gets us out of the shop.

Q: What is a snow day like for you guys?

A: *Rich:* Depending on the amount of snow, a typical day could be anywhere up to 24 hours of non-stop work. When we start plowing, it takes us 10 to 12 hours to go through the city. Then there's usually de-icing before and a lot of times sand-

profiles:

PEPLINSKI EXCAVATION

Team

Father Rich Peplinski and son, Mike

Established

2007 (started plowing for city in 2001 under different company name)

Goal

Do the best quality work we can feel good about later

Latest company purchase

Loader fitted with snow blade and snow wing

ing or de-icing after to maintain the roads. Usually after any kind of snow, it turns cold and then becomes ice, so we have to watch that. In the bad winter we had three years ago, we were all out for about 40 hours straight. The minimum is 18 to 20 hours. That's a typical day.

Q: How did the most recent snow event go for you guys?

A: *Rich:* Good. It was about the same. My only complaint is that it didn't snow enough.

Q: How do you guys decide when or when not to plow?

A: *Rich:* Whenever the snowfall reaches two inches and there's more coming in the forecast, we're here out on the main arterials. When it reaches four inches, that's when we start plowing the whole city, including the residential areas.

Q: What is the game plan when you set out?

A: *Rich:* We try and switch it up. Sometimes we'll start on the east end of the city and work our way west. This time we did the opposite. That way no one is always the last to get plowed out. The main roads are the priority. We always keep those open. Three years ago, we had 24 inches dumped

See PLOWING, page 13

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THE Splash

Volume 14, Issue 5

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Splash design concept by Sarah Burk

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The Splash is published weekly on Thursdays and is distributed free of charge to every business and residence in the greater Liberty Lake area. Additional copies are located at more than 100 drop-off locations in Liberty Lake and Otis Orchards.



Submitted materials

Announcements, obituaries, letters to the editor and story ideas are encouraged. Submit them in writing to editor@libertylakesplash.com or bring them by The Splash office. Timely submissions should be received by Friday at noon for best chance of publication in the following week's Splash.

Advertising information

Information about classified and display advertising is on page 18.

Subscriptions

Liberty Lake residents receive a complimentary copy each Thursday. Subscriptions for U.S. postal addresses outside of the 99019 ZIP code cost \$50 for 52 weeks and \$30 for 26 weeks. Send a check and subscription address to P.O. Box 363, Liberty Lake, WA 99019 or call 242-7752 for more information.

Correction policy

The Splash strives for accuracy in all content. Errors should be reported immediately to 242-7752 or by e-mail to editor@libertylakesplash.com. Confirmed factual errors will be corrected on this page in the issue following their discovery.

Memberships

The Splash is an award-winning member of the National Newspaper Association and Washington Newspaper Publishers Association.



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Calendar

FEBRUARY 2

Noon: LL Centennial Rotary meeting, Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District Building, 22510 E. Mission Ave.

6:30 p.m.: Liberty Lake Municipal Library board meeting, LL Municipal Library, 23123 E. Mission Ave.

6:30 p.m.: Central Valley School District levy community forum, Liberty Lake Elementary School, 23606 E. Boone Ave.

FEBRUARY 4

10:30 a.m.-noon: E-readers drop-in class, Liberty Lake Municipal Library, 23123 E. Mission Ave.

FEBRUARY 6

11 a.m.-2 p.m.: Liberty Lake Senior Lunch Program, Liberty Lake City Hall, 22710 E. Country Vista Drive

FEBRUARY 7

7 p.m.: Liberty Lake City Council meeting, Liberty Lake City Hall, 22710 E. Country Vista Drive

FEBRUARY 8

6:45 a.m.: Liberty Lake Kiwanis meeting, club business and planning, Liberty Lake City Hall, 22710 E. Country Vista Drive

11 a.m.-2 p.m.: Liberty Lake Senior Lunch Program, Liberty Lake City Hall, 22710 E. Country Vista Drive

Noon to 1 p.m.: Liberty Lake Lions Club meeting, Barlows Family Restaurant, 1400 N. Meadowwood Lane

4 p.m.: Liberty Lake Planning Commission, Liberty Lake City Hall, 22710 E. Country Vista Drive

5:45 p.m.: LL Toastmasters, Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District Building, 22510 E. Mission Ave.

7p.m.: Liberty Lake Community Theatre comedy improv workshop, Country Vista Apartments Clubhouse, 21200 E. Country Vista Drive

Community Briefs

Youth raise funds for orphans

Hoops of Hope, a local fundraiser for children in Africa who have been orphaned by AIDS, will be held 9 a.m. to noon Feb. 25 at Liberty Lake Elementary School. The event is hosted by Fuel, the high school youth ministry group at Liberty Lake Church.

Middle and high school students are encouraged to join in teams of four and raise money based on the number of baskets they pledge to shoot. Donations can also be mailed to Liberty Lake Church, 704 S. Garry Road, Liberty Lake, WA, 99019-9800.

Organizers said 100 percent of funds go toward African children and that \$40 feeds an orphan for a year. For more information, go to www.fuelyouthministry.com or www.hoopsfhope.org.

Residents invited to Rotary

Today's (Feb. 2) meeting of the Liberty Lake Centennial Rotary Club will feature a presentation by Mary Gilmore of INHS MedStar. The Feb. 9 meeting will feature Sandy Wad of the Spokane Public Facilities District.

The meetings, held at noon each Thursday at the Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District building, 22510 E. Mission Ave., are open to the public.

Community theatre performance scheduled

"The Chalk Garden," a drama produced by the Liberty Lake Community Theatre, will be performed at 7 p.m. Feb. 10-11 (with a 3 p.m. matinee Feb. 11) at The Kave, 4904 N. Harvard Road in Otis Orchards.

Tickets will be \$10 at the door, \$8 for members. The performance is rated PG-13. For more information, visit www.libertylake-theatre.com.

LLCT hosting upcoming events

The Liberty Lake Community Theatre will be holding a pair of opportunities in February for interested people to scratch their performance itch.

LLCT will host free comedy improv workshops every Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the

Clubhouse Theatre Room in Country Vista Apartments, 21200 E. Country Vista Drive. No experience is required. Teens and adults are welcome to attend.

Auditions will also be held for a Readers Theatre version of "Anne of Green Gables" Feb. 25 at 3 p.m. and Feb. 27 at 6:30 p.m. at the Little House next to Liberty Lake City Hall. No experience or preparation is required. Roles are available for ages 10 and up, and performances are planned for March 16 and 17.

Additionally, the monthly LLCT board meeting will be held Feb. 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the Little House next to City Hall. The public is invited to attend.

Band fundraiser planned

The 7th annual Jazz Concert, Dessert and Auction supporting Central Valley High School band and color guard will be held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Feb. 10 at the school, 821. S. Sullivan Road.

Jazz music provided by the high school and Evergreen and Greenacres middle schools' jazz bands will highlight the evening, which will also include dancing, desserts, and a silent auction. Brian Albrecht will emcee for the fourth year.

Tickets are available at a cost of \$5 for students and \$10 for adults, pre-sale, or \$15 at the door. Check with a CV band or color guard student to purchase or call Lori at 999-9880 to pre-order.

Kiwanis hosting 7th annual Father-Daughter Dance March 3

The 7th annual Father-Daughter Dance, themed "The Princess and the Frog," will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. March 3 at Center-Place at Mirabeau Point, 2426 N. Discovery Place, Spokane Valley.

Organized by the Liberty Lake Kiwanis and K-Kids, the event includes music by Party Starters, a long-stem rose, favors and refreshments. Tickets are \$40 per father/daughter, \$15 per additional daughter. Photo packages are available separately.

For more information, visit www.libertylakekiwanis.org or call 951-3573 or 979-6652.

For a full list of community briefs, visit www.libertylakesplash.com.

News Brief

CV student crowned Lilac Queen

Central Valley High School student Sydnee Scofield was crowned queen of the Spokane Lilac Festival Sunday. Scofield gave a speech honoring her father, Jack Scofield.

Scofield and members of her Royal Court will appear May 19 at the 74th annual Armed Forces Torchlight Parade in Spokane. Scofield earned a pair of \$1,500 scholarships in being named queen.

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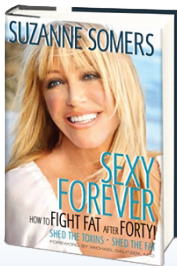
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Police Report

Sex offender arrested near Kindergarten Center

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Detectives with the Spokane Police Special Victims Unit arrested a level II registered sex offender Jan. 26 near the border between Liberty Lake and Spokane Valley after a search warrant uncovered a large amount of child pornography believed to have been shared online, a press release said.

According to the press release, Chris-

topher M. Ebner, 37, was arrested and booked into jail for dealing as well as possessing depictions of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct. The evidence included videos of children who appeared to be as young as 8 years old.

Ebner lives in the 1400 block of North Hodges, in Spokane Valley, less than a mile from the Central Valley Kindergarten Center and the Central Valley bus garage. He has prior convictions of third degree rape of a child and for possession of depictions of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

The following incidents, arrests, calls for service and citations were reported by the Liberty Lake Police Department Jan. 23-30.

Incidents and arrests

• **Welfare check** — At 8:30 p.m. Jan. 23, LLPD was dispatched to the 23100 block of East Mission Avenue for a welfare check.

• **Suspended license** — A 53-year-old Spokane Valley man was arrested at 9:15 p.m. Jan. 23 at Barker Road and Boone Avenue for driving with a suspended license. The vehicle was initially stopped for an equipment violation.

• **Protection order violation** — A 33-year-old Greenacres man was arrested Jan. 24 at the 1900 block of North Harmony Lane, in Spokane Valley near Barker Road, for violation of a domestic violence protection order. Officers were notified of a man and woman going door to door asking for money or property that could be pawned. The officer located the subjects in the area, and both appeared intoxicated. The officer identified the man and learned he had a protection order against him with the female he was with listed as the protected person. The man was booked into the Spokane County Jail.

• **False alarm** — At 12:50 p.m. Jan. 25, LLPD was dispatched to a commercial alarm at the 23500 block of East Appleway Avenue. It was determined the business was secure and the alarm was false.

• **Domestic violence** — At 4:30 p.m. Jan. 25, LLPD received a report of a domestic violence assault that had occurred on Oct. 24 in the area of Appleway Avenue and Hawkstone Loop. The complainant reported that her son had been assaulted by his grandfather. The complainant told police they initially reported the incident to Child Protective Services and were advised they should also contact the police to report the incident. The case was assigned to Detective Ray Bourgeois for a follow-up investigation.

• **Theft** — At 2:30 p.m. Jan. 25, LLPD received a report of an attempted auto theft at the 23100 block of East Mission Avenue. The complainant reported that sometime between 2 p.m. and 8:45 p.m.

Jan. 21, unknown suspects entered the vehicle as it was parked at the facility and attempted to "hotwire" it.

• **Argument** — At 10:15 p.m. Jan. 25, LLPD was dispatched to an argument at the 100 block of North McKinzie Road. A caller reported two subjects arguing at the location regarding a stolen bicycle. Officers determined the bike was stolen in Spokane Valley, and the subjects were advised to make a report of the incident through Crime Check.

• **Suspended license** — A 20-year-old Spokane woman was arrested at 9 p.m. Jan. 25 at Liberty Lake Road and Country Vista Drive for driving with a suspended license. Her vehicle was initially stopped for an equipment violation.

• **Argument** — At 3:30 p.m. Jan. 25, LLPD was dispatched to an argument at the 1400 block of North Caufield Court. A caller reported that a boyfriend and girlfriend were arguing, and the boyfriend was refusing to leave the home. Upon arrival, officers determined no crime was committed. The officer provided a courtesy transport out of the area for the male subject.

• **Suspended license** — A 44-year-old Spokane Valley man was arrested at Liberty Lake Road and Sprague Avenue at 6:15 a.m. Jan. 26 for driving with a suspended license. The vehicle was initially stopped for expired vehicle registration.

• **Suspended license** — A 36-year-old Liberty Lake man was arrested at 3 p.m. Jan. 26 at the 1200 block of North Liberty Lake Road for driving with a suspended license. The vehicle was initially stopped for expired vehicle registration.

• **Burglary** — At 3:30 p.m. Jan. 27, LLPD received a report of an attempted residential burglary at the 23500 block of East Maxwell Court. The complainant reported she noticed the basement window was off the track, and it appeared as if it was tampered with.

• **Felony warrant** — A 51-year-old Liberty Lake man was arrested at 3:50 p.m. Jan. 27 at the 1200 block of South McKinzie Road for a felony Department of

See POLICE, page 12

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Neighbors from another era: the Coeur d'Alenes

By Tom Specht

LIBERTY LAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Have you ever wondered about the first people at Liberty Lake? Who were they? What were they like? What happened to them? This is the story of those people, today known as the Coeur d'Alene Tribe of Indians, a story about how they lived and how that life changed when others moved into their neighborhood.

The first Liberty Lakers

From where did the Coeur d'Alenes originate? Scientists generally agree Asians crossed a land bridge from Siberia to Alaska, a bridge intact at various times during the ice age possibly 12,000 to 46,000 years ago. A mastodon (an elephant family member that became extinct 11,000 years ago) was found on Washington's Olympic Peninsula with a spear point jammed into its rib, suggesting humans lived in the Northwest earlier than previously thought. Radiocarbon dating and DNA analysis reveal it was killed 13,800 years ago.

The Coeur d'Alene Tribe's early presence in the area is suggested by its oral history, which, like so many other tribes of the area, is full of stories featuring cataclysmic floods. A geologic disaster known as the Missoula Floods last occurred 13,000-plus years ago, and one such Coeur d'Alene tale that appears to have evolved from it is about a man-like monster stationed at the head of a river that controlled the water. When it once denied water to the people, they died of thirst, but a little wolf killed it as it slept, and the water began to flow until it flooded the earth. After the water receded, the wolf found the monster downstream at Lake Coeur d'Alene and cut it into pieces, throwing its heart onto nearby land. From this heart sprang the Coeur d'Alene Indians, while its other body parts became the Nez Pierce, Flathead, Spokane and other tribes.

Pre-Columbian life

Following is a breakdown of the Coeur d'Alene way of life and culture prior to the time any population of European descent made its way to the Inland Northwest.

NAME: The Coeur d'Alenes originally called themselves Schizui or St. Chitsui, their name for their original territory. Later, French fur traders, believing the tribe to be sharp traders, tabbed them "Coeur d'Alene," meaning "pointed heart."

TERRITORY: The tribe's original territory extended more than 50 miles in all directions from Lake Coeur d'Alene. To the west, this extended to the downtown Spokane falls and included Liberty Lake.

NEIGHBORS: The tribe enjoyed a close relationship with the inland tribes of Canada and the Northwest, intermarrying and sharing fishing/hunting grounds, trade gatherings and celebrations. The Coeur d'Alenes living in Liberty Lake would have

Genesis of Liberty Lake

A series from the Liberty Lake Historical Society, appearing in the first Splash issue of each month in 2012.

JANUARY: Geology of Liberty Lake

FEBRUARY: Coeur d'Alene Tribe

MARCH: 150 years of Gathering, Recreation and Music

APRIL: Indian Wars, Part I

MAY: Indian Wars, Part II

JUNE: Chief Seltice

JULY: Chief Tecomtee

AUGUST: Chief Wildshoe

SEPTEMBER: Mullan Trail

OCTOBER: Homestead Act

NOVEMBER: Spokane Bridge Crossing

DECEMBER: Stephen Liberty

had more interaction with some Spokane families than with other Coeur d'Alene families living up the St. Joe River.

LANGUAGE: The regional Indians all shared the same Interior Salish language and could understand each other, although each had its own distinct dialect.

CHARACTERISTICS: The Jesuits and the traders remarked about the honesty of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, which was known to welcome every stranger as a friend. The Jesuits saw gambling as the tribe's worst vice. In the game of sticks, a tribesman could lose everything he had, including his clothing. The tribe was also known as excellent bow and arrow hunters.

HUNTER-GATHERER SOCIETY: Tribal men, women and children worked year round, early in the morning to night. Much like farmers harvesting potatoes, they gathered camas bulb in the summer, cooked it in a pit for about 10 days, then dried and pounded it into flour as a year-round staple. Freshly cooked, the bulb looked and tasted like a baked sweet potato, but sweeter and with more fiber. Bitterroot was the springtime crop, berries and salmon in late summer and early fall, followed by hunting into the winter. The tribe fished year round.

LAWS: The tribe followed its customs and traditions, but there was no formal law. Their first loyalty was to family, fighting or finding a truce for any dispute. The killing of a family member, for example, may be resolved by providing for the widow or by an offering of horses. Family size afforded greater power, so polygamy was sometimes practiced. The tribe's chiefs, elected by a unanimous vote of the men and married women, often stayed out of family matters, but intervened in tribal matters using only the power of persuasion for guidance.

SHELTER: The tribe's shelter and loca-

tion depended upon the season and its pursuits. Summer shelters might simply be made of mats, while winter shelters might be a dugout covered by mats, cedar bark and skins or a long house providing for several families. Families gathered together in the summer and winter, whereas they tended to separate in the spring. They picked winter village locations that were protected from the wind with a large supply of wood and good hunting. The Coeur d'Alene had around 30 different winter villages, including locations along the Spokane River near Greenacres and on the shores of Liberty Lake.

RECREATION: Competitions included foot/horse/canoe racing and canoe rolling. Children lived in or near the water in the summer. All celebrated the end of the camas and salmon harvests. Winter dance tents were constructed in the center of the villages, where they invited other villages to join in dance and celebration.

DRESS: Attire included long leather robes with buffalo-hide cloaks and gaiters, garments that were worn over moccasins made of doe or dog skin. Hair was adorned with feathers, ribbons, rings and shells. Bear grease protected the skin.

Who (or what) moved into the neighborhood

HORSES: The Coeur d'Alene relied on walking and their excellent birch- and cedar-barked dugout canoes for transportation. But within a couple centuries after the Spanish introduced horses to America in the 1500s, the tribe was reported to be breeding them in great abundance. Horses allowed for buffalo hunting in eastern Montana (the buffalo robe was prized for its warmth), teepees (horses could carry the poles and skins) and war. In Salish, the word for war means "to steal horses." Chief Seltice said "Missoula" is a Salish word for ambush. Montana's Blackfeet and Crow tribes thought the land of the buffalo was theirs. French trappers would later report their amazement at the number of human skeletons found where the Missoula valley narrows to a pass between eastern Montana and the west.

FUR TRADERS: The tribe's territory was full of beaver, whose pelt was a prized trade commodity. Living in a bartering society, the Coeur d'Alene's trade involved year-long trips to the Pacific coast, introducing the tribe to steel knives, axes, guns and liquor. Iroquois guides and hunters from the east accompanying French traders informed the tribe of "black robes" (Jesuits with powerful medicine) and white men who would take their land.

SMALLPOX: About 1770, smallpox infected and devastated the Coeur d'Alene and other Interior Salish tribes. By 1850, a series of epidemics reduced the tribe's population from perhaps 5,000 to about 400.

THE BLACK ROBES: In 1740, Chief

Circling Raven had a vision of the coming of "the black robes," which was fulfilled in 1842 when Father DeSmet arrived with very powerful medicine. Many soon became devout Catholics. They learned to build cabins using new methods taught to them by Brother Huet. Chief Seltice bragged about tribal cabins as better than those built by any of the white settlers. They also, with the help and guidance of the Jesuits, built Cataldo Mission, the Mission of the Sacred Heart, completed in 1853.



PHOTO BY TOM SPECHT/LLHS

The Cataldo Mission today.

RELOCATION: Thinking it was impossible for the tribe to keep all of its original territory, worried that the white man would corrupt the Indians, and concerned it might be impossible to get justice in the American courts, the Jesuits believed the Coeur d'Alenes needed to consolidate in a smaller area. In 1877, Jesuit Diomedi and Chief Seltice began moving some to an area best suited for farming around DeSmet, Idaho. Others also relocated, leaving behind Liberty Lake and the surrounding area, the land they and their ancestors had occupied for centuries. These people included families from the Spokane Bridge Trading Post area (now Stateline), Tecomtee from the east shore of Liberty Lake, Peter Wildshoe with more than 1,000 head of cattle from the west shore, Quinmose with 3,000 cattle and 1,000 horses, and the Lake Saltese area, where Chief Seltice had more than 3,000 cattle.

On this new land, the Tribe grew potatoes, wheat and hay. Today, this is the present Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation, obviously just a small fraction of the tribe's original territory. While difficult, the honest and hard-working Coeur d'Alenes made one of the easiest adaptations to today's society, partnering with city, state and the federal governments in education, environmental protection, healthcare delivery and public safety.

Tom Specht serves on the board of the Liberty Lake Historical Society. He has lived in the community since 1985. Specht recommends several great books used as references for this article, which are listed with the online version of this story at www.libertylakesplash.com.

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A guide to Saturday's lakes conference — and why it matters to you

By Kelly Moore
SPLASH STAFF WRITER

Four lake associations walked into a bar, and what emerged is no joke. From an initial event held in a bar 11 years ago to talk about the trials and triumphs of lake management, a Regional Lakes Conference emerged.

“That’s where the idea was sparked to get all the local lake associations together to talk about what’s going on at their lake,” Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District Lake Protection Manager and Water Resource Manager Bijay Adams said. “It’s now geared toward citizens, lake residents and lake associations. It’s not a technical conference, and we’ve specifically tailored this one to be for the layman and everyday lake users.”

Approximately 150 of these laymen who already reserved a spot will be attending the 11th annual Regional Lakes Conference Saturday at Spokane Community College free of charge. While the event is now partly geared toward sparking ideas and looking for creative ways to solve age-old problems, it’s also intended to spark interest in others with only minimal lake knowledge. Not only does the LLSWD coordinate the conference, Adams said many of the issues should appeal to residents of the Liberty Lake community.

“It’s not highly technical,” Adams explained. “We drop out all the data graphs and scientific plots so it’s more tailored to residents. Somebody coming in not knowing a lot is going to be learning something and wanting to come back.”

Adams said he brings in speakers throughout the region to speak on varied topics, all of which others can take away new information and ideas. Every year, the program is different and provides new information on cutting-edge management techniques as well as hot topics in the world of lake management.

“You learn from what other lake associations are doing, and they learn from you,” he explained. “It’s kind of a give and take, sharing activity we have on lake management.”

As an example, he explained a particular lake management’s experience battling an invasive species could provide other lake associations valuable insight. This year, conference speakers will discuss everything from new technology to volunteer opportunities.

“That’s really what these conferences

are about,” Adams said. “No matter how knowledgeable people are beforehand, I think everyone will leave having learned something, and they’ll be wanting to come back next year to see what’s on the program.”

In fact, Adams said returning conference attendees are exactly what have grown the event over the years to its present size. Last year was the first time to reach the capacity of 150 ahead of schedule. Adams had to turn people away, and this year is following a similar pattern.

Adams sat down with The Splash to fill in what conference-shy residents might miss this year, and why they may look to attend next year. With a little imagination, travel through Saturday’s itinerary with the following summary of sessions and why Adams believes they are important to residents of a community built around a lake.

11th Annual Lakes Conference

9 — 9:20 a.m.: Sign in

Organizers have worked out all the registration kinks over the last decade to ensure a smooth process.

9:20 — 9:30 a.m.: Welcome

Adams plans to warm up the crowd with a shout out to sponsors and fellow organizers.

9:30 — 10 a.m.: Changes in the plankton community in Pend Oreille Lake in the last 150 years: A paleolimnological analysis

Paleolimn-what? Basically, this is fancy way of talking about a study of inland freshwaters — in this case, Pend Oreille Lake — by reconstructing how the makeup of this community might have looked in the past and changed over time.

The presentation is from the research firm Advanced Eco-Solutions. Adams said the session is intended to give a look at what lake associations really haven’t been monitoring long term.

“It helps you understand what you might expect to see in the future in terms of changes in the food web dynamics of a particular lake,” Adams explained.

The food web, he said, starts with the plankton community and branches out to reach fish as well as invasive species.

Why someone living in Liberty Lake might care:

“This could appeal to a wide range of people,” Adams said. “It could impact fisherman. The food web depends on what type of species will be planted or what types of species game and fish agencies would try to promote for recreation. Really, though, it impacts any and all lake users in terms of water quality.”

10 — 10:30 a.m.: IDAH₂O: Master water stewards serving Idaho through volunteer monitoring

The day continues with information on a University of Idaho Extension Office community involvement program. Adams said Idaho has implemented an intensive volunteer monitoring program. This presentation outlines that program.

Adams said similar programs have been tried in numerous local regions, and the Spokane County Conservation District

has a volunteer monitoring program it still runs.

“Volunteer monitoring is just citizens getting out and monitoring water on lakes and rivers or streams,” Adams explained. “In the Spokane County Conservation District program, they would go to the conservation district to pick up the equipment and they would set up their own monitoring stations with (the district’s) guidance and then collect the water.”

Volunteers also document water quality parameters and then report back to the conservation district. The information is then considered to be open-source data available for everybody’s use.

Why someone living in Liberty Lake might care:

A similar program has run before in Liberty Lake, though it fizzled out after public interest waned. Still, Adams said reviving the program isn’t out of the question and it could appeal to many residents looking for an out-of-the-ordinary volunteer experience.

“It might just appeal to those who

9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday

Location: Spokane Community College Lair, Student Union Building
1810 N. Greene Street, Spokane, Wash.

are interested in getting involved and like to do more than attend meetings — those people who like to be outside, involved and want to educate and learn more,” Adams said. “I don’t think they’re all very scientifically minded.”

10:30 — 10:45 a.m.: Break to thank sponsors

The conference has 27 sponsors this year making the event free to anyone interested in attending. Many of the sponsors are local lake associations or lake property owners associations, but others include businesses like Avista, Inland Empire Paper and Inland Water Pest Control and Consulting.

Every sponsor will have the opportunity to set up a table and, during the break, attendees can pick up more information on each entity.

See CONFERENCE, page 11

COVER STORY

CONFERENCE

Continued from page 10

Why someone living in Liberty Lake might care:

“We wanted to keep it free so that we could appeal to citizens,” Adams explained. “We’re really tailoring to those individuals who really don’t have the funds or desire to attend a large conference where registration can be \$300 to \$500.”



Did you know?

Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District’s efforts led to the banning of phosphorus in laundry detergents and dish soaps. The district also gives away phosphorus-free fertilizers in the spring to help mitigate nutrients that feed invasive species in Liberty Lake and the Spokane River.

10:45 — 11:15 a.m.: Do you know your lake? The Loon Lake Story

During the third breakout session, those who manage Loon Lake will share what they’ve done and what they’ve learned — their trials and triumphs.

The Loon Lake Land Conservancy was incorporated in 2002 as a non-profit corporation to acquire property and conservation easements in the watershed and oversee the property interests. It works together with the Loon Lake Lake Management Association to preserve watershed quality.

Why someone living in Liberty Lake might care:

“They have the management association, but there’s also Loon Lake Land Conservancy, and I believe they also have a property owners association,” Adams explained. “There’s a lot of overlap, and they’ve worked together to do a lot of things.”

Residents, as well as management entities may learn new ways to work together to protect the things they like most about Liberty Lake.

11:15 — 11:45 a.m.: Hayden Lake project — floating treatment wetlands

Adams said the Kootenai Environmental Alliance is planning to implement floating wetlands for uptake of nutrients in Hayden Lake within the next year.

The idea is similar to a floating dock with wetland plants floating inside it consuming nutrients in the water. Adams said they’ve been tried on golf courses before with some success.

Why someone living in Liberty Lake might care:

“That’s new technology that is coming forward, and everyone is interested to learn if that’s going to be a success or not and how it’ll work,” he explained. “If Hayden Lake is doing something like that and we can learn more about

it and it’s good, maybe we can try it here. That is an example of what I meant when I was talking about learning from each other and getting ideas from other lake management entities.”

11:45 a.m. — 12:15 p.m.: Lunch

Attendees may choose between veggie or meat lasagna and thanks to event sponsors, it’s free.

12:15 — 12:45 p.m.: Beaver as agents of water storage and restoration

The discussion of beaver populations throughout the region is planned as a sounding board for area agencies and residents to fully understand the advantages and disadvantages of the critters.

Adams said The Lands Council, who will lead the discussion, has also been active in beaver relocation and using beavers as agents for water storage.

“It’s something we all can definitely learn from,” Adams said. “There are other lake associations where beaver dams have blocked their outlets causing lake flooding. If you ask that group, they absolutely hate them. Then you have other associations where they are beneficial and doing things like restoration of wetlands — which is how they’re viewed in Liberty Lake. We might be more on the side of loving them.”

Why someone living in Liberty Lake might care:

“It’s a pretty hot topic and can be very controversial,” Adams explained. “This one directly hits home to Liberty Lake because we have a lot of beaver activity up here. ... There are some trees along the lake that have been lost because of the beavers. On the flipside of that, there are some residents who enjoy their company and what they’re doing for our watershed.”

12:45 — 1 p.m.: Dessert Break

It’s as awesome as it sounds — free assorted desserts.

1 — 1:30 p.m.: Update on Coeur d’Alene basin natural resource restoration team

Adams explained a restoration effort going on in the Coeur d’Alene basin to repair damages from mining activities.

Why someone living in Liberty Lake might care:

“We’ll discuss the role that has on water quality — not just the Coeur d’Alene river system, but also Coeur d’Alene Lake and the migration of those trace metals down into the Spokane River and beyond,” Adams said. “It’s in the Spokane River, so it does have effect on the Liberty Lake region.”

1:30 — 2 p.m.: Education and outreach needs assessment for the Coeur d’Alene Lake Management plan

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality will report on the results of a phone and doorbelling campaign where they gathered people’s perspectives of what they thought about mining and the Coeur d’Alene Lake and water quality. They also asked what residents needed or desired from the lake.

Why someone living in Liberty Lake might care:

“It’s always interesting to see those in programs because we’ve done a number of education surveys and things,” Adams said. “It’s always nice to get an idea for how people feel about things, and maybe we’ll queue in some questions we might want to use in the future.”

As the conference comes to a close, attendees will have time to ask questions, gather information and leave feedback for the next conference.

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NEWS

Kopelson selected to fill vacant Council seat

By Kelly Moore
SPLASH STAFF WRITER

The Liberty Lake City Council voted Tuesday evening to appoint local business owner Keith Kopelson to fill the seat vacated by Ryan Romney. He was selected from a pool of five applicants who were interviewed in the special meeting.

"We had a wonderful group of people apply and wish we could have them all serve ... but the reality is that we have to choose one," Mayor Steve Peterson said.

Kopelson, a father of four with 20-plus years of retail management experience, described himself as a family guy with deep interest in community and city affairs. In his interview, he said proper planning for future growth would be one of the most important goals for the city in the next 4 years.

"My personal position with growth is that it should be well thought out, steady and make sense," Kopelson said. "I'd love the city to grow, but it needs to be done



KOPELSON

with a strong foundation and in a manner the city can afford and the population wants."

When asked about availability for Council commitments, Kopelson said family and business come first, but a flexible schedule would allow for a full commit-

ment to the position.

"I don't believe people should be on Council if they can't make commitment,"

Kopelson said. "You wouldn't have to discuss excused absences and non-excused absences with me. I don't believe in absences in this case."

Kopelson first garnered attention at City Hall when he ran for position 7 last November, losing narrowly to Shane Brickner. He campaigned with the goal to keep Liberty Lake living standards high while maintaining financial stability for the city — achieved through proper representation of local residents and extensive research and evaluation of pending issues in front of the council.

In November, he described his first foray into politics as "educational" and "a great time." That sentiment was echoed Tuesday.

"If I don't get on the Council this time, one of you are going to run against me next time," Kopelson said in his interview.

Kopelson was sworn in immediately after the Council's selection. He will fill the remainder of Romney's term, which expires Dec. 31, 2013. Romney announced his plans to step down from his Council position Dec. 27, citing a lack of time for the commitment as a factor in his decision.

The other applicants interviewed Tuesday were Scott Simon, Lewis Valkenaar, Ashley Salzwedel and Wadie Elaimy.

The Council also voted unanimously to elect Odin Langford as mayor pro tem. Peterson appointed Langford, Brickner and Cris Kaminskas to the finance committee. Dan Dunne, Susan Schuler and Kaminskas were appointed to the public safety committee. Kopelson, Dunne and Josh Beckett were appointed to the community development committee. Beckett was not in attendance.

POLICE

Continued from page 6

Corrections arrest warrant.

• **Suspended license** — A 24-year-old Post Falls man was arrested at 11:15 a.m. Jan. 27 at Appleway Avenue and Liberty Lake Road for driving with a suspended license.

• **Identity theft** — At 5 p.m. Jan. 27, LLPD received a report of an identity theft, fraud and forgery complaint at the 22200 block of East Country Vista Drive. The complainant advised that an unknown suspect had obtained his personal information and through falsified documents was able to transfer approximately \$98,000 in funds from the complainant's account to an account in South Korea. The complainant

didn't know how his personal information was compromised. The case was assigned to Bourgeois for follow-up investigation.

• **Suspended license** — A 30-year-old Spokane Valley man was arrested at 8:50 p.m. Jan. 27 at Appleway Avenue and Barker Road for driving with a suspended license.

• **Car vs. pedestrian** — At 10:50 p.m. Jan. 28, LLPD Drug Recognition Expert Mike Thomas was requested to assist the Spokane Police Department with a car vs. pedestrian accident at West Buckeye Avenue and North Wall Street. The pedestrian was transported to the hospital in serious condition. The driver of the vehicle was taken into custody for vehicular assault.

• **Drug possession** — An 18-year-old Otis Orchards man

was arrested at 11:30 a.m. Jan. 28 at Liberty Lake Road and Interstate 90 for possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. The vehicle was initially stopped for a license plate violation. When the driver opened the glove box to retrieve his registration, the officer observed a glass smoking device typically used for ingesting marijuana. The officer asked for the driver to hand him the marijuana pipe. The driver handed the pipe to the officer and the officer observed that the pipe contained burned marijuana. The driver was arrested for the possession of drug paraphernalia. The driver also told the officer that there was more marijuana in the vehicle under the driver's seat. The officer recovered a plastic bag containing suspected marijuana from under the driver's seat. The driver was issued criminal citations for the violations.

• **Unwanted restaurant patron** — At 8:30 p.m., LLPD was dispatched to the 1300 block of North Liberty Lake Road for

a panhandler inside a restaurant asking patrons for money. The complainant reported the subject had been in several times earlier in the day and wanted the subject trespassing from the business. Officers contacted the subject and transported him out of the area.

• **Malicious mischief** — A 46-year-old Liberty Lake man was arrested at 6:15 p.m. Jan. 29 at the 24800 block of Maxwell Avenue for domestic violence malicious mischief. Officers were dispatched to the area for a report of a domestic violence incident. During an argument, the man reportedly broke his girlfriend's computer. The man was booked into county jail.

• **Malicious mischief** — At 11:30 a.m. Jan. 29, LLPD received a report of a malicious mischief incident that occurred sometime during the previous evening in the area of Molter Road and East Valleyway Avenue. During the evening, unknown subjects spray-painted street signs along Valleyway, the LLSWD building

on Valleyway, the Pavillion Park sign next to the entrance off Molter Road and a section of fence across from Pavillion Park. Spray paint cans and lids were recovered and are being submitted to the crime lab for print analysis. Police are also reviewing video surveillance footage from Pavillion Park. The case has been assigned to Bourgeois. Anyone with information is encouraged to call Bourgeois at 755-1142.

Calls for service

Agency assist	2
Alarm	1
Assault	1
Burglary	1
Citizen assist	3
Citizen dispute	2
Forgery	1
Domestic violence	1
Drug possession	1
Fraud	1
Fugitive	1
Malicious mischief	1
Traffic accident	1
Traffic offense	6
Vehicle prowl	1
Violating court order	1

Citations

Violation of court order	1
Licenses and plates required	1
Failure to register vehicle	1
License registration carried	1
Driving while license suspended	7
Liability insurance	8
No mirrors	1
Speeding	8
Use of cell phone	2
Possession of marijuana	1
Possession of paraphernalia	1
Malicious mischief	1



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NEWS/PROFILES

CVSD levy debate heats up with opposition group

By Kelly Moore
SPLASH STAFF WRITER

Ballots sent out to Central Valley School District voters last week weren't the only levy-related items landing in the mailbox. Alongside informational literature from the district and "vote yes" yard signs and advertisements, a "vote no" campaign of bright yellow flyers and ads has also appeared.

The group organizing against the levy — and other levies throughout the county — is the Citizens for Responsible Taxation. According to the group's website, it "formed to

If you go ...

Central Valley School District's final two informational forums before the levy vote:

- 6:30 p.m. tonight (Feb. 2) at Liberty Lake Elementary School
- 6:30 p.m. Feb. 9 at University High School

thoroughly review, objectively question and clarify for all interested parties all proposed taxes on our property and income and support only those we can affirm and justify."

The same group opposed CVSD's failed bond campaign last February.

The flyers oppose the district's three-year levy, which is expected to generate \$27.1 million a year for the Central Valley School District, calling it an "excess."

According to the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission registration records for political action committees, the group lists John Beal as the campaign manager, Marilyn Montgomery as treasurer and Elvin D. Alton as president. Since forming, the group has raised \$33,395.21, of which

\$32,150 came from Alton, the former owner of Alton's Tires and a Liberty Lake resident.

Levy supporters from the "Vote Yes" campaign have responded with ramped up doorbell efforts in Central Valley neighborhoods.

Levy funds account for about 24 percent of the CVSD budget, funding educational programs, utilities and insurance, extra and co-curricular activities and bus transportation. The current levy, approved by voters in 2009 is set to expire at the end of this year. Ballots will be counted Feb. 14.

PLOWING

Continued from page 2

on us in a very short time. We didn't get off the main roads for 12 or 14 hours. After it slowed down, we did residential streets, then turned around and went right back to the main roads.

Mike: We're coming from Newman Lake, so we usually start at Harvard Road at the city limits and work our way in from there.

Q: Are there any challenges you face when plowing in Liberty Lake?

A: Mike: Traffic and wind are always issues for us.

Rich: The wind creates drifting on streets like Molter Road. We'll have to come back every 45 minutes or so to keep plowing because the wind blows snow back into the roadway. It comes off the schools and the golf courses. But it's a high priority to keep that area open because of the school, so it's definitely challenging. We also see drifts on Harvard Road and Country Vista Drive. This last snow we didn't have any wind, so it was pretty simple.

Q: When people have places to go, I think snow days can be particularly frustrating when waiting for the plows to reach particular areas. I know it's a challenge, but do you ever get positive feedback?

A: Rich: Yeah, I think we've had positive comments. Probably no comment is a good sign. Really, we usually have everyone plowed within 7 to 8 hours after the snow quits, or after we get started. When you look at neighboring cities and how long it takes to get things plowed there, that's not a bad deal.

Q: What do you guys do during winters like this when there isn't much snow to keep you busy?

A: Rich: Well, we own a small construction company, and we do excavation work. If we aren't doing dirt work, we're working on equipment or bidding jobs to get ready for spring.

Q: Have you had time to work on any new plowing techniques? Maybe a top-

secret move to prevent the dreaded end-of-the-driveway snow berm?

A: Rich: (laughing) That is still under planning, so to speak.

Q: Honestly though, is it even possible to avoid that?

A: Rich: Unfortunately, no. Everybody gets a berm.

Mike: Free berms!

Q: Have you ever found interesting stuff in the road while you were plowing?

A: Rich: I can't remember anything out of the ordinary, but I do see a good amount of sleds. Kids leave them out in the road. The kids usually play on the cul-de-sacs and then leave their sleds out, so they get piled into everything. I'm sure they find them in the spring when the big berms thaw out.

Q: Is there anything people can do to make your job easier?

A: Mike: Moving cars and basketball hoops out of the street helps more than anything.

Rich: That's probably the biggest thing for us. Trying to negotiate around cars is extremely difficult. I think you'll find that with many municipalities, like in Spokane, they tow them. It makes things tight, and it's hard for us to make sure we can keep the roads open.

Mike: Usually when you get one or two cars, we're only able to plow an area about one lane wide. When you can get it out to the curb on either side, it makes it better for everybody.

Q: What is one thing you wish people understood about the plowing process?

A: Rich: It's hard to explain, but we have 90 miles of road to take care of, and we can't take the snow with us magically. We have to keep the roads open for emergency vehicles, and the only efficient way to do that is to plow it off to the sides. We're not trying to make extra work for anyone.

Q: So are you guys praying for more snow?

A: Rich: Sure, but the way things are going this year I think we're on a downhill slide to spring. If we plow once more, I think we'll be lucky.



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Bears remain unbeaten



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY BOB JOHNSON/SPOKANE SPORTS SHOTS

Central Valley girls basketball player Katie Estey drives past a Mt. Spokane opponent during last week's 57-35 win. Estey tallied 14 points in the victory. The CV girls remain the top-ranked team in the state.

THREE CHEERS



Cheer 1: Laci Rennaker, Central Valley Soccer

Rennaker, a defender for the Central Valley girls soccer team, recently earned second team all-state recognition from the Washington State Soccer Coaches Association. Rennaker helped the Bears to a 13-5 record and a quarterfinal appearance in the WIAA state tournament.

Cheer 2: Katie Estey, Central Valley Basketball

Estey, a senior guard, averaged more

than 12 points a game and knocked down six 3-pointers during the Bears two wins last week. Estey had 14 points against Mt. Spokane and 11 against North Central as the Bears remained undefeated on the season.

Cheer 3: Gaven Deyarmin, Central Valley Basketball

Deyarmin, a senior guard, had a game-high 19 points against Mt. Spokane, making seven field goals and going a perfect 5-of-5 from the free throw line as the Bears picked up their eighth win in a row.

Sports Brief

Key Little League registration date coming this Tuesday

Registration for the Riverview Little League is open online at www.riverview-littleleague.com, or interested participants can register at the group's next walk-up registration, which will be held at Liberty

Lake Elementary or Round Table Pizza at Sprague and Sullivan on Tuesday from 5:30 to 7 p.m. A copy of the player's birth certificate and proof of residency much accompany registration.

Registration fees can be found at the league website, and questions can be directed to 855-540-BALL.

CVHS Sports Roundup

Boys basketball keeps winning streak going

The CV boys basketball team picked up two wins during GSL league action last week to extend its winning streak to nine games. The Bears defeated Mt. Spokane 64-37 and North Central 75-61, maintaining their first place standing in the league.

Against Mt. Spokane, the Bears held a slight two-point margin through three quarters before blowing out the Wildcats 26-1 in the final frame to earn the win. The Bears were led in the win by Gaven Deyarmin's 19 points and Anthony Brommer's 13 points. The players combined to go a perfect 8-of-8 from the free throw line.

The Bears next picked up a win over North Central, outscoring the Indians in each quarter on the way to a 14-point road win. Adam Chamberlain scored 14 points to pace CV, while Beau Byus added 12.

Girls basketball remains undefeated on the season

The CVHS girls basketball team picked up two wins last week to remain perfect on the season and atop the state rankings. The team moved to 15-0 with wins over Mt. Spokane by a score of 57-35 and North Central, 67-31.

Against Mt. Spokane, the Bears led by eight going into the half before putting the game away in the third quarter, outscoring the Wildcats 22-6 to wrap up the

win. CV was led by Katie Estey's 14 points, including four 3-pointers, and Madison Hovren's 13 points.

The Bears win over North Central saw CV jump to a 43-10 halftime lead. Four players finished in double figures in the win. Brooke Gallaway, who leads the GSL in scoring at 18.9 points per game, had 15 points, Chantelle Fitting added 15 points on five 3-pointers, while Estey added 11 points and Hovren 10 in the win.

Wrestling splits two dual meets

The CVHS wrestling squad split two league meets as they lost to Mead 52-14 and defeated University 33-23 in the annual Battle of the Bone. The results helped the team wrap up the GSL regular season with a 7-2 record and second-place finish.

Against Mead, the Bears picked up only four wins among the 14 matches as the Panthers rolled to a victory and maintained their perfect GSL record. The Bears picked up wins from Blake Beard at 120 pounds, Colten Orrino at 132 pounds, Kolton Cole with a pin at 195 pounds and Dan Schoultz at 285 pounds.

Wrestling in front of a large crowd at rival University, the Bears bounced back from the Mead defeat and reversed a losing streak in the Battle of the Bone. After splitting the first eight matches of the meet, the Bears rolled off four straight wins from Kurt Beck at 182 pounds, Cole at 195 pounds, Lowell Kovacich at 220 pounds and Schoultz at 285 pounds to secure the victory.

Scoreboard

BOYS BASKETBALL

GSL Standings

Team	League	Overall
Central Valley	11-2	13-2
University	10-3	12-3
Ferris	9-4	11-4
Gonzaga Prep	9-4	9-6
Lewis and Clark	8-6	10-6
Shadle Park	7-7	9-7
Rogers	4-9	5-9
Mead	3-10	3-12
North Central	3-10	3-12
Mt. Spokane	2-11	3-12

Results

1/24 CV vs. Mt. Spokane	64-37	W
1/27 CV vs. North Central	75-61	W

GIRLS BASKETBALL

GSL Standings

Team	League	Overall
Central Valley	13-0	15-0
Gonzaga Prep	9-4	11-4
University	9-4	11-4
Shadle Park	9-5	10-6
Lewis and Clark	8-6	8-8
Mead	7-6	7-8
Mt. Spokane	4-9	5-10
North Central	4-9	4-11
Ferris	3-10	5-10
Rogers	0-13	1-14

Results

1/24 CV vs. Mt. Spokane	57-35	W
1/27 CV vs. North Central	67-31	W

GYMNASTICS

1/26 CV vs. Mead	180.9-148.125	L
1/26 CV vs. Ferris	161.825-148.125	L
1/26 CV vs. Lewis and Clark	148.125-148.075	W
1/26 CV vs. Rogers	148.125-110.075	W

WRESTLING

GSL Standings

Team	League
Mead	9-0
Central Valley	7-2
University	7-2
Mt. Spokane	6-3
Rogers	4-5
Shadle Park	4-5
Lewis and Clark	3-6
North Central	3-6
Ferris	2-7
Gonzaga Prep	0-9

Results

1/25 CV vs. Mead	52-14	L
1/26 CV vs. University	33-23	W

SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY 2

5:30 p.m. CV boys basketball vs. Rogers
7 p.m. CV girls basketball vs. Rogers

FEBRUARY 4

5:30 p.m. CV boys basketball vs. Ferris
7 p.m. CV girls basketball vs. Ferris

FEBRUARY 7

5 p.m. CV girls basketball vs. University at Spokane Arena
7:15 p.m. CV boys basketball vs. University at Spokane Arena

FEBRUARY 9

5:30 p.m. CV girls basketball at Mead
7 p.m. CV boys basketball at Mead

Splash Editorial

Levy merits local support

The folks behind the yellow ads and signs encouraging a “no” vote on the school district levy have a point — lots of them, actually — that will find sympathetic ears here in the conservative Fourth District of Washington state. A glance at the group’s website shows it takes issue with unions, administrative pay and really the course of public education in general.

They like to use the quote, “insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.” And it’s true, there are certain areas of public education where most of us can agree that large improvements can be made (though we rarely agree on the method to achieve these results).

The main problem with the campaign by the “Citizens for Responsible Taxation,” however, is that it is like starving yourself to make a point that should apply to everyone. We’re not sure where the line needs to be drawn, but it’s not shooting ourselves in the foot on a local level to make a point that really needs to be felt at state and national levels.

Local school districts, of which Central Valley is consistently among the best in the state, are tasked to perform one of a society’s most critical tasks, and they are mandated to perform a lot of it in specific ways as dictated by state and national laws and requirements. Many of these mandates aren’t even funded.

The local levy comprises a critical portion of our local school budget, but any perceived excess is not the result of a local school governing body run amok, but of national and state requirements the local body is forced to respond to.

Much of the fight by the Citizens for Responsible Taxation is being waged in the wrong arena. You don’t shoot your local schools in the foot — and in so doing, shoot your local economy and local community — to make a point that needs to be made in a different venue altogether.

Voting no for these reasons is taking the fight to the helpless instead of taking the fight to the bully.

Most are giving this group heat for using three-year numbers (\$81 million in taxes represents the three-year cost of the levy) and for calling the taxes “new” instead of “replacement.” Taking the argument here is a sideshow exercise in politics.

The real substance of the levy debate is that voting no hurts local schools. Don’t use your vote to make a point to the wrong audience.

Letters to the Editor on the Central Valley School District levy

I am a citizen who wants responsible taxation. I research to determine accurate, not deceptive, facts before I vote. Please divide the “Citizens for Responsible Taxation” campaign numbers by three. The Central Valley replacement levy is for 2013, 2014 and 2015. It is a vote to continue the current levy tax for three more years. The levy tax will only go up if our state government stops its contribution.

If the replacement levy doesn’t pass, 25 percent of the school budget disappears. There’s a high probability that music, drama, debate, athletics and other school activities will either dissolve or have an expensive “pay to play” price tag for parents. Bottom line: Availability of school activities is important. If they weren’t, then college applications wouldn’t have a section devoted to extracurricular activities.

If continuing to pay the levy tax for the next three years means extracurricular school activities continue to exist, then I vote “yes”! I will pay the additional \$166/year for the next three years if our state government stops contributing. I won’t be very happy with them, but this levy tax is a worthy investment in our children. Please vote “yes.”

Michelle German
Liberty Lake

“You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose.” — Dr. Seuss

As parents and members of a community, we care not only about our own children, but for all children. One of the most basic necessities for children to reach their potential is an education.

Our public school system has been giving children this stepping-stone to reach their potential and to achieve the American Dream. A good education gives all children, regardless of their socio-economic background, an opportunity to do and be whatever they choose.

I have been involved as a volunteer in the Central Valley School District and am amazed by the dedication and perseverance of the teachers, staff and administrators. My children’s teachers have not only inspired my children, but they have inspired me as well.

Please remember, this is not a new tax, it simply replaces the expiring levy.

Join me in voting yes for children.

Petra Hoy
Greenacres

We’re thankful for having such an informed, supportive community when it comes to our kids and schools. Though our grown kids have ventured out into

the world, they plan to return in time. They recognize that Spokane is a great place to raise families. We have witnessed firsthand the educational benefits and community support that lead to positive, proactive citizens.

The mind-boggling question concerning the levy is: Who are these people who make up “facts” and scare tactics to try to confuse people about the school levy? Are they just uninformed, or do they specifically collaborate to spread fear and discontent? If you feel you might agree with these possible curmudgeons, please check the real facts or, better yet, call our Central Valley superintendent directly. He will be happy to talk to you personally.

Important details that you should know are:

- This is a replacement levy actually costing less than you are paying now, when the state matches the funds.
- The state does not fully fund education. The levy pays for about 24 percent of our students’ education.
- The levy pays for teachable class sizes, extra assistance for students, programs for the arts, sports and much more.

As a kindergarten teacher, our students are just happy to be a part of “big school,” reading, writing and experimenting with crayon melts and oobleck. But let’s face it, when students get older, it’s the extra-curricular activities that usually excite them about school. Music, sports, art, technology, theater ... these may all be gone or extremely limited without the levy. Think about when you were in school, what do you really remember? Was it the endless pages of algebraic equations, the late-night essay writing (maybe it was), or was it the special people who were there to help and inspire you, the championship games, the award-winning arts or the excitement and pride in being a part of your school when something really amazing happened? We think these are the things that keep kids in school, excited and encouraged to go out into the big world and make a difference.

Please continue to show what you value and vote yes for the school levies.

Mark and Deb Griffith
Spokane Valley

I am an eighth grader at Evergreen Middle School. At Evergreen, we all need this levy to pass because our extracurricular activities make up our school. They allow us to get to know everyone better. Also, after-school sports enable kids to get outside and be active instead of doing other activities, such as video games.

Furthermore, I am in leadership class at Evergreen, and we are responsible for all the assemblies and decorating the bulletin boards in our school. If this bond

doesn’t pass, then the Central Valley School District will be missing some important activities that make everyone be who they really are.

J.D. Hauenstein
Spokane Valley

Having volunteered in Central Valley schools for the past seven years, I have been overwhelmed by the devoted teachers and staff. They work countless hours, well beyond the work day, to instill a love for learning and find new ways to inspire young minds. How could we even consider short-changing our children and their teachers with further budget cuts?

This is not an additional tax as some would have us believe. The levy simply allows the schools to function at their current level. Please vote “yes” for the levy.

Marianne Kartchner
Greenacres

How can your newspaper post an ad about the maintenance and operation levy for the Central Valley School District that is not true? This is a replacement levy; it is not a new tax as the ad states. The numbers in the ad are as dishonest as I have ever seen.

I would think your people would be better informed and know that these are bold-face lies. How can anybody vote against what is for the good of our children and our community? It saddens me to see articles like this in our community paper that are so dishonest.

Don Ressa
Liberty Lake

It’s frustrating that in today’s political environment, groups can make up facts and spew false images of reality. It’s even more frustrating that supporters of these groups remain hidden in the shadows behind the name of their organizations. It’s more like behavior of cowards than the self-proclaimed patriots and moral people they claim to be.

See **LETTERS**, page 17

About the Opinion Page

The Splash opinion page is intended to be a community forum for discussing local issues. Please interact with us by sending a letter to the editor or Liberty Lake Voices guest column for consideration.

Letters to the editor of no more than 350 words or guest columns of about 700 words should be e-mailed to editor@libertylakesplash.com or mailed to P.O. Box 363, Liberty Lake, WA 99019. A full name and telephone number must be included for purposes of verification. A photo of the author must be taken or provided for all Liberty Lake Voices guest columns.

The Splash reserves the right to edit or reject any submission. Business complaints or endorsements will not be accepted, and political endorsement letters will only be accepted if they interact with issues of a campaign.

Views expressed in signed columns or letters do not necessarily reflect the views of this newspaper or its staff. Editorials, which appear under the heading “Splash Editorial,” represent the voice of The Splash and are written by Publisher Josh Johnson.

OPINION

LETTERS

Continued from page 16

The group Citizen for Responsible Taxation is claiming that the CVSD levy is \$81 million in new taxes. This is simply a lie, and they know it. The CVSD levy is a renewal of a levy that voters have already approved. This levy is not adding any new taxes. There is simply no truth from this group called Citizen for Responsible Taxation.

Here is a challenge to anyone from Citizens for Responsible Taxation — come out of the shadows and let's debate this issue. I show my facts, and I can't wait for you to show yours. I realize that stepping forward to debate me will require you to break your anonymity, but if you honestly believe the rubbish you are mailing voters, than come debate me. I will handle the logistics for the venue, and all you just need to do is show up. We will identify a moderator that we both agree to, and equal time for both of us to present our positions to the community. All I ask is that you come prepared with verifiable facts. You can reach me via the Liberty Lake Community Directory.

Just so you don't get the wrong idea, I'm not in anyway affiliated with the CVSD, not a member of any education union, nor is anyone in my family. I'm a parent and a taxpayer who believes in public education and the truth.

Josh Beckett
Liberty Lake

...

It is imperative that the residents of the Central Valley School District vote "Yes" for this upcoming replacement levy. From a student's perspective, it would be detrimental if this levy didn't pass because it would cut sports, music, clubs and many extracurricular activities from every facet of the schools. It would also affect student's learning directly by cutting the funding that the district uses to provide for gifted students and students that truly need extra help.

The Central Valley School District is among the top 5 percent in the state of Washington, and the funding from the levy helps give students the tools to create a successful life and a successful community.

I'm not writing this because I will be affected by the results of this levy; in fact, I will graduate in four months and this levy won't have any effect on my schooling endeavors. I'm writing this because I have been educated flawlessly by the district, and I want to know that present and future students will have the same opportunities that I had. I know firsthand how important it is to pass this levy, so vote "yes" for Central Valley schools.

Brett Busch
Liberty Lake ...

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\$81,000,000 **NEW TAXES!**



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*SOURCE: <http://wei.secstate.wa.gov/spokane/archives/Pages/February14,2012SpecialElection.aspx> (\$4.19 per \$1000)



Vote **"NO"** on

\$81 MILLION in **EXCESS** NEW TAXES!

P.O. Box 31446
5428 S Regal St.
Spokane, WA 99223

Citizens for Responsible Taxation
Email: taxfacts@taxfacts.com
Website: www.taxfacts.com

Advertising deadlines

In order to be considered for the following Thursday's Splash:

- CLASSIFIED ADS must be received by noon Monday.
- DISPLAY AD COPY must be received by noon Friday.
- DISPLAY ADS (CAMERA-READY) must be received by noon Monday.
- INSERTS must be received at least 9 days in advance.
- LEGAL ADS must be received by noon Monday.

Placing classifieds

Classifieds must be placed online at www.libertylakesplash.com or in person at 2310 N. Molter Road, Suite 305. Ads are not accepted by phone, e-mail, fax or postal mail.

Advertising inquiries

Display, insert or legal ad inquiries can be made by phone at 242-7752 or e-mail at advertise@libertylakesplash.com.

Advertising integrity

Inaccurate or deceptive advertising is never knowingly accepted. Complaints about advertisers should be made in writing to the Better Business Bureau and to advertise@libertylakesplash.com. The Splash is not responsible for the content of or claims made in ads.

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Family of four in Liberty Lake have an immediate need for a part-time nanny to help watch two children, 8 and 10 years old. Please reply if you live in Liberty Lake, Post Falls or Spokane Valley and you have a flexible schedule and easy-going, caring attitude. Ideally you have your own transportation, can help with homework and don't mind jumping in where needed. To apply to the ad, please email Aliaboe@gmail.com or call Alison at 509-263-1547.

LOST & FOUND

Found- Expensive gloves Meadowood Golf Course at driving range near shore of frozen lake. Call to identify. 255-5505.

MISC. FOR SALE

Club Car 48 V golf cart from Circling Raven, ball wshr., split w/s, charger, cooler, \$2750. Will take most trades, buy now and pay in May, no interest, 999-8989.

For sale: Weslo Cadence treadmill. Gently used, great condition - \$200. Call 891 0958 for more details.

Golf carts from \$995: 20 used carts under \$2500. Gas, elect, 2 or 4 or 6 pass. Will take most trades. Buy now, pay in May with no interest, 999-8989.

Quality crib mattress, gently used \$50, 951-0506.

Solid Oak antique 3-drawer dresser with mirror, smaller size. Excellent condition, \$120. Please call 509-255-6196.

PETS

Adorable AKC registered Mini Schnauzer puppies 2 females left solid black 10 weeks, first shots, tails, dewes done, \$500. Call Kim, 509-230-2661.

Female Schnug Puppy (Schnauzer/Pug) 3 months old. Very Sweet. Loves to Schnuggle. Please call: 509-951-3809.

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STATEWIDE

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HEALTH/BEAUTY

PELVIC/TRANSVAGINAL MESH? Did you undergo transvaginal placement of mesh for pelvic organ prolapse or street urinary incontinence between 2005 and the present time? If the patch required removal due to complications, you may be entitled to compensation. Call Johnson Law and speak with female staff members, 1-800-535-5727.

HELP WANTED

DRIVER - Oilfield CDL truck drivers. Is your logging job at a dead end? Nabors Well Services could be your Super highway to success and a secure future. Jobs currently available in MT and ND. Our drivers average \$70K+ per year. Oilfield experience preferred. Class A CDL with Tank Endorsement and clean driving required. Benefits include: health, dental, life/paid vacation and 401 (k). Relocation bonus after 3 months. We hire only the best! A leader in the well services industry since 1948. Nabors Well Services nabors@snellinghouston.com, PH: 877-947-5232 EOE M/F/D/V.

LIVE-WORK-Party-Play? Play in Vegas. Hang in LA. Jets to New York! Hiring 18-24 girls/guys. \$400-\$800 weekly. Paid expenses. Signing bonus, 1-877-724-3713.

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LEGAL NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT, STATE OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF SPOKANE

In re the Estate of: No: 12400029-0
GEORGE A. KAIN, PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Deceased. RCW 11.40.030

The personal representative named below has been appointed and has qualified as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the deceased 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 of record at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1)

Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1) (c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and RCW 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate assets and nonprobate assets.

Date of first publication: **January 19, 2012**
Personal Representative: Shari A. Kain
Attorneys for Personal Representative: Terry L. Snow, WSBA # 00689
Terry L. Snow, PLLC
N. 711 Lincoln, Ste. A
Spokane, WA 99201
(509) 324-0100
(509) 324-0107 fax
Address for Mailing or Service:

SUPERIOR COURT, STATE OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF SPOKANE

In re the Estate of: No: 12-4-00019-2
DARLENE A. BJORDAHL, PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Deceased. RCW 11.40.030

The personal representative named below has been appointed and has qualified as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the deceased 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 of record at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1) (c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and RCW 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate assets and nonprobate assets.

Date of first publication: **January 19, 2012**
Personal Representative: Beatrice A. Heitmann
Attorneys for Personal Representative: Terry L. Snow, WSBA # 00689
Terry L. Snow, PLLC
N. 711 Lincoln, Ste. A
Spokane, WA 99201
(509) 324-0100
(509) 324-0107 fax
Address for Mailing or Service:

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- Buy and sell with your neighbors in a local marketplace
- Lots of free options (Anything for sale under \$250 is free, plus categories like Bulletin Board, Lost & Found and Wanted)
- Saturate Greater Liberty Lake in 6,000 copies, reaching more than 12,000 readers (industry studies show more than two readers per copy of a newspaper)
- Options galore — stand out with inexpensive options for color highlighting, borders, bold headers, and capitalized lead-ins

THE Splash

Index of advertisers

Delivered free to every business and residence in the greater Liberty Lake area, The Splash is possible because of its advertisers. Following are the local advertisers in this week's Splash. Please consider them when offering your patronage.

Amaculate Housekeeping	9	The Jacklin Arts & Cultural Center	4	Palenque Mexican Restaurant	9
Avista	5	John L. Scott Real Estate - Pam Fredrick	9	Sayre and Sayre	12
Casey Family Dental	5	Liberty Lake EyeCare Center	3	Spokane Golf Show	6
Central Valley Citizens for Education	15	Liberty Lake Veterinary Center	6	Spokane Valley Cosmetic Laser Center	12
Citizens For Responsible Taxation	17	Liberty Lashes	4	Therapeutic Associates	2
Family Medicine LL & Medicine Man	5	Life Care Center of Post Falls	9	Therapeutic Moon Massage	7
Fire Artisan Pizzeria	7	Mercedes-Benz	20	True Legends Grill	5
Good Samaritan Society Spokane Valley	13	Mukogawa Fort Wright Institute	9	Valley Young People's Clinic	9
Healthy Living Liberty Lake	3	North Idaho Dermatology - Stephen Craig MD	7	Windermere - Marilyn Dhaenens	13
Inland Imaging	7	Northern Quest Resort & Casino	3		

In Biz

Pacifier Fairy visits KiDDS Dental

On Feb. 4 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., children and parents are invited to meet the Pacifier Fairy at KiDDS Dental, 1327 N. Stanford Lane. The fairy will encourage children to stop using pacifiers.

“Continuing a sucking habit through preschool can cause social and physical problems and should be addressed,” Dr. Jared D. Evans said in a press release. “Our ‘Meet the Pacifier Fairy’ event is an opportunity for children to get excited about growing up and getting rid of their pacifier while educating parents on ways to help the process along.”

During the event, children will get to meet the fairy, hear stories about other children who have given up the habit and exchange their pacifier for a gift. Parents in attendance will be given advice for weaning their child from a pacifier and be entered to win an e-reader.

For more information or to register, call 891-7070 or email info@Grow-UpSmiling.com.

Palenque Mexican Restaurant tutorial explains online ordering

Palenque Mexican Restaurant, 1102 N. Liberty Lake Road, now offers online ordering for carryout and delivery meals. Orders can be customized and scheduled for later in the day. An electronic receipt is e-mailed after every order.

A two-minute tutorial that explains the ordering option can be viewed at www.orderpalenquefood.com.

Valley Chamber reveals award winners at annual Gala

The Valley Chamber announced the winners for Awards of Excellence for 2011 at the Gem of the Valley Gala Saturday.

Winners are: Small business of the year, Tracy Jewelers; medium business of the year, Baker Construction and Development; large business of the year, Valley Hospital; nonprofit of the year, Valleyfest; Chamber member volunteers of the year, Rick and Diana Wilhite of Safeguard Northwest Business Printing and Promotional Products.

Hutton Settlement was awarded the Community Caring Award, Sonya Hutton was named Ambassador of the Year and Chuck Stocker was named the Harry E. Nelson Citizen of the Year.

An awards committee made up of former recipients reviewed the nominations to choose finalists and winners in each category.

In Biz features Liberty Lake-connected business items. Contact The Splash with business news at editor@libertylakesplash.com.

OurTownZip holds launch party



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY GARY ROBERTO/GARY ROBERTO PHOTOGRAPHY

Rosa Swatzell and June Swatzell, founders of OurTownZip.com, clip the ribbon at an event last week at George Gee Automotive in Liberty Lake. OurTownZip celebrated a launch party and ribbon cutting for the website, which is marketed as a platform to connect local consumers and businesses.

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Six-pack muscles
- 4 “Huh?”
- 8 Slender
- 12 Speck
- 13 Ginormous
- 14 Last few notes
- 15 Good poker hand
- 17 Stead
- 18 Possess
- 19 Weapon collection
- 21 San Fernando, for one
- 24 Melody
- 25 Have a bug
- 26 Witnessed
- 28 Stickum
- 32 March 15, e.g.
- 34 Central
- 36 Bring to a halt
- 37 Bold
- 39 Roscoe
- 41 Regret
- 42 Conger, e.g.
- 44 Coy
- 46 Puts in the wrong place
- 50 Tatter
- 51 Help slyly
- 52 Vigor
- 56 Paddock papa
- 57 “My bad”

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15				16					17			
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21	22				23		24					
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46	47	48				49		50				
51					52		53				54	55
56					57					58		
59					60					61		

- 58 Writer Buscaglia
- 59 Despot
- 60 Dalai —
- 61 Tackle’s teammate
- 7 Aquarium fish
- 8 Eyeball coats
- 9 Pork cut
- 10 Concept
- 11 Manhandle
- 16 Piercing tool
- 20 Taste
- 21 Futile
- 22 Staffer
- 23 Sweet potato kin
- 27 Puke
- 29 Fight
- 30 Go
- 31 Ottoman
- 33 Less
- 35 Old man
- 38 Verily
- 40 Singer Brewer
- 43 Disinfectant brand
- 45 Chap
- 46 Spar
- 47 Wading bird
- 48 Antitoxins
- 49 Old portico
- 53 Spinning stat
- 54 Coffee break hour
- 55 Scuttle

DOWN

- 1 Billboards
- 2 Automaton, for short
- 3 Modern-day pram
- 4 Complains feebly
- 5 Embrace
- 6 Ottoman

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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

Solution time: 25 mins.
Answers

Answer

Spokane
Mercedes-Benz

Your Liberty Lake Mercedes-Benz Dealer Take Your Pick...

The 2012 Mercedes-Benz C300 W4
All Wheel Drive

Lease for
\$299 per month
for 33 months

When you own a competing brand*

we
belong
together

**JUST AS LOVABLE
AND MORE AERODYNAMIC.**



2 To Choose From

*Competing brands include BMW, Audi, Lexus, Jaguar, Porsche or Range Rover/Land Rover, Acura, Infiniti, Cadillac, Lincoln, Volvo, VW or Jeep. Qualified customers only. STK#'s CR202100, CA641242. 33 monthly lease payments of \$299. Payment includes all fees. Amount due at start, \$3,999 customer cash. No security deposit required. On approved credit. Offer expires 02/08/12

2012 GLK350 4MATIC

Lease for
\$299 per month
for 30 months

When you own a competing brand*

3 To Choose From



Competing brands include BMW, Audi, Lexus, Jaguar, Porsche or Range Rover/Land Rover, Acura, Infiniti, Cadillac, Lincoln, Volvo, VW or Jeep. Qualified customers only. STK#'s CF74978, CF822850, CF754587 30 monthly lease payments of \$299. Payment includes all fees. Amount due at start, \$3,999 customer cash. No security deposit required. On approved credit. Offer expires 02/08/12

THIS WEEK'S USED VEHICLE SPECIALS

Sporty!

2003 C Class Compressor Sport
#3A459256 **\$9,997**

Low Miles

2000 E Class 4MATIC
#YX031750 **\$14,997**

Certified

2008 E Class 4MATIC
#8B344499 **\$32,997**

Certified

2008 ML350 4MATIC
#8A405802 **\$33,997**

Certified

C Class 4MATIC
#9F308277 **\$33,997**

Certified

2009 ML320 BTC
#9A451505 **\$37,997**



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