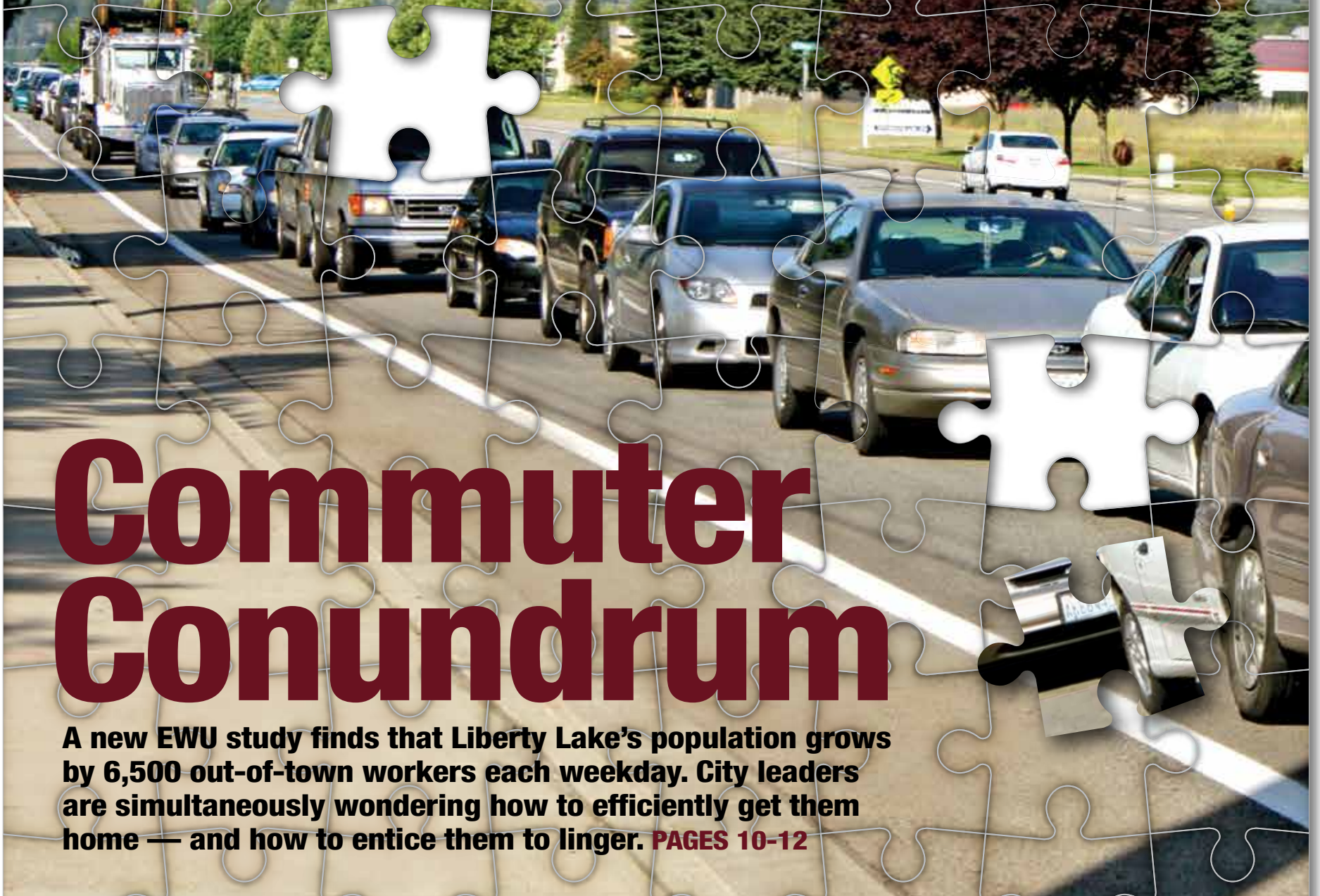


THE Splash

LIBERTY LAKE'S COMMUNITY NEWSMAGAZINE
AUGUST 2013

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Commuter Conundrum

A new EWU study finds that Liberty Lake's population grows by 6,500 out-of-town workers each weekday. City leaders are simultaneously wondering how to efficiently get them home — and how to entice them to linger. **PAGES 10-12**

LL REAL ESTATE
FLIRTING WITH
RECORD YEAR
PAGE 16



ZEPHYR
GENERATING
SALE INTEREST
PAGE 18



CRAY PREPARES
TO SPREAD
THE BLUES
PAGE 25



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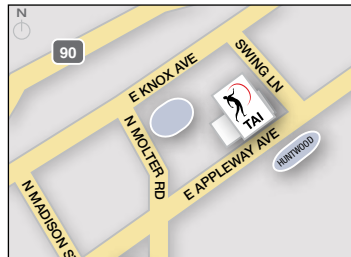
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Credit to the community

STCU CEO leads operations
from home base in LL

By **Craig Howard**
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

Walk through the corridors of Spokane Teachers Credit Union headquarters with Tom Johnson and you'll soon discover that he is a leader with a following.

While a smile and cheerful greeting may comprise the requisite salute of a CEO, you get the sense that employees at the region's leading credit union really mean it. Johnson, who took over for Steve Dahlstrom as STCU president and CEO in January 2011, is affable, modest and quick with a genuine laugh.

He rose through the ranks here, serving for a dozen years on the volunteer board of directors before joining the full-time staff as vice president of administration in 2006. From 1989 until his arrival at STCU, Johnson was part of the administrative team at Whitworth College (now University) with his final role that of chief financial officer. He is also a CPA.

Yet instead of rattling off credentials, the native of Illinois will tell you he has simply been in the right place at the right time.

"I was a lucky guy to land where I landed," he said.

Liberty Lake has been the STCU hub for the past 15 years, housing around half of an employee base that now hovers over 500. The credit union serves residents of Washington state and five North Idaho counties at a total of 16 locations. In his short tenure as CEO, Johnson has continued STCU's emphasis on financial education, community involvement, business development and innovation (STCU introduced online banking in 1997 when it was still considered a novelty).

Born and raised in the northern Illinois town of Rockford, Johnson attended the University of Illinois after high school, earning a business degree. While working for Young Life, a Christian-based nonprofit organization for youth, he went back to school to get a master's degree in business from Clarkson University in Potsdam, N.Y.

Johnson currently serves on the Greater Spokane Inc. board and co-chairs a K-12 educational roundtable that meets monthly and includes superintendents from every school district in the region as well as representatives from the business community. The role aligns with STCU's perpetual support of local education that dates back to its beginnings in 1934, when Ernie McElvain, a teacher at Lewis and Clark High School, launched the credit union on the second floor of LC with a shoe box for cash deposits.



A Cup of Joe

Newsmaker Q&A

Tom and his wife, Ruth Ann, have been married 37 years. They have three grown sons and three grandchildren.

Q. STCU had moved its central office to Liberty Lake about eight years before you came on board as vice president of administration. How do you like working in this city?

A. When I think Liberty Lake, I think of a delightful community in which to live, work and play. I think that term is used quite a bit by the mayor. It's well-designed, well-maintained and easy to get to. So it's a good place for us. At the point we moved here 15 years ago, the credit union had grown substantially from its prior days and needed additional administrative space. They were actually looking at purchasing land and building from the ground up over in the Spokane Valley Industrial Park area. Then, this building in Liberty Lake popped up. I think it was originally built by HP (Hewlett Packard) and had other owners or tenants. Egghead had been in here and had downsized substantially. It offered the credit union certainly more than enough space. It's a good site for our headquarters. Our employees enjoy the amenities in the community.

Q: You were quite successful at Whitworth, and I'm guessing it wasn't easy to leave there. What was that transition like from the world of academics to a thriving credit union?

A: I was on the board at the credit union for 12 years while I was at Whitworth. That's how I kind of came to know the credit union, the people and the culture. The transition was challenging in the sense that I was jumping into an industry where I didn't know all the acronyms. It seems all of our industries have all these wonderful acronyms these days. The credit union has its complicated features and nuances, and so I did have to ramp up pretty quickly on that. What I was comfortable with was the employment base of both institutions was quite similar. At the time there were around 350 to 400 employees both at the credit union and at Whitworth. Both are in the nonprofit realm. The way both organizations think about things and work on

See STCU, page 4



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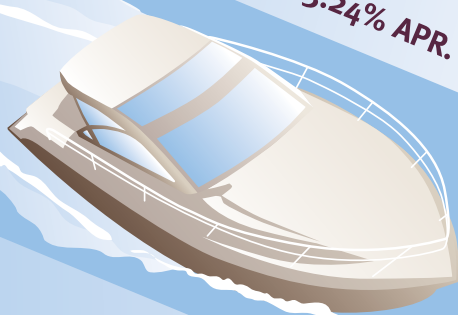
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NEWS

STCU

Continued from page 2

things was similar. Both organizations were mission driven.

Q: Speaking of grasping definitions, how would you describe the differences between a credit union and a bank?

A: The first difference is the structure, and by that I mean we are a cooperative, so every person who joins a credit union is a member and has a vote in the outcome of what happens here at the credit union. All 13 of our board members are elected by the membership, and we have elections every year. The board of directors is all volunteers. So we're a cooperative versus a bank that has outside investors who need to be paid for a return on their investment. We also save people money. The average household that is part of a credit union saves an average of \$100 to \$150 a year compared to if they were doing their financial activity through a bank. That's just from the savings in fees, better loan rates and higher deposit rates that credit unions typically offer. We also invest in our communities. We're always out the community. Last year, we supported financially about 250 different nonprofits in the Spokane area in one way or another. We try to lift our share.

Q: I think most of us have seen the STCU commercials that chronicle the credit union's support of various local businesses. You visited Washington, D.C., last summer as part of the Northwest Credit Union Association's "Hike the Hill" campaign to raise the ceiling on the ability of credit unions to grant business loans. What role can a credit union like STCU take in boosting the economy?

A: We continue to make member business loans. I think today our portfolio of loans in our marketplace is around 160 or so, representing about 10 percent of our total loans. We want to support local businesses. That could be anything from an individual or a couple who buys a duplex or a four-plex as an investment property all the way to something a little more visible and more business-oriented like the Towers in Coeur d'Alene. In terms of our activity in business lending, it continues to grow. We continue to try and be a source of credit for the local business community. I think we can be very helpful to the entrepreneur who



SPLASH PHOTO BY CRAIG HOWARD

Tom Johnson has served as president and CEO of Spokane Teachers Credit Union since January 2011. He and the rest of STCU's administrative team work out of a building on North Signal Drive in Liberty Lake that has served as the credit union's headquarters since 1998.

wants to start a sole proprietorship and can put in the sweat equity it takes to be successful.

Q: In 2009, STCU started a program called "Financial Relief Solutions" that provided credit union members with additional support and resources based on the tenuous state of the economy. Why was it important for you to do that?

A: It was a direct result of what we were seeing with the recession. We had members who lost jobs and weren't able to keep up with payments, particularly home mortgage payments. So, as a commitment to our members, we created this operating department we'd never had before and staffed with anywhere from two to five people over time. It's available to members to address their problems and, if necessary, restructure their loans. Since this has started, we've dealt with over 2,500 members. It's been really very rewarding to help so many people weather the storm and get their feet back underneath them. If our members are

having trouble, we need to step up and help them.

Q: What's your take on the local economy? Are things getting better?

A: The word is that it's getting better, but it's still slow going. Our track record here in Spokane is that we never saw the peaks or the valleys. It's just a more gradual set of trends. Employment's getting better but it's taking time. There's some housing that's coming back, we're seeing that in the real estate numbers.

Q: STCU is listed as the top credit union in the area with some 114,000 members and more than \$1.7 billion in assets. Is there any sort of danger that you could get so big that you lose that small-town, community-oriented approach to doing business?

A: There's always a danger that you're going to get off track, but I think we are very disciplined about putting our members first. We always talk about the heart we have for them. When you go into a branch, you know the people there are interested and care about you. That

makes all the difference. In our vision statement, we talk about wanting to be the most loved and valued financial relationship on earth. That sounds like a lofty goal, but that's what we're striving for.

Q: What was it like to follow Steve Dahlstrom? He was really an institution at STCU for 30 years, 20 of those as president and CEO. It must have been a little like being the head coach in Green Bay after Vince Lombardi.

A: It's always difficult to follow a very successful, long-term executive. Steve was very gracious in the transition process. He really invested a lot of time in teaching me. So, I was introduced to a lot of people and just put in a position to be able to learn and see how he was able to be successful. I give him a lot of credit for my own success in the transition. The fact that I knew the organization and had been on the board for a number of years, that was significant, too. I didn't come in as an outsider. We also have a great management team that does their job very well. My job has been to keep that success going.

News Brief

Lake to receive aquatic herbicide treatment in August

The Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District will be treating Liberty Lake with an aquatic herbicide to control Eurasian wa-

termilfoil during two treatment periods in the month of August, Lake Manager Jeremy Jenkins said.

The first treatment will happen sometime during the week of Aug. 5-9, with a target date of Aug. 5. Follow-up treat-

ment, if necessary, will occur between Aug. 19-23.

Lakeland Restoration Services LLC will post signs in treated and potentially affected areas up to 48 hours prior to treatment. The signs will describe any water use re-

strictions or advisories. A map showing the planned approximately 15 acres that will receive treatment is available through the district.

For more, contact Jenkins at 220-3419 or visit www.libertylake.org/milfoil.

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NEWS

Police Report

The following incidents, arrests, calls for service and citations were among those reported by the Liberty Lake Police Department June 24 and July 29. The incident report is listed in chronological order.

Incidents and arrests

• **One-vehicle accident** — At 9:30 p.m. June 23, LLPD responded to a traffic accident at East Country Vista Drive and North Liberty Lake Road. The driver stated her knee had hit the lever to adjust the steering wheel, and while trying to re-adjust it, she lost control of the vehicle, striking a light pole before coming to a stop.

• **Fraud** — At 4:48 p.m. June 24, LLPD received a report of fraud at the 500 block of North Dunbarton Oaks. The complainant reported he was notified that someone using his name and information had applied for multiple credit cards. There were also recent attempts through PayPal for the “bill me later” option through online stores including eBay, Walmart, Apple and Toys R Us.

• **Vehicle prowl** — At 12:56 p.m. June 25, LLPD responded to a vehicle prowl at the 22000 block of East Country Vista. The complainant reported property was missing from his vehicle when he went to use it in the morning. Whoever broke into the vehicle left a tool box full of tools behind. The items stolen totaled a loss of near \$900. The incident was placed under investigation.

• **Alleged dog bite** — At 6:55 p.m. June 25, LLPD responded to the 1200 block of North Eagle for a citizen dispute. The complainant said a neighbor’s dog bit his child. Upon arrival, the complainant reported the neighbor’s dog has in the past gotten loose and become aggressive with other dogs in the area, along with chasing the children of another neighbor. The officers inspected the child, who had torn pants and torn underwear. Fortunately, there did not seem to be any damage to the child’s body. Officers made contact with the dog owner and requested the dog be kept contained at all times. The dog owner was unhappy the child’s parent had threatened his dog’s life after the incident. SCRAPS was contacted and planned to contact both parties about the incident.

• **Dispute leads to pulled fire alarm** — At 8:28 p.m. June 25, LLPD was dispatched to the 25000 block of East Hawkstone for a domestic dispute. A man reported his ex-girlfriend had set off the apartment building fire alarm when he would not let her inside. Upon arrival, the officer noted the fire alarm outside the complainant’s apartment had been pulled. Residents of the building were standing outside in the parking lot, and a loud alarm could be heard. The officer made contact with the complainant, who reported his ex-girlfriend had given him a ride home, but

became upset when he would not let her stay at the apartment. After leaving and coming back several times, the suspect pulled the fire alarm in an attempt to get him to come outside. While the officer was talking with the complainant, the suspect called and said she was out of fuel and needed the complainant’s assistance. Neither the complainant nor the officer was able to get a location from the suspect. Charges were forwarded to the prosecutor for tampering with a fire alarm.

• **Assault on police** — A 25-year-old Spokane Valley man was arrested at 10:59 a.m. June 26 after throwing a bicycle at a LLPD officer at the intersection of North Barker and East Cataldo roads in Spokane Valley. The officer initially spotted the man traveling northbound by bicycle in the southbound lane of travel. He then entered the intersection against the red light and drove directly into vehicles entering the intersection, which had to swerve to avoid a collision. The officer activated his emergency lights and horn in an attempt to stop the cyclist, who turned to look at the officer multiple times but would not stop. The cyclist crashed his bicycle in the middle of the intersection, but then got up and threw the bike at the officer as he approached. The officer stepped back and ordered the man to the ground. The subject grabbed the bicycle and threw it on the right shoulder of the intersection, yelling. After multiple verbal attempts to get the man to the ground with him being uncooperative, the LLPD officer drew his taser and pointed it at the subject, advising he get on the ground or be tased. He would not comply, so the officer tased the subject. The officer then requested medics, and several units from Spokane Valley and LLPD arrived on scene. The suspect became increasingly uncooperative. After medics evaluated the subject, the LLPD officer transported him to the jail, where he was not accepted into booking due to his condition. The officer then took him to Sacred Heart Hospital, where he refused to provide information and was uncooperative. He was sedated after being increasingly volatile and combative with hospital staff and transported to a mental health area for evaluation. The suspect was placed in full restraints and, after some time, was released and transported to the jail by ambulance. He was charged with assaulting a police officer, eluding and resisting arrest.

• **Domestic violence** — At 10:12 p.m. June 26, LLPD was dispatched to the 21000 block of East Country Vista Drive following a complaint by a woman that her boyfriend kicked her. She told officers her intoxicated boyfriend became upset, went to their apartment and proceeded to back her into a corner where he yelled and

kicked her. The subject then left the apartment, taking her keys so the complainant could not get to work. The LLPD officer took a report of the incident to forward to the investigator, and made multiple attempts throughout the night to locate the subject but was unsuccessful.

• **Citizen assist** — At 10:21 p.m. June 26, LLPD responded to a citizen assist at the 1500 block of North Liberty Lake Road. A complainant reported two male subjects in their late teens were harassing customers, asking for rides to go buy marijuana and for money. An officer made contact with the suspects and advised them of the city ordinance against asking for money within the city limits. They then left the area.

• **Stolen flag** — At 5:30 p.m. June 28, a man reported the theft of an American Flag from out front of his home at the 24000 block of East Marti. Upon arrival, the victim reported the American Flag had been stolen from the front of his home. There were no witnesses and no evidence as to who may have taken the flag.

• **Hit and run** — At 5:53 p.m. June 28, LLPD was dispatched to Mission and Harvard for a hit and run. Upon arrival, it was reported that the victim’s vehicle was hit after a Subaru tried to cut him off. The driver of the Subaru fled the scene at a high rate of speed. There were witnesses to the hit and run, and the incident was placed under investigation.

• **Runaway** — At 8:43 p.m. June 30, LLPD contacted four hitchhikers at the intersection of East Appleway Avenue and North Liberty Lake Road. They said they were on their way to the “Rainbow Festival” in Montana. After checking identification, the officer learned one of the subjects was a runaway out of Portland, Ore. The officer detained the subject until contact was made with the parent. The subject was picked up by a family member.

• **Fatal motorcycle accident** — At 1:27 a.m. July 4, LLPD was dispatched to the corner of East Mission and North Signal roads where a motorcycle accident left a man with no signs of life. The man was identified later as Matthew L. Jones, 45, of Rathdrum, and he died from blunt trauma to the head, according to a report from the Spokane County Medical Examiner’s office.

• **Wallet found, returned** — At 10:41 a.m. July 5, a wallet containing \$617 was brought into the LLPD that had been found in Pavilion Park during the Fourth of July celebration. The wallet was returned to its owner.

• **Theft** — At 12:05 p.m. July 8, LLPD was dispatched to the 22000 block of East Valleyway for a theft. The complainant reported several guns had been stolen from his home. Upon arrival, the officer learned the complainant was in the process of moving and had hired help through

Calls for service

Reported by the Liberty Lake Police Department June 24-July 29

Alarm	16
Animal problem	1
Assault	3
Citizen assist	4
Citizen dispute	2
Custodial interference	1
Deceased person	1
Domestic violence	1
DUI	9
Family fight	2
Fraud	2
Harassment	2
Juvenile problem	2
Juvenile runaway	1
Littering/pollution	1
Lost or found property	7
Malicious mischief	2
Property theft	5
Suspicious person/circumstance	6
Threatening	1
Threatening accident	7
Traffic offense	31
Vehicle prowl	3
Welfare check	5

Citations

Reported by the Liberty Lake Police Department June 24-July 29

Defective muffler	5
Driving with wheels off road	2
Driving without license/ID	2
DUI	9
DWLS	33
Expired registration	6
Failure to obey traffic control	1
Failure to signal	1
Failure to stop/yield	10
Failure to wear safety belt	1
Furnishing liquor to minor	1
Hit and run	1
Illegal use of studded tires	1
Impeding traffic	1
Improper pass on left	1
Liability insurance	24
Minor in possession of alcohol	10
Parking in no parking zone	1
Possession of drug paraphernalia	1
Speeding	30
Texting while driving	2
Transfer of ownership	1
Unlawfully riding on roadway	1
Use of cell phone	2
Violating intermediate license	1

Craigslist. Two male subjects were hired to help, and on the second day of moving, one of the subjects called and said he wouldn’t be able to help as he had been bitten by a dog. The complainant then noticed a bag holding three handguns missing from his belongings. After making sure

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NEWS

POLICE

Continued from page 6

the guns were not packed into a box for moving, he called to report the theft. The incident was placed under investigation.

• **Hit and run, DWLS** — A 23-year-old Spokane woman was arrested at 5:22 p.m. July 9 for a hit and run and DWLS. An officer arrived on scene and spoke to a complainant, who reportedly came to a stop when the vehicle behind her ran into the back of her vehicle. The complainant pulled over to the side of the road,

but the driver of the vehicle that rear-ended her pulled by the complainant's car and mouthed the words "I'm sorry" before driving away. No information was exchanged. The complainant was able to get the license plate of the vehicle that hit her. The officer contacted the driver, who returned to Liberty Lake and told the officer she knew she had struck another vehicle, but saw that there was no damage so drove away. The woman's sister, who was also in the vehicle, said the woman was worried because she currently had a suspended license and did not have insurance. The woman was placed under arrest

for hit and run and DWLS.

• **Stolen property** — LLPD arrested a man July 15 for second degree possession of stolen property, second degree trafficking stolen property and criminal conspiracy. The arrest came after police were dispatched at 2:30 p.m. July 14 to East Appleway Avenue on report of a theft. The complainant reported the tailgate of his truck had been stolen a few days earlier, and he had tracked down the suspect who was trying to sell it on Craigslist. The complainant pretended to be a buyer and made arrangements to meet the suspect in a parking lot to "buy back" his stolen

property. Officers were advised of this and asked to be present in order to make the arrest after the stolen property was identified. When the tailgate was identified, the officer took the suspect into custody. The suspect was questioned and told the officer he had no idea the tailgate was stolen and had only come to sell the property at the request of a friend. The suspect was then released, and an officer and the detective went to the friend's residence July 15 and transported him to the LLPD, where he was questioned after forfeiting his right to an attorney. He was arrested and booked into Spokane County Jail.

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NEWS

Council gets early jump on budget, utility tax discussion

By Craig Howard
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

With apologies to Perry Como and Bing Crosby, it was beginning to look a lot like Christmas — or at least Thanksgiving — at Liberty Lake City Hall in July.

While holiday ornaments and other signs of the season may remain stowed away in cardboard boxes for at least a few more months, the Liberty Lake City Council is beginning to address issues that generally emerge when a layer of frost adorns the practice green at nearby Trailhead golf course.

At the July 16 council meeting, Finance Director R.J. Stevenson provided a backdrop for the first public hearing related to the 2014 municipal budget — a hearing that drew no public response when Mayor Steve Peterson opened the floor to citizen feedback. Prior to Stevenson's presentation, Council Member Lori Olander presided over a workshop discussion on the city's utility tax, a topic that will likely receive its share of attention before the final budget is approved.

Olander opened her presentation by acknowledging the workshop would be an introduction to a more detailed conversation that will take place at the council retreat, scheduled for Aug. 11. She did emphasize that the governing board should consider the history of the utility tax going back to when it was first introduced and passed as part of the 2010 budget.

"As a citizen, my recollection is that it was temporary when it was put into place," Olander said. "The promise was that it would be repealed once city finances were more stable."

The 6 percent toll on phone, electric, gas, cable and waste management was installed at the beginning of 2010 but lowered to 3 percent for 2012. The city expects to generate \$662,000 this year from the tax. The funds have been set aside solely for street preservation in the 2013 budget, an idea originally proposed by Peterson.



SPLASH PHOTO BY CRAIG HOWARD

A traffic roundabout is scheduled to be built at this site on Harvard Road and the I-90 interchange this summer. On July 9, the Liberty Lake City Council approved an amendment to the interlocal agreement with the Washington State Department of Transportation allotting additional funds for the roundabout project.

"I think government will always find ways to spend money," Olander said. "The question I'd like us to ask ourselves is, 'Do we need this utility tax moving forward?'"

Olander conceded that she and her fellow council members have "spent money on great things" like road upgrades and the Liberty Lake Ball Fields but reiterated that "we still need to talk about the possibility of reducing the utility tax."

Referring to the city of Spokane Valley's 6 percent phone tax (with resulting revenue going to a dedicated road fund), Olander said the city would need to cut its utility tax in half to be comparable. Previous debates — which have included input from a utility task force assembled by the Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce as well as Liberty Lake-based companies — have included the recommendation of an approach that would lower the rate on gas and electric charges to lessen the burden on local businesses.

"My goal is not to say 'This is how it has to be,'" Olander said. "I'm not an expert. I

just think we need to have the discussion."

Council Members Josh Beckett and Cris Kaminskas spoke out in favor of Olander's pitch at the July 16 meeting with both saying they would like the tax to be eliminated completely.

"We need to generate revenue — I'm not disputing that this is a very real and valid concern," Beckett said. "But we told the citizens that the utility tax was going to be temporary. I'd like it to be gone. Economic conditions have improved. City revenues have increased."

Stevenson shed some light on a scenario that would include a budget without the tax in his mid-year report on city finances. If all remained the same on the expenditure side, the city would be facing a deficit of \$401,364 in 2014 without the utility tax in place. The shortfall would increase to \$549,134 the following year and \$768,668 by 2018.

With revenue from sales tax and permits eclipsing projections for this year, Stevenson said the city is looking at a surplus of \$488,310 by the end of 2013. Car and RV

sales have been the drivers on the sales tax side while other sources of revenue like wholesale trade and the municipal golf course — where income is exceeding expenditures by \$70,000 — have contributed to the windfall.

Looking ahead at the five-year financial forecast, Stevenson described the budget picture as "very sustainable."

The mayor opened the public hearing on the budget by noting that "it is imperative that citizens give us their priorities on the budget." He added that as the city grows, the city has a responsibility to provide municipal services that range from law enforcement to the maintenance of roads and greenspace.

"It's imperative that we maintain the place that people were looking for when they first moved to Liberty Lake," Peterson said.

There will be two additional public hearings on the budget in November.

After cancelling its July 2 meeting due to a light agenda and proximity to Independence Day, the governing board gathered briefly on July 9 to address the topic of additional funds for the Harvard Road roundabout project, scheduled to begin this summer.

The deliberation was necessary based on bids for construction of the roundabout coming in close to 11 percent above the estimates initially provided by the Washington Department of Transportation. However, on Tuesday, City Administrator Katy Allen acknowledged that city had not been aware that the original WSDOT numbers "included construction estimates only, not the complete buildout, fully loaded."

State sales tax, a construction management fee, state overhead and a 4 percent construction contingency were all absent in the first interlocal agreement. The lowest responsible bid of \$1,217,332.08 was filed by the Wm. Winkler Co., based in Newman Lake.

See **COUNCIL**, page 9



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NEWS

IN THE BOOKS, ON THE DOCKET

A look back and ahead at business conducted by the Liberty Lake City Council

By Craig Howard
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

In the books (July)

- Council heard a report from Rich Goates, assistant general counsel for Vivint Inc., who said the company's first 30 hires are now in place. Goates said Vivint is anticipating bringing on between a total of 400 to 600 employees over the next 16 to 18 months, with 98 percent of those jobs being in telesales. Goates, one of three Vivint administrators to relocate to Liberty Lake, added that the renovation of the former Safeco Insurance building is still under way, and the first shift for the initial workforce will run from 1 to 8 p.m.

- City Administrator Katy Allen said a salary commission will be evaluating the pay structure for mayor and council positions with a recommendation to be filed in time for consideration in the 2014 budget. Pay for both mayor and council has not changed since Liberty Lake was incorporated in 2001. The salary commission held its first meeting at City Hall on July 25.

- Allen confirmed the city was left out of the state grant awards for the town square project on 6.4 acres near the site of the Liberty Lake Farmers Market. A total of \$86 million was awarded from a list that included \$163 million in requests. Allen added that the city has received 95 citizen comments on the project, with 78 supporting the idea.

- Citing issues with utilities and right-of-way, Allen said the city has rescinded

its grant application that would have extended Knox Avenue to address some of the traffic backup that is taking place on Appleyway. Allen said the city is still pursuing a grant request to the state Transportation Improvement Board to help with safety and channelization improvements on Appleyway.

- Council unanimously approved a road maintenance project for Mission Avenue and Valleyway Avenue to Poe Asphalt Paving Co. in the amount of \$735,280.51.

- Also earning a unanimous vote was a contract to Burnside Contracting Inc. for construction of the Sprague Avenue Trail at a cost of \$235,144.08.

On the docket (August)

- Equipment for the Fallen Heroes Circuit Course in Rocky Hill Park is expected to arrive in late August and be installed shortly after, Allen said. The outdoor exercise facility will honor local veterans and eventually be part of the terrain at several sites, including Pavillion Park. In response to a citizen concern about a basketball court being replaced at Pavillion Park to make way for the feature, Allen said no decision has yet been made on placement of the feature.

An examination of the utility tax is expected to headline the City Council retreat, set for Aug. 11 at City Hall. The agenda will also include discussion on the Liberty Lake Ball Fields, ideas for an aquatic center and plans for the city-owned 6.4 acres off Meadowwood Lane near the site of the Liberty Lake Farmers Market. The retreat is open to the public.

- Citing a light agenda and the council retreat slated for Aug. 11, the governing board voted to cancel its regular meeting on Aug. 6. The next council meeting is scheduled for Aug. 20 at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

"We have the money, we just hadn't allocated it," Allen said.

The city will seek reimbursement of the \$61,159.13 from the street fund through the Local Infrastructure Financing Tool, a state fund that provides support for upgrades to roads and other infrastructure. Allen said the goal is to have the project started by mid-August and wrapped up by late October.

Allen added that there are no scheduled road shutdowns during the project outside of one week that will involve closing down the eastbound I-90 offramp. She said there will likely be four-way stops at the project site and also an option for construction crews to work at night when there is less traffic.

"It will go fast," Allen said. "It's not a difficult project."

COUNCIL

Continued from page 8

With the revisions in place, the total increase to the project rings in at \$173,594.13, shifting the city's share from \$497,565 to \$671,159.13. The city's portion will draw upon the Harvard Road Mitigation Fund for \$610,000 and the Street Capital Fund for \$61,159.13. Allen noted that WSDOT did contribute \$175,000 for design of the roundabout "and also managed the bidding process on their nickel."

On July 9, council unanimously approved an amendment to the interlocal agreement with WSDOT and authorized Mayor Steve Peterson to sign the agreement. The vote was 5-0 with Council Members Josh Beckett and Shane Brickner absent.



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SPLASH PHOTO BY CRAIG HOWARD

Vehicles form a daily procession along Appleway Avenue after 5 p.m. that stretches several blocks. The city of Liberty Lake is looking at a variety of approaches to address the traffic snarl.

City considers options to untangle Appleway snag

By Craig Howard
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

The slow train of vehicles — sedans, SUVs, station wagons, even a semi-truck — is crawling along Appleway Avenue on a Wednesday in July.

It is 5:05 p.m., and the trail of westbound traffic stretches nearly three blocks, past Signal Road and Liberty Lake's central business corridor that includes names like Itron, Altek and Proto Technologies. Motorists turning onto Appleway from side streets to the south face a perilous transition, dodging quickly to avoid vehicles heading east. Those coming from the north and attempting to channel into the one lane that leads to the westbound I-90 on-ramp can only hope a fellow motorist is feeling charitable that day.

"It's frustrating, and it's getting worse," said Brandon Hunt of Huntwood Custom Cabinets, located east on Appleway across from the Heartland Mall at Liberty Lake. "It's been an issue ever since we've been here."

At Huntwood, around 300 employees depart work at 3:30 p.m., with another 200 leaving at 5 p.m. Hunt estimates that roughly 70 percent are headed west.

"Some find that if they leave work right away they don't have to deal with the worst of it," he said.

Another ingredient will soon be added to the traffic jam as Vivint Inc. — now located in the former Safeco Building along Appleway about 50 yards from the intersection at Liberty Lake Road — is expected to build up a workforce of between 400 to 600 employees over the next year and a half. The resurgence of the Liberty Lake Business Park along with existing corporate pockets on Appleway like the Liberty Lake Medical Center, Meadowood Technology Campus and Liberty Lake Business Center appear to spell increased anxiety for Appleway.

"The traffic's just going to get worse once Vivint moves in," Liberty Lake City Council Member Keith Kopelson said. "I don't know how those people are going to turn left out of there to go east. It's

very inconvenient to make a lot of turns in any direction that you're coming from, whether you're coming off Signal and trying to make a left there or you're actually on Appleway."

Like a growing number of motorists, Kopelson has varied his driving schedule to avoid the bottleneck on Appleway. The diverted traffic has begun to create smaller problems at intersections like Country Vista and Mission.

Mayor Steve Peterson said the city should have addressed the dilemma on Appleway ahead of time.

"The issue is we weren't proactive over the last four-plus years," said Peterson, who was sworn in for his second go-around as mayor in 2012 after a four-year hiatus. "You have to be ahead of that power curve. You can't say you'll wait until the economy gets better. You'll be better off putting stuff in place and implementing it."

The city is now working on a grant application to the state Transportation Improvement Board that would support

safety upgrades, landscaping and channelization improvements along Appleway. Another grant — that would have helped fund an extension of Knox Avenue to the north as a means of transporting vehicles east while avoiding much of the Appleway snag — has been shelved until the city can work out issues related to utilities and right-of-way.

"It's funding, it's working with property owners, it's working on grant applications," said City Administrator Katy Allen on the push for the funding of Appleway and other city streets. "But it's difficult to get funding if you don't know what you're asking for and why. You've got to make the case that it's going to be safer, draw jobs, be more efficient, help the environment. There's a lot of different cylinders you have to hit on."

Allen said the city has not given up on ironing out the issues that stand in the way of extending Knox.

"Some of these employers, their workers are coming from Hayden and Coeur

See APPLEWAY, page 12

COVER STORY



SPLASH PHOTO BY CRAIG HOWARD

A study by Eastern Washington University business students found that most commuters to and from Liberty Lake do not linger in town to shop, dine or recreate after work. The San Francisco Sourdough Eatery on Appleway Avenue in the Heartland Mall at Liberty Lake is one local restaurant that is doing its part to generate business beyond lunch. Above, restaurant employee Elizabeth Aalderink (right) jots down a dinner-time order for a customer.

Employee exodus

Study finds commuters flee LL soon after work

By Craig Howard
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

First, there was “Skeddadle to Seattle.” Now comes, “Make a break from Liberty Lake.”

While Spokane County’s easternmost city might be known as a regional destination for everything from golf courses to a world-class trail system, commuters to the city are not tarrying long after the 5 p.m. whistle sounds — at least not according to a recent study by business students at Eastern Washington University.

At the June 4 City Council meeting, representatives from EWU’s Business Capstone program presented findings from a study that analyzed consumer habits of out-of-town workers commuting regularly to Liberty Lake. The research is part of retail incubator project being proposed by EWU.

A pilot study by students first examined the feasibility of an incubator program and was followed by a market study that explored consumer preferences through a survey of Liberty Lake citizens. Then, something called a “gap and leakage analysis” forecasted demand for local businesses by drawing parallels to a city in Western Washington with similar demographics.

When it came to the topic of commuters, the study found that roughly 6,500 out-of-town workers travel in and out of Liberty Lake each day. The survey — consisting of an online questionnaire — was designed to determine consumer routines and preferences in areas like retail, dining and recreational activities.

Students went to local businesses for permission to survey their employees — the questionnaire itself generally took between five to 10 minutes to complete. Many of Liberty Lake’s largest employers checked off to participate in the project, including Altek, Itron, Liberty Lake Portal, Center Partners, Meadowwood Technology Campus and Huntwood Custom Cabinets.

The study found that the vast majority of commuters to Liberty Lake hail from nearby locales like Spokane, Spokane Valley and parts of North Idaho. Males comprised nearly 70 percent of respondents

in the survey.

While those who facilitated the survey acknowledged that the data may fall short of an adequate representation (a total of 148 commuters completed the inquiry) and additional research needs to be done, the feedback indicated that the majority of commuters are more likely to go straight home after work.

While commuters do opt to shop at fast food, convenience stores and grocery stores while in town on a typical work day, the consensus from the research is the city is lacking a sufficient number of family-friendly or sit-down restaurants that are affordable and provide a setting for conversation.

Some dining establishments are well aware of the trends pointed out in the survey and have been trying to do their part to change things.

“It’s our biggest challenge — to get customers in here after 4 p.m.,” said Chareese Youngdell, co-owner of the San Francisco Sourdough Eatery on Appleway Avenue in the Heartland Mall at Liberty Lake.

Chareese and her husband, Randy, took over the restaurant from the previous owners earlier this year. One of the first specials offered at the business was a 20 percent discount for those who brought

See **COMMUTERS**, page 12

COMMUTER STUDY FINDINGS

An Eastern Washington University class surveyed 148 of the estimated 6,500 commuters who work in Liberty Lake. Among their findings:

WHERE ARE THEY COMING FROM?

As expected, most commuters live in Spokane Valley or Spokane, but some come from as far away as Reardan or Athol, Idaho.

WHERE DO THEY GO AFTER WORK?

A whopping 112 of 148 commuters (75.7 percent) responded they are most likely to “go straight home” after work, with 14.2 percent responding “run errands.” The eight remaining responses were split between “recreational activities,” “shop” and a single respondent replying “dine out.” The study noted that while this question reflected a typical day, more research was required into what employees may occasionally do following their work day.

WHERE ARE THEY CURRENTLY EATING?

When commuters do go out to look for food and drink, they are heading to the grocery stores (60.1 percent said “currently shop”), fast food (56.8 percent) and convenience stores (49.3 percent). These options far outpaced family/sit down restaurants (20.9 percent), although that category led the way among those who answered “would if existed,” as 19.6 percent indicated this.

WHERE DO THEY WANT TO EAT?

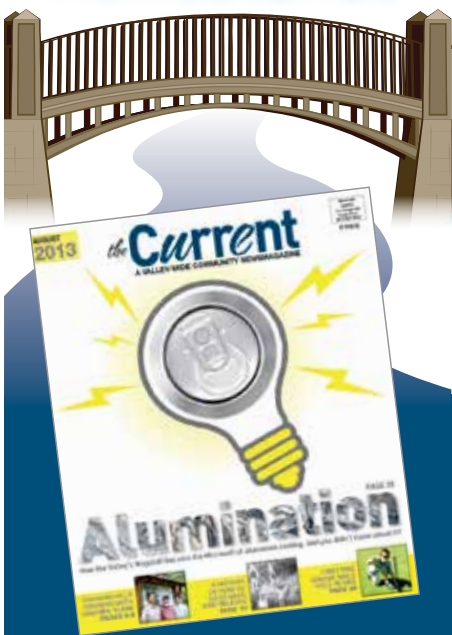
The commuters were asked what they were looking for in a restaurant, and “place to talk” and “affordable” far outclassed other preferences or niche categories such as “family dining,” “fine dining” and “sports bars.”

WHAT SHOPS OR SERVICES ARE LACKING?

The study asked about several types of businesses that could be attracted to Liberty Lake and how commuters would feel about patronizing those businesses. In the category of “would shop if existed,” the following categories received the most responses:

1. Sporting goods (28.4 percent)
2. Electronics (23.0 percent)
3. Boutiques (15.5 percent)
4. Automotive (13.5 percent)
5. Barber shops (6.1 percent)

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APPLEWAY

Continued from page 10

d'Alene," Allen said. "Let's assume 40 percent of your workers are leaving from work and going east. The last thing you want to do is put them on Appleway. It takes people that don't have to go on to Appleway and just frees up space."

At the June 18 City Council meeting, Council Member Josh Beckett described the situation on Appleway as "gridlock" and "a real mess." Beckett raised the idea of businesses staggering times when employees leave work to alleviate some of the congestion.

"It's becoming a real challenge, and it really hasn't gone anywhere," Beckett said.

Mayor Pro Tem Odin Langford was less enthused about the idea of approaching companies along the corridor.

"They already have their times they leave work," Langford said. "There's just too much traffic being funneled into a bottleneck. We've already reduced Liberty Lake Road from two lanes to one to go over the bridge. A remark about staggering the times sounds great but the com-

plexities of it are a different story when you have to go to all these people and talk to them about what time they want to leave work. I don't see that."

Tom Johnson, president and CEO of STCU, said employees at the credit union — there are around 250 at the headquarters on Signal Road and a handful more at a branch on Appleway — have learned to deal with the situation.

"It's a bit of an irritant depending on when you leave the building if you want get access back to the freeway," he said. "But I think most of us who are daily commuters have figured out a schedule that works. It's really not more than a five-minute wait. It moves through at a pretty respectable rate."

Peterson has suggested a more dedicated right-hand turn lane onto the bridge as a start. He also supports the idea of a right-hand turn lane for vehicles coming off the freeway onto Liberty Lake Road.

Hunt — who travels west when he leaves work but now takes Country Vista — said one approach might be to increase the duration of the green light at the Appleway/Liberty Lake Road intersection for motorists accessing the freeway.

Langford said the city might want to experiment with a traffic detail facilitated by the Liberty Lake Police Department, as long as it doesn't take away from officers on regular duty.

"I'm not convinced it would work, but it could be used as a trial," Langford said. "Make it a traffic detail during the peak times. Let them direct the traffic. We should have a lot less traffic going north on Liberty Lake Road in the evening. It seems that there would be a way to keep the traffic going north to Otis Orchards to a minimum and let these people on Appleway filter out and let the people going east off the freeway continue to go straight."

Allen said the city will not play a waiting game when it comes to addressing concerns on the beleaguered road.

"There are engineering solutions and there are operational solutions," she said. "I think going forward, that's what we want to tackle. The operational solutions would be things like signal timing, cueing, all of those things. On the engineering side, it's not going to be one thing, it's going to be many things. I just think we, as a city, have to continually look at ways we're going to improve it."

COMMUTERS

Continued from page 11

in a receipt after 4. The couple — whose son, Riley, manages the store — also extended the hours from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. The business previously closed mid-afternoon.

The sandwich shop is still offering a \$4.99 meal special (regular \$6.99) from 3 to 7 p.m. and has seen a slow, but steady increase in post-lunchtime traffic, according to Youngdell. She said one of the keys to drawing commuters and customers in general is "to become part of the community." The restaurant has been following its own advice, with representatives appearing at a City Council meeting earlier this year, pitching a tent at the Liberty Lake Community Yard Sales and offering coupons while the store was being renovated.

"You can't always expect your customers to come to your door — you have to go to them," Youngdell said. "If you know how to market, you know what your sales are going to be."

The Youngdells own and operate another San Francisco Sourdough site in Rathdrum where they live. Shortly after they purchased the Liberty Lake store, they went about refurbishing the interior, which now features 10 tables, seating for 40, plenty of natural light and the friendly ambience mentioned frequently in the survey by commuters as a sought-after trademark of a good restaurant.

"It's a good location," Youngdell said. "I'd say 85 percent of our customers now are from the area east of Albertsons. We're glad to be in such a unique and beautiful community."

While the Youngdells are proactively generating business among commuters, the study found that potential proprietors of tap houses, hair salons, dry cleaning establishments and dessert shops might want to look elsewhere based on the lack of interest indicated by survey respondents.

On the other hand, research showed that automotive service shops are currently drawing the best response among commuters willing to spend money in Liberty Lake. As for future retail sites with the best chance to succeed, the survey pointed to stores specializing in electronics or sporting goods. In stark contrast was the manifested level of commuter interest in local recreational activities — almost none according to the questionnaire.

The survey found that retail activity might be different if some sort of discount card or special offer coupons were part of the shopping scenario. A total of 64 percent said they would be interested in securing a bargain. The city of Airway Heights experienced success with such a discount card several years ago.

As for ways the city might help support local commerce, students recommended methods of increasing awareness such as a business appreciation day in Pavilion

Park, a weekly business flyer and stories and updates in a municipal newsletter.

"This has been very beneficial to the city," Mayor Steve Peterson said after the presentation on June 4. "It expands our understanding of what is going on and what we might be able to implement."

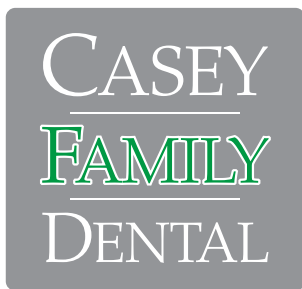
Students also advised that the city collaborate with the Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce — now with its main office in Liberty Lake — on strategies to better market local businesses. Eldonna Shaw, president and CEO of the Chamber, who was in attendance for the presentation, voiced her support of the idea.

"We'd certainly be interested in anything that supports local businesses," Shaw said. "We'd be very happy to work on a project."

Council Member Cris Kaminskas recalls bringing up the importance of supporting local businesses and creating new retail opportunities when she first interviewed for a place on the governing board. She said the survey simply reiterated what most already knew.

"We don't have enough of the right things here to keep people here," Kaminskas said. "I would much rather spend my money right here in Liberty Lake, but we end up going out of town a lot because there aren't the right kinds of things here. I think we have the people here, especially in an area like the River District. It's just a matter of getting people to commit to the investment."

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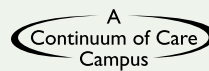
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NEWS

Real estate revival

LL housing market showing serious signs of resurgence

By Craig Howard
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

In 20 years of selling homes, Doc Williams has seen markets range from bleak to bountiful.

From 2008 to 2011, when real estate sales paralleled the nosedive of the national economy, Williams and other Realtors felt the brunt. The burst of the housing bubble — starting with record-high prices in 2006 to the severe plummet a year later — prompted a somber scenario that U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Henry Paulson described as “the most significant risk to our economy” in October 2007.

“It was the worst market we’ve ever seen,” Williams said. “It was very difficult for a lot of people.”

The downturn had a ripple effect on the entire industry, from developers to builders to those who supply the materials to construct homes from the ground up. On the financing side, the tenuous nature of sub-prime loans proved to be the faulty foundation of a crumbling enterprise. In 2008 alone, there were nearly 2.8 million home foreclosures filed nationwide.

These days, Williams is glad to be out of the shadows once cast by the Great Recession. As a broker with Coldwell Banker Tomlinson, his schedule consists of a steady shuttle between the West Plains, where Coldwell is marketing three communities, to the Legacy Ridge development in Liberty Lake, where Williams and fellow broker Karen O’Donnell are selling homes in the Parkside neighborhood.

“Things are definitely getting better,” said Williams, who has a genuine, good-natured delivery that comes in handy on the sales front. “Now, it’s really become a situation where we’re selling houses faster than they’re being built.”

While sales may be flourishing at levels not seen since the market tumbled, Williams said now it’s a game of catch up due to the void left when things went south.

“A lot of people got out of the trade during that time,” Williams said. “At the same time, people weren’t learning the trade.”



SPLASH PHOTO BY CRAIG HOWARD

Homes in the Parkside neighborhood on Legacy Ridge are selling quickly, one of several neighborhoods enjoying resurgence as home sales near record levels in the city of Liberty Lake.

Nationwide, 2013 has also been the most encouraging year for home sales since the bubble popped. In May, the National Association of Realtors reported that pending sales in the U.S. had reached their highest level since late 2006. Meanwhile, home foreclosures in the first quarter dropped to a low not seen since 2007. In June, the unemployment rate for construction workers dropped below double digits for the first time since 2008 according to the Associated General Contractors of America.

One entity benefiting from the resurgent market is the city of Liberty Lake. In the first two quarters of 2013, the city processed 72 single-family residential permit applications and collected just short of \$250,000 in permit fees. At the mid-year point in 2012, the numbers were good, but not this good — 52 single-family homes and roughly \$161,000 in fees.

The figures for the first part of this year set a new record in permit fee revenue since the incorporation of Liberty Lake in 2001 and fell just short of the all-time, halfway mark in single-family permits, set in 2007 at 75. In contrast, only 36 permits were filed in all of 2008.

“We expected the growth to continue in

this part of the year, but I don’t think we anticipated quite this amount of volume,” said Amanda Tainio, the city’s planning and building services manager. “The guys (Liberty Lake’s two permit specialists) are really running around over here.”

Perched on a slope in the south central part of town that was home to the Holiday Hills Ski Resort in the 1970s, Legacy Ridge provides a tranquil setting that features spectacular views of the Valley basin. Williams is currently selling lots in the Parkside area of Legacy Ridge where homes run from \$200,000 to \$350,000 — lower than the nearby section of Estates at Legacy Ridge.

The rancher — with its single-level layout — is the fastest selling home in Parkside, where the square footage of dwellings ranges from 1,250 to 3,000.

“It’s more difficult to find ranchers these days,” said Williams. “There were so many multi-level homes built in the last 30 years. I talk to a lot of people who want to get away from stairs.”

Whether they are seniors looking to downsize or a family seeking a newer home away from traffic, those who move into a new neighborhood like Legacy Ridge quickly discover a sense of community, Williams

BY THE NUMBERS

72 Number of single-family residential permit applications in the city of Liberty Lake in the first six months of 2013

52 The number for the same period in 2012

75 The city of Liberty Lake record for the same period, set in 2007

36 The number of permit applications in 2008 — for the entire year

said. Residents held their annual neighborhood party in July, and amenities like walking trails and a 7-acre swathe of greenspace add to the communal atmosphere.

“People have just moved here, so everyone is pretty much in the same boat,” Williams said.

See HOUSING, page 17

NEWS

HOUSING

Continued from page 16

The emphasis on integrating parks, trails and open space into the residential grid of Liberty Lake is a theme that goes back to the mid-1970s and a developer named Bill Main Sr. Jim Frank, owner of Greenstone Homes, carried on the vision with developments like Meadowwood and Rocky Hill.

“I think to Greenstone’s credit, they’ve always talked about what makes sense for a community,” said Liberty Lake Mayor Steve Peterson. “The trail system and the parks make sense. When you look at the housing market, I think the biggest thing that drives it is place. Where are you at? And why are you there? We have the parks, the trails, the lake, close proximity to a freeway system that connects to all the other areas. Place, I think, has been the big thing in Liberty Lake.”

Drew Benado, building division manager for Greenstone, said the company has found success in Liberty Lake in part because Frank understands what it takes to “create the fabric of a community.”

“It’s not enough to just build homes, parks and trails,” Benado said. “Jim has been instrumental in the development of programs like Friends of Pavillion Park that sponsors events and activities that get people out of their homes.”

Benado says he is “cautiously optimistic” about the latest comeback of the housing industry, emphasizing “there are a lot of external factors that go into the market,” such as interest rates that are already beginning to climb.

“I will say that consumer confidence is coming back into the market,” Benado said.

During the downturn, Greenstone diversified, building cottages and townhomes in the Rocky Hill area that Benado said were part of the company’s “emphasis on creating different price points to appeal to a diverse economic demographic.”

Peterson, who has lived in the Spokane area since 1975 and in Liberty Lake since 1998, said builders have adjusted to a changing market over the years.

“We now have a different mix of housing in Liberty Lake,” the mayor said. “We have a distinctive mix of product that’s available. Along the way, the builders here looked at what the market wanted and they built to that. So, you have a lot of houses that are now one level, you have homes that are more affordable. You have a number of apartment buildings that came in.”

From Spokane to North Idaho, Greenstone is now building in 10 different communities as it celebrates its 30th anniversary. While Benado estimates that Rocky Hill will be built out within the next five to seven years, River District to the west is just starting up.

“I’d say River District is only about 15



SPLASH PHOTOS BY CRAIG HOWARD

While larger, multi-level homes, like this one being constructed on Legacy Ridge, are still finding buyers, ranch-style homes are particularly in demand, said Realtor Doc Williams of Coldwell Banker Tomlinson. “I talk to a lot of people who want to get away from stairs,” he said.

Responsible for many of the homes already built in Liberty Lake, Greenstone Homes continues to build in neighborhoods such as Rocky Hill (pictured) and the River District. While Rocky Hill may be built out in the next five or so years, the River District is only about 15 percent built out, said Drew Benado, Greenstone’s building division manager.



percent built out right now,” said Benado. “It’s another area that has lot of different housing products.”

One of those areas — Orchard Place — includes a “maintenance-free” feature for homeowners that ensures yards remain manicured throughout the year.

“The goal is to maintain a consistent look and guidelines within the community,” Benado said. “You’re going to see those home values stay up if people care about where they live.”

When it comes to cultivating home and property values, Liberty Lake City Administrator Katy Allen points to an effort that includes most residents of the city under its umbrella.

Allen, who has lived in Liberty Lake for nearly 30 years, said the priority on upkeep within neighborhoods has been sustained by the collection of dedicated homeowner

associations throughout the city. HOAs act as an additional layer of accountability separate from municipal government, overseeing the maintenance of amenities that can include landscaping, trees, streets, fencing and more.

“We’re fortunate that we have homeowner associations,” Allen said. “The residents appreciate the effort that HOAs have put into their green and common areas. I think they have made the difference. If you build in an urban environment without an HOA, a city would be stretched financially to provide the level of services you see here. It’s what I call ‘the detail,’ it’s that extra attention that most cities aren’t able to provide.”

While homeowner associations are doing their part to preserve quality neighborhoods in Liberty Lake, local builders also give the city plenty of credit for their role in promoting an environment that

welcomes development.

Steve White is the president of Copper Basin Construction, a Post Falls-based company that has a major stake in Legacy Ridge as well as neighborhoods in Spokane, Pullman, Spokane Valley, Post Falls, Sandpoint and Coeur d’Alene. White said the city of Liberty Lake provided valuable support when the company took a chance in Legacy Ridge after the previous builder, Black Rock, lost its property to the bank when the market ruptured.

“We faced some uphill challenges, and the city did a good job of helping us overcome them,” White said. “They work well with us and they understand development.”

Unlike the days when it was part of the massive sprawl of unincorporated Spokane County, Liberty Lake now provides residents with a dedicated police department, library and parks department. As a Realtor, Williams says he hears good feedback about the city from new homeowners and potential buyers.

“Liberty Lake is not a huge community, but it has the amenities of one,” Williams said.

Peterson — who has always promoted the idea of a “safe, clean, green community” — said the establishment of a city has meant “taking dollars and focusing them on what will benefit Liberty Lake.”

“If you go into a big melting pot, the money goes into the county,” he said. “Now the money stays here and is spent on behalf of the citizens of Liberty Lake.”

Like Benado, White is encouraged by the recent trends he sees, but holds off when it comes to sweeping exuberance about the state of the market.

“It’s way better than it’s been for the last five years, but there are still some challenges,” he said.

While foreclosed properties — listing at 15 to 20 percent below market value — may not be clogging the market like they once did, prices on commodities necessary for a home, like lumber and cement, have been increasing.

Joe Kramer, a Realtor with Spokane Valley-based Camden Homes, said the roots of the housing crash can be traced back to the dramatic inflation of prices of up to 15 percent in 2005 and 2006. The typical increase per year is 2 to 3 percent.

Camden Homes has built in both Rocky Hill and the River District with the blessing of Greenstone. In the south Spokane Valley area, Camden communities include Elkridge and Morningside. Camden’s owner, Steve Huttler, once worked for Greenstone.

“It was a long downturn,” Kramer said. “We’d seen them before but not one that went on for that many years. The market is the best it’s been since 2007. Housing demand is ahead of the supply — but it will equalize. Right now, there are a lot of opportunities for us out there.”

NEWS

WHAT'S NEXT FOR ZEPHYR?

Up for sale, owners considering options

By Josh Johnson
SPLASH STAFF WRITER

For the owner churches of Zephyr Lodge, it was time to “fish or cut bait.”

That was the message sent last fall to the Christian Church, Disciples of Christ congregations scattered all over the northwest that together hold the responsibility for owning and operating the historic facility located along a stretch of shoreline of southeast Liberty Lake.

The Zephyr board's chairman, Liberty Lake resident John Loucks, used the fishing expression when asking the churches to make a tough decision. They could either invest heavily into restoring the facility, or they could sell the entire property.

Fourteen churches wrote back. All of them wanted and wished for a way to hold onto the facility. All of them voted to sell.

Loucks said the lack of resources, an aging church population and a decline in camp attendance all factored into the decision. The lodge itself is 111 years old this year, Liberty Lake's oldest building by a longshot. Add to that 53 acres of hiking trails and natural amenities, and Loucks said he understands the responsibility inherent in passing ownership of such a property.

“We're open to what develops,” he said. “I'm a historian, and I

love nature. It's by far the most historic building in Liberty Lake, and it would be a shame to take it down. I think we have in our country too often torn buildings down and replaced them with buildings that weren't nearly as great as the old buildings. I've traveled in Europe enough to appreciate what they do. It's fun to visit a house that's 100 years old or stay at a bed and breakfast that dates back to 1500. That's wonderful, and I'd like to have this building maintained because I think it's a historical building. It needs some fixing up, but it could flourish.”

Continuing the mission

Even as the churches voted to sell the property, each came back with a caveat of how the funds would be used. This was finalized at a congregational meeting this spring, when a foundation was formed to use interest from the sale of the property in a way that would continue the spirit of what Zephyr meant to the church for decades as a camp destination and spiritual retreat center. Specifically, the funding will be used to send children to camps and provide scholarship funding for adults in the church who desire further education or seminary.

“You figure your interest on several million dollars,” Loucks said. “We can provide a lot of money for a lot of kids to go to camp and for a lot of people to get further education.”

Not that Loucks is intimating an asking price. He said the land

See ZEPHYR, page 21



SPLASH PHOTOS BY JOSH JOHNSON

Zephyr Lodge, above, is the oldest building in Liberty Lake at 111 years. The lodge and the 53 acres it sits on are being sold by The Christian Church, Disciples of Christ. The property includes more than a quarter mile of Liberty Lake shoreline, which Zephyr board chairman John Loucks points out at left. Loucks said many parties interested in the land have been spending time looking over the property, including Spokane County and a pair of Liberty Lake women interested in restoring Zephyr.

ZEPHYR LODGE TIMELINE

■ Late 1800s

Martin Kalez bought property at the southeast end of Liberty Lake. At the turn of the century, Charles Traeger purchased a portion of Kalez's lakefront property.

■ 1902

Construction of Zephyr Lodge Casino was completed. Within a few years, Traeger married, and his wife took over the dining room and used good food as a drawing card to the newly named Zephyr Inn.

■ 1910 to early 1920s

Traeger died in 1910. His widow remarried and under their management, Zephyr Inn became a popular resort, restaurant and dance hall.

■ Late 1920s to 1930s

The Catholic Church attempted to purchase the lodge to use as a home for retired priests, but the deal fell through when they could not secure funding. Zephyr was rumored to be a speakeasy during Prohibition.

■ 1946 to present

The Christian Church, Disciples of Christ purchased the grounds to use as a retreat center and renamed it Zephyr Lodge.

■ 2013

The Christian Church, Disciples of Christ has made the decision to sell the historic facility, which sits on 53 acres, including more than a quarter-mile of shoreline.

NEWS



Summer construction report

The long list of summer projects inside the city of Liberty Lake appears ready to launch into motion in August. The following status report was provided July 29 by City Engineer Andrew Staples.

- Harvard Roundabout** — Construction of single lane roundabout at Harvard Road, Mission Avenue intersection.

Anticipated dates of work: The demolition and construction phase of this project is tentatively scheduled to get under way Aug. 17, with work wrapping up over the course of about eight weeks.

Traffic impact: Reduced lanes on the north side of the Harvard Bridge, flaggers and signage will direct traffic.
- Mission and Valleyway street maintenance** — Overlay work on Mission Avenue from Molter Road to King James Lane and on Valleyway Avenue from Molter to Bella Lago Lane.

Anticipated dates of work: The bid on this project has been awarded, and work is likely to begin in mid-August. Once work begins, it should take about two weeks.

Traffic impact: Minor delays will be caused by reduced lanes or detours. Flaggers will be directing traffic at the work site.
- Sprague Trail** — Construction of two 10-foot wide path segments on Sprague Avenue and Neyland Drive.

Anticipated dates of work: The bid on the project has been awarded, and work is scheduled to begin on Aug. 5.

Traffic impact: Minimal impact with traffic control directing drivers around the construction along the north shoulder of the road.
- Liberty Lake Fields** — Improvements to the field east of Liberty Lake Elementary including construction of a pair of baseball fields, a 79-space parking lot, a small picnic shelter and concrete walking paths.

Anticipated dates of work: The project will be awarded in late summer, meaning a late summer and fall construction timeframe.

Traffic impact: None.

Note: The city of Liberty Lake will post traffic revisions on its website, www.libertylakewa.gov as applicable.

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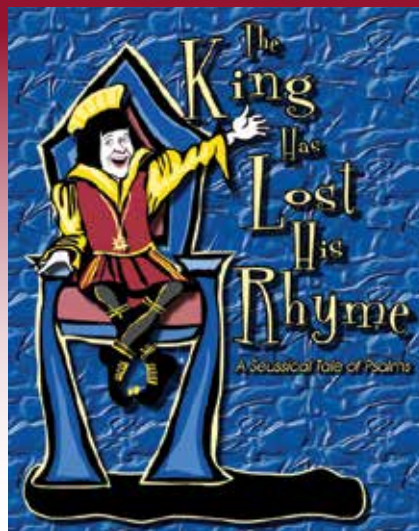
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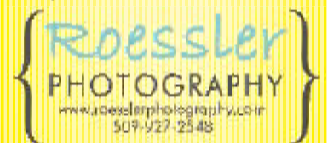
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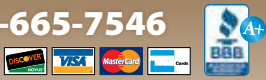
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NEWS

ZEPHYR

Continued from page 18

was recently appraised for \$1.3 million, but none of the many structures on the site, including the historic lodge, were part of that valuation. At its July 27 meeting, the Zephyr board appointed a committee to go to work establishing a “working asking price” for the entire property, Loucks said.

Interest in the property is beginning to increase, Loucks said.

“Maybe I’m being way too optimistic, but I wouldn’t be surprised if we get some kind of offer at some point in the next month,” he said. “I do know there are some people who are working hard at looking at the land.”

As interest in the property has increased, Loucks emphasized that those wanting to check out the property must make an appointment. Lodge Manager Darcie Jernberg is handling those inquiries at 255-6122.

Protecting the heritage

Among those Loucks said are hard at work exploring the possibilities for the property are a pair of Liberty Lake women, friends Michelle German and Penny Humphries. The women are keeping the specifics of their plans under wraps for now in hopes of securing an agreement with the Zephyr board that would allow them time to finalize the financing of the plan — but focal to the plan is preserving the rich history of the property.

“I love historic antiques, especially old buildings — love them,” Humphries said. “To be able to restore Zephyr back to her original state is a dream, a passion that both of us have.”

Humphries was the PTSA president at Liberty Lake Elementary School this past year, while German served in the same role at Greenacres Middle School. They said their passion for organizing others and raising thousands of dollars would come in handy if transferred to Zephyr.

“I think it would be a community coming together to help save Zephyr,” Humphries said. “I think investors would be involved. That’s kind of where we would have to go. ... Our ultimate goal is to save Zephyr.”

In order to build this consensus, German said they are asking the Zephyr board for a purchase price and options contract that would give them until the end of the year to raise funds and build their case as the best suitor for the property.

The women have established an email address, savingzephyr@gmail.com, for those interested in contacting them.

German said the community’s interest is at stake not only because the facility and land would have the opportunity for public access and usage, but because the property could be a real investment for Liberty Lake in attracting tourists.

“There can be a mutual benefit for the community and Zephyr,” German said.

“The way our plan would work is not just the community benefitting Zephyr, but Zephyr benefitting our community. Zephyr has the potential of giving Liberty Lake attention.”

German and Humphries openly worry about alternative buyers such as a real estate developer or even Spokane County, which has also been looking at the property as a bridge between land it owns at Liberty Lake Regional Park and MacKenzie Reserve. Warning of “another racetrack situation,” German cautioned that public ownership would likely not be a winning outlet for rehabilitating the historic structures on the property.

“It does have asbestos in the basement; we’ve confirmed there’s lead paint,” she said. “There’s a lot that needs to be done, and the county doesn’t have that kind of money, I’m guessing.”

Spokane County’s interest

Doug Chase, Spokane County’s director of parks, recreation and golf, does not deny the property is worth investigating.

“I think we’re officially looking at it — that’s the best description I have,” he said. “... We are doing some homework and investigating it as an opportunity.”

The cost and liability of old buildings is “part of what we’re looking into,” Chase said, but whether the buildings make sense to potential county ownership is currently an exercise in “hypotheticals.”

He said he didn’t know that the property would be a good fit for the Conservation Futures program, adding that there are various funding sources including general obligation bonds that could be considered if the county even decided to pursue purchase of the property.

“I don’t know how to make this sound exciting,” Chase said. “We’re certainly enjoying the opportunity to take a look and have appreciated working with John and the Zephyr Lodge folks.”

Meanwhile, back at the lodge ...

Like they have been for decades, middle and high school students are attending church camp at Zephyr Lodge as July folds into August. Between the main lodge, the dorm-style “Lakeview Lodge,” and various cabins, Jernberg said as many as 130 people can stay overnight.

Not that camping is the only thing happening at Zephyr these days. Jernberg, her husband Gabe and their three children have been busy managing the property for the church, hosting everything from camps to meetings to weddings. In between, they are cleaning the property and marketing it for the same use it has enjoyed since 1946 — as a camp and retreat center.


“In this process, we’re following Plan A and Plan B,” Loucks said. “Plan A is to sell the property, and Plan B is to keep it going and run it so we can pay the bills.”

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Calendar of Events

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Aug. 1 | Minute to Win It 5 to 7 p.m., Liberty Lake Municipal Library, 23123 E. Mission Ave. Bring the entire family for games, contests, refreshments and prizes. For more: 232-2510

Aug. 3 | Summer Book Sale 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Liberty Lake Municipal Library, 23123 E. Mission Ave. Friends of the Liberty Lake Library will be holding a sale of books for all ages and interests.

Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 | Felting class 10:30 a.m., Liberty Lake Municipal Library, 23123 E. Mission Ave. The library knitting club will hold a class during the month of August to learn to felt and craft a small purse or other small project. The first meeting on Aug. 3 will introduce the craft and discuss what supplies are needed and where to get them, while the rest of the month will be devoted to felting together. For more: 232-2510

Aug. 8 | Silly Poetry Night 6:30 p.m., Liberty Lake Municipal Library, 23123 E. Mission Ave. Local author and Children's Poet Laureate Kenn Nesbitt will visit the library. Kids and parents are invited to bring their own or favorite poems, silly or serious, to read aloud. For more: 232-2510

Aug. 12-16 | VBS at Uplift Church 6 to 9 p.m., 23424 N. Swing Lane. Kids are invited for Bible Club, food, fun and outdoor adventures during God's Backyard Bible Camp. For more: 995-7718 or amyjoykells@gmail.com

Aug. 12-18 | Creation Day Camp 9 a.m. to noon, Seventh-day Adventist Church, 4308 N. Harvard, Otis Orchards. Free event for ages 5 to 12. Breakfast served daily plus live animals and lots of fun prizes. To RSVP or for more: 842-2355

Aug. 17 | Mutt Strut 8 a.m., Pawpular Companions Pet Supplies, 21950 E. Country Vista Dr., Ste. 100. This third annual pledge event will consist of a 2.5-mile route around the Liberty Lake business/residential walking path, an ice cream social, store vendors, free giveaways and raffle prizes. All funds raised benefit Higher Ground Animal Sanctuary. To register or for more: 927-8890 or www.pawpularcompanions.com

Aug. 17-18 | CV Class of 1958 Reunion The Central Valley Class of 1958 is planning a reunion and picnic. If you are a graduate or know someone who might need information, please call 255-6803 or 924-0099 or email jbboard58@q.com

Aug. 19-22 | VBS at Liberty Lake Church 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Liberty Lake Church, 704 S. Garry Road. For kids entering grades 1 through 5, children will sweep through the book of Psalms and learn what it means to worship the King Most High. To register or for more: 255-6266 or www.libertylakechurch.com

Aug. 23 | Community Carnival 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Stepping Stone, 23306 E. Mission. The public is invited to a carnival featuring a petting zoo, pony rides, face painting, food and games. For more: 924-0776 or www.steppingstonelibertylake.com

Aug. 24 | Annual Pie Festival 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Liberty Lake Farmers Market, 1421 N. Meadowwood Lane. A pie walk and pie eating contest will be offered. For more: llfarmersmarket.com

Recurring

Friends of the Liberty Lake Municipal

Library 4 p.m. the last Tuesday of every month, Library, 23123 E. Mission Ave. The group will have books for sale at the Liberty Lake Farmers Market on July 13 and Aug. 3.

Kiwanis Club of Liberty Lake 6:45 a.m. Wednesdays, Liberty Lake City Hall, 22510 E. Country Vista Drive. For more: www.libertylakekiwanis.org

Liberty Lake Centennial Rotary Club Noon Thursdays, Meadowwood Technology Campus Liberty Room, 2100 N. Molter Road.

Liberty Lake Farmers Market Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., 1421 N. Meadowwood Lane. The market runs through mid-October. For more: www.llfarmersmarket.com

Liberty Lake Lions Club Noon on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, Barlow's Restaurant, 1400 N. Meadowwood Lane. For more: 927-2193 or cheshierll@aol.com

Liberty Lake Merchants Association 7 a.m. Tuesdays, Liberty Lake Portal, 23403 E. Mission Ave., Suite 120. Open to business professionals interested in promoting business in the Liberty Lake and Spokane Valley areas. Networking begins at 6:45 a.m.

Liberty Lake Municipal Library 23123 E. Mission Avenue. 10:15 a.m. Fridays, baby lapsit story time; 11 a.m. Friday, toddler/preschool story time and songs; 1 p.m. Fridays, story time and crafts for preschoolers; 10:30 a.m. Saturdays, Knitting Club; 10:30 a.m. Saturdays, computer classes; 2:30 p.m. Saturdays, anime club; 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays, toddler/preschool story time. For more: 232-2510

Liberty Lake Toastmasters 5:45 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays, Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District building, 22510 E. Mission Ave. For more: 208-765-8657

Senior Lunch programs 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday, Talon Hills Senior Complex, 24950 E. Hawkstone Loop. Seniors age 60 and older invited; recommended donation \$3.50.

Spokane Valley Writer's Group 6:15 p.m. the first and third Thursdays of every month, Liberty Lake Municipal Library, 23123 E. Mission Ave. This supportive critique group welcomes adult writers. For more: 570-4440

MUSIC & THE ARTS

Aug. 17 | Family Concert Series with Jenks 3 p.m., Otis Orchards Library, 22324 E. Wellesley. Corey Jenks will provide a juggling and music show outdoors featuring original music, rings, clubs and dancing. For more: www.sclcd.org

Aug. 17-18 | Auditions for "Death By Chocolate" 6:30 p.m., Liberty Lake Community Theatre, 22910 E. Appleway Ave. Roles available for men and women ages 18 and up. No preparation necessary. Performances slated for Oct. 18-26. For more: www.libertylaketheatre.com

Aug. 17 | Robert Cray Band 7 p.m., Pavillion Park, Liberty Lake. Bring your blankets and chairs to the park for a night made up of a little rock, soul, jazz, blues and gospel. For more: www.pavillionpark.org

Aug. 25 | "Henry V" by Montana Shakespeare in the Parks 5 p.m., Pavillion

Play in the Park

Free upcoming events in Liberty Lake's parks:

Aug. 3, dusk at Pavillion Park: Free movie showing of "Mamma Mia!" (PG-13)

The story of a bride-to-be attempting to find her real father is told using popular songs by the 1970s group ABBA.

Aug. 8, 6:30 p.m. at Rocky Hill Park: Angela Marie Project

A free concert is one of a variety of free activities hosted by the Liberty Lake Community Tennis Association and Liberty Lake Running Club that night.

Aug. 9, dusk at Half Moon Park: Free movie showing of "Star Trek" (PG-13)

James T. Kirk tries to live up to his father's legacy while Mr. Spock keeps him in check as a vengeful Romulan creates black holes to destroy planets in the Federation.

Aug. 10, dusk at Rocky Hill Park: Free movie showing of "Goonies" (PG)

A group of kids embark on a wild adventure after finding a pirate treasure map.

Aug. 13, 5 p.m. at Half Moon Park: 6th annual Criterium Bike Race

Hosted by Baddlands Cycling Club in the River District neighborhood, the night features a kids race, adult races and wood-fired pizza by Veraci Pizza.

Aug. 16, dusk at Pavillion Park: Free movie showing of "Bolt" (PG)

The canine star of a fictional action show that believes his powers are real embarks on

a cross country trek to save his co-star from perceived danger.

Aug. 17, 7 p.m. at Pavillion Park: Robert Cray Band

Made up of a little rock, soul, jazz, blues and gospel, the Robert Cray Band will perform for audiences during the free Friends of Pavillion Park concert series.

Aug. 23, dusk at Pavillion Park: Free movie showing of "Ferris Bueller's Day Off" (PG-13)

A high school wise guy is determined to have a day off school, despite what the principal thinks.

Aug. 24, dusk at Pavillion Park: Free movie showing of "The Wizard of Oz" (G)

A Kansas girl is swept away to a magical land in a tornado and embarks on a quest to see the Wizard who can help her return home.

Aug. 25, 5 p.m. at Pavillion Park: "Henry V" presented by Montana Shakespeare in the Parks

The play is set in the early 15th century when the political situation in England is tense. King Henry IV has died and his son, the young King Henry V, has just assumed the throne.

Aug. 31, 6 p.m. at Pavillion Park: Lud Kramer Memorial Concert by Spokane Symphony

Bring a picnic dinner, blanket or chairs to enjoy a mix of classics, show tunes and patriotic marches.

Park. MSIP's 41st summer season proudly present the exciting history of Henry V. For more: www.pavillionpark.org or www.shakespeareintheparks.org

Aug. 31 | Lud Kramer Memorial Concert by Spokane Symphony 6 p.m., Pavillion Park. The Friends of Pavillion Park sponsor this outdoor symphony performance over Labor Day weekend. For more: www.pavillionpark.org

Recurring

Liberty Lake Art Society Third Wednesday of the month, various times and locations. Create, learn and explore new art avenues, as well as display, sell and network your art. No jurying board, no bylaws, no pressure. Work on projects to benefit Liberty Lake and surround communities. Dues are \$10 per year, and you do not need to be a local resident to join. For more: 255-9600

CIVIC & BUSINESS

Aug. 1 | Mission to China orientation meeting 5:30 to 7 p.m., Mirabeau Park Hotel, 1100 N. Sullivan. The Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce is extending the opportunity to travel to China March 24 to April 2, 2014, for sightseeing and learning about the Chinese business system. Cost for the 10-day, 8-night trip is \$2,300 per person. RSVP for the meeting to 924-4994. For more: www.spokanevalleychamber.org

Aug. 8 | Scramble Golf Tournament 11:30 a.m., MeadowWood Golf Course, Liberty Lake. Hosted by the Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce, the \$100 entry fee includes dinner, drink, raffle ticket and goodie bag. For registration and more: www.spokanevalleychamber.org

Aug. 9 | Women Executives of Liberty Lake (WELL) meeting 12:45 to 2 p.m., Just Chillin' Frozen Yogurt, 1322 N. Liberty Lake Road. Enjoy the latest yogurt flavor while networking in a relaxed atmosphere. For more: www.womenexecutivesoflibertylake.com

Aug. 16 | Greater Spokane Valley Chamber Business Connections Breakfast 6:30 to 8:30 a.m., Mirabeau Park Hotel, 1100 N. Sullivan. Coffee and conversation begin at 6:30 a.m., program begins at 7 a.m. Cost is \$25 for members and guests, \$35 for non-members. For more: www.spokanevalleychamber.org

Recurring

Central Valley School board meeting 6:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of each month, CVSD administration building, 19307 E. Cataldo, Spokane Valley.

Liberty Lake City Council 7 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, City Hall, 22710 E. Country Vista Drive.

Liberty Lake Municipal Library board meeting 10:30 a.m. the first Thursday of each month. See CALENDAR, page 37

Help your kids make the best of this school year!

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Introducing Dr. Anthony Weber to the Spokane Valley Communities!



Anthony Weber, DDS graduated at the top of his class from the University of Southern California School of Dentistry, Magna Cum Laude with his Doctor of Dental Surgery degree in Los Angeles, California. Dr. Weber received the highest honors and maintained his name on the deans list during his four year curriculum at USC. Prior to dental school, he attended Washington State University and received Bachelor of Science degrees in both Neuroscience and Zoology. He is a graduate of Odessa High School.

Dr. Weber was recognized by faculty and colleagues by receiving senior awards in anesthesiology and endodontics. He is a member of the American Dental Association, American Dental Society of Anesthesiology, American Association of Endodontists, Academy of Osseointegration, California Dental Association, and the Academy of General Dentistry.

I am so thankful to my aunt Sue for encouraging me along the way and I am looking forward to being a part of her team who always put the patients first.

- Dr. Anthony Weber

During dental school, Dr. Weber was actively involved in community service, providing free dental care to hundreds of children and adults in the Los Angeles area, he also traveled throughout central America and Africa on numerous dental mission trips. When not treating patients, Dr. Weber values quality time with family and friends. He is an avid outdoorsman who enjoys hunting and fishing, while showing his strong support for wildlife conservation.

His services include general and esthetic dentistry, oral surgery, intravenous sedation, implant surgery and prosthetics, endodontics, guided bone and tissue grafting, and pediatric dentistry.



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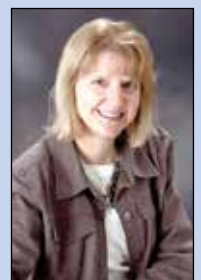
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COMMUNITY

Robert Cray bringing blues to town Aug. 17

By Brenna Holland
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

Liberty Lake is about to sing the blues.

Robert Cray, a five-time Grammy Award winner and world-traveling blues guitarist, will be coming to the Pavillion Park stage at 7 p.m. Aug. 17. The concert is part of the 16th annual Summer Festival Series organized by Friends of Pavillion Park.

Cray is considered to be among the greatest guitarists of his generation. The musician has performed with a variety of talents, including Eric Clapton, Bonnie Raitt, and John Lee Hooker.

Cray picked up the guitar and discovered his passion during his teenage years.

“My dad was in the army, so we moved around quite a bit,” he said in a press release (Cray was touring overseas and unable to grant The Splash an interview). “I had a lot of time and the guitar became my friend. Also, when I first picked up a guitar, The Beatles were just out, and that’s why I got one. That’s why a lot of kids got guitars. The whole atmosphere of that time was, ‘Hey, I learnt this.’ Well, let me show you this...’ So that’s what sparked my interest, and it never really went away.”

When asked his musical inspirations, Cray cited Jimi Hendrix, Buddy Guy and B.B. King.

Upon moving to Eugene, Ore., in his early twenties, Cray formed The Robert Cray Band. During this time, Cray was featured in “National Lampoon’s Animal House” as the bass player for the Otis Day and the Knights Band that played during the now famous toga party scene.

In 1982, Cray was signed to Mercury Records. His fourth studio album, “Strong Persuader,” debuted in 1986 and garnered him a Grammy and national recognition.

“I guess Strong Persuader just captured a good spirit and energy,” Cray reflects. “People are still calling out for some of those songs at shows. It gave us a good springboard. I guess it was the songs,



PROMOTIONAL IMAGE

Robert Cray’s 16th album, “Nothin But Love,” released Aug. 27, 2012. The blues guitarist will play a free concert at Pavillion Park Aug. 17.

but it was also the era, because radio and MTV gave us a foothold, and we had videos out too.”

Rolling Stone magazine praised Cray in April 2011 as the musician who reinvented the blues with his “distinct razor sharp guitar playing” that “introduced a new generation of rock fans to the language and form of the blues.”

Cray then began to open for Eric Clapton, one of his good friends, and began to play even more gigs as a solo artist.

In 2011, Robert Cray was inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame. He is one of the youngest living musicians to hold such a prestigious honor.

Despite being inducted into the prestigious Blues Hall of Fame, Cray shows no signs of slowing down. Last year, he released his 16th album, “Nothin But Love.” His current tour has taken him from Finland to Vancouver, B.C.

Cray has been spreading the blues throughout the world with catchy tunes such as “Chicken in the Kitchen” and “That’s What Keeps Me Rocking.”

Cray is humbly aware that his success is due to his strong and loyal fan base.

“We have been very lucky,” he said. “With music becoming mostly digital in recent years and artists not selling the same number of physical records, we’re afforded the luxury of having a great loyal and amazing fan base around the world, allowing a band like ours to continue to work.”

The concert is free, and audience members are encouraged to bring blankets, food and low-back chairs to enjoy the music.

“Liberty Lake is a very neat community,” FOPP President Bob Schneidmiller said of bringing in international acts like Robert Cray. “What we’re doing here tries to enhance that.”

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Liberty Lake residents: Are you new to the area? Have you moved recently or changed your home phone number? To make sure you’re listed correctly in the Liberty Lake Community Directory, email your residential phone number and address to directory@libertylakesplash.com.





A special section
just for kids

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Paired up is twice the fun

By Brenna Holland
WAVE CONTRIBUTOR

In Twinsburg, Ohio, during the first weekend of August, you may be seeing double. The Twins Day Festival takes place in the aptly named town where multiples of any sort (identical or fraternal, triplets or quadruples) convene to celebrate through games, entertainment and competitions.

In the spirit of the Twins Day Festival, The Wave wanted to celebrate some local

twins in the Liberty Lake community.

Two of a kind

Jonah and Jordyn Gartner, both age 9, rarely stop smiling. Besides sharing a June 18 birthday, the pair also has an affinity for bacon and building the best fort in the basement.

The fourth graders both want to be teachers when they grow up. Jordyn even said, "I don't like school, I love it!"



Jonah and Jordyn Gartner love being together and even both want to be teachers when they get older.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



SUBMITTED PHOTO

With their sense of humor and adventure, Joshua and Noah Reneau have used their twinhood to pull pranks and get some laughs.

Q: How are you similar?

Jordyn: We both love chocolate, setting up forts and bacon.

Jonah: We also like to play soccer.

Q: How are you two different?

Jonah: Sometimes I don't like to play Littlest Pet shop.

Jordyn: I don't like shooting Nerf guns all the time.

Q: What are you individually interested in?

Jonah: I like all types of sweets; she mostly just likes chocolate.

Jordyn: I do gymnastics, and I like playing with my American Girl Dolls.

Q: What's your favorite thing about being a twin?

Jonah: We have a lot in common, a lot of the same interests.

Jordyn: Sometimes I bring my sleeping bag into this room and other nights he'll bring his into my room.

Jonah: She's my friend; she's my best friend.

Double dose of adventure

Joshua and Noah Reneau were not easy babies. Escaping baby proof rooms together and even talking in gibberish twin talk through the bars of their cribs, the two gave their mother Mysti Reneau a hard time.

"They say if you have twins it's double the work," she said. "It's more like quadruple or triple the work!"

Regardless of their wild infant days, the

12-year-old grade boys are now making their mom proud by focusing on academics, enjoying sports and still causing a little raucous now and then.

Q: Are you identical or fraternal?

Joshua: We actually don't know! We were born in Europe and the doctor couldn't really tell. We've always thought we were identical.

Q: Do people confuse you a lot?

Both (in unison): Yes!

Q: How can people tell you apart?

Noah: I have a chicken pox scar on my forehead. That's an easy way for people to tell us apart.

Q: What's the worst part about being a twin?

Joshua: People always assume that we are always the same.

Noah: I would have to agree on that.

Q: What makes you two different?

Joshua: Well I'm older. I like baseball; he hates baseball.

Noah: Obviously I'm cooler than he is.

Q: How is it having an identical version of yourself in the same grade?

Noah: One of my teachers was very frugal, and he made me this deal that every time he called me Joshua he would give me \$2. I made \$6 the entire year!

Q: Have you guys ever switched places?

Joshua: We still do! Last year I tried to go into Noah's classroom and it worked until I said, "Where's my desk?"

COMMUNITY

Twins Day Festival fun facts

- The festival began in 1976 in Twinsburg, Ohio, with 37 sets of twins in attendance.
- The event is held the first full weekend of August and features a double-take parade, games, activities and more.
- The first year to feature twins from around the globe was 1982. One set was from France and one set was from Argentina.
- In 1987, the festival was listed in "Guinness World Records" as the world's largest annual gathering of twins. A whopping 1,351 sets of twins attended that year.
- The largest group was in 1991 when 2,781 sets of twins registered for the event.



For more, visit www.twinsdays.org.

Did you know?



Source: www.modernmom.com; www.everydayhealth.com

- One in every 30 babies born in 2009 was a twin.
- Identical twins, which share the same DNA, don't have identical fingerprints.
- Almost half of twins create their own language, which is called idioglossia.
- There are more than just fraternal and identical twosomes. Other rare twin types include "half-identical twins" and "mirror image" twins.
- Chances of having a twin pregnancy increase with the age of the mother.
- Around 22 percent of twins are left handed compared to 1 percent in singletons.

Dog days of summer

Area activities canines and their owners can enjoy together



SUBMITTED PHOTO FROM MUTT STRUT 2012

Mutt Strut

Aug. 17, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Pawpular Companions, 21950 E. Country Vista Dr., Liberty Lake

Bring your best dressed pups for a 2.5 mile strut around the Liberty Lake. The pledge walk event will conclude with an ice cream social for both dogs and their owners, as well as activities, giveaways, raffles and more! All funds raised benefit Higher Ground Animal Sanctuary. For more: 927-8890 or www.pawpularcompanions.com

Paws in the Pool

Aug. 25-26

Valley Mission Pool, 11405 E. Mission Ave.

After the pool closes for the season to humans, it opens to the dogs! Unfortunately, only dogs are allowed in the pools so you'll have to watch them have all the fun. Dogs must be six months or older; times are available based on dog size. Space is limited, so pre-register by calling 688-0300. For more: www.spokanevalley.org

Canine Carnival & Pet Blessing

Sept. 14, 9 a.m.

Pavillion Park

Previously held in the summer, this third annual event was moved to later in the fall so that it won't be as hot for the pets. The carnival will feature activities for dogs as well as humans. For more details closer to the event, go to www.summitnorthwest.org.

Kids Tell It Like It Is

If you could have an unusual animal for a pet, what animal would you choose?

Compiled by Tammy Kimberley at Pavillion Park



"A monkey so I could swing around with it."

Donovan Epperson, 9



"A giraffe. I like their colors and how they have long necks."

Anakka Morgan, 8



"A crocodile because it chomps people."

Kyson Olson, 4



"Pterodactyl. I would try to ride him."

Jacob Glover, 4



"A shark. They have really sharp teeth."

Jackson Severs, 6



"A bunny 'cuz I like the way they hop around."

Jessa Rairdan, 3



"A penguin 'cuz I have a stuffed animal penguin."

Sydney Bagley, 3



"A zebra. I would like to slide on him."

Isabella Smith, 4



"A lion because they attack people."

Liam Severs, 3

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The Fountain

About and for Liberty Lake seniors

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Sowls celebrate lasting commitment

By Valerie Putnam

SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

Wally and Winnie Sowl felt an instant connection when they first met.

"It was love at first sight," said the couple's youngest child, Patty Pohle. "And four months later they got married. They've been together ever since."

"Ever since" is 70 years, the milestone wedding anniversary the Sowls celebrated July 1.

The couple met while living in the Allendale, a large, downtown Spokane boarding house. At different times, the more than 70 residents would gather in the parlor and listen to Winnie's roommate, Della, play the piano.

"We just kinda made eyes at each other across the parlor," Winnie, 90, laughingly said. "He was just so handsome. ... Guess it didn't take us too long to realize both of us didn't appreciate Della's music."

"Sure didn't," added Wally, 93.

Purchasing an old windup Victrola phonograph, the couple spent hours listening to their favorite country music.

"We had the same taste in music," Winnie laughed. "And it was not Della's piano."

After only a few months, Wally proposed.

"You can do a lot of courting in a hurry when you live in the same boarding house," Winnie said.

The couple got married July 1, 1943. The wedding, a simple ceremony with just three guests, was in the home of a preacher whose church was located next door to Allendale.

The couple borrowed Wally's parents Plymouth and drove to Elkins Resort at Priest Lake for a short honeymoon over the extended Fourth of July holiday weekend.

"We spent most of the time repairing tires," Winnie recalled of the honeymoon trip. "We had seven flat tires. In those days, you didn't buy a new tire; you fixed it."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

After the couple returned to Spokane, they lived in the boarding house until Wally was drafted. While waiting to be deployed, he continued working at his machinist job at Fairchild Air Force Base.

After only three days of basic training under his belt, Wally was sent to California to wait for reassignment.

"He wrote me a letter saying the guys are usually here up to a year or more so I might as well come down," said Winnie, who at the time was pregnant with their first son. "So I quit my job, gave up my room at the boarding house and got on a train."

Winnie's train got as far as Portland, Ore. There, a group of MPs boarded the train.

"They got on the train and said, 'We're looking for Mrs. Wallace Sowl. You have orders to go back to Spokane,'" Winnie said. "I didn't know those MPs and what authority they had to tell me to go back to Spokane but thought I better do it."

Winnie got off the train and boarded a bus back to Spokane, finding out later that Wally had been sent overseas.

"I was looking forward to be-

ing a War-time bride," Winnie said. "But that was as far as I got."

She returned to the Allendale, and was able to get her Civil Service job back.

After two years, Wally returned from the war and met his son for the first time. The passing years brought many happy memories, such as watching their three children, Byron, Jerry and Patty, grow.

When their children were young, the couple started square dancing at a Grange Hall in Newman Lake, where they were living at the time. As the children grew, they also got involved at the Grange. The family continued to dance for several years.

"It's really important in a relationship to have the same interests," Winnie said.

Throughout their marriage, the Sowls spent a great deal of time outdoors hunting, fishing, camping and hiking.

"They also did a lot of gardening together," Patty said. "Both vegetable and flower."

Today, the Sowls have eight grandchildren, 19 great-grand-

children and one great, great granddaughter.

The couple remains active, including participating in activities at the Liberty Lake Athletic Club every other day.

"I take water aerobics, and he works in the gym," Winnie said.

As part of their 70th wedding anniversary celebration, the couple participated in five different events featuring family, friends, square dancers — and even a party at the Liberty Lake Athletic Club.

Celebrating 70 years is no

— King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

E	C	R	U	H	A	S	P	H	A	T
M	A	I	L	O	N	E	L	O	D	E
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		M	A	T		H	I	S		
E	C	H	O	O	P	H	I	D	I	A
F	R	O		W	H	O		C	H	E
T	Y	M	P	A	N	U		S	K	A
		E	L	M		E	W	E		
J	E	W	I	S	H	B	E	A	C	O
A	L	O	E	E	D	O	L	A	T	E
P	A	R	R	A	N	D	E	P	I	C
E	L	K	S	L	A	Y	D	E	S	K

easy feat, and the secret to their longevity is interwoven with a healthy dose of humor.

"We didn't have to quarrel about how to spend money," Winnie laughed, "because we didn't have enough to worry about."

"Sounds right to me," added Wally.

Both agreed another reason their marriage remained strong for 70 years is they shared similar interests, stayed active together and worked out conflicts without fighting.

"I always gave in," Winnie taunted.

"Oh, is that right?" Wally laughed. "Not all the time. We just had to work it out."

When asked what advice they would give other couples, Winnie returned to theme of working out conflicts.

"Don't bail the first time you have a problem," Winnie said. "Everyone is going to have problems. You just don't have to have fights."

top ten

America's Favorite
PIES

1. Apple
2. Pumpkin
3. Chocolate creme
4. Cherry
5. Apple crumb
6. Pecan
7. Lemon Meringue
8. Blueberry
9. Key lime
10. Peach

Source: www.epicurious.com

COMMUNITY

TRIVIA TEST

- MEDICAL:** The condition called nephrolithiasis is more commonly referred to as what?
- CONGRESS:** What did the acronym HUAC stand for?
- INVENTIONS:** What 19th-century ranching aid did Joseph Glidden invent?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** What are Georgetown University's sports teams known as?
- MATH:** What is the Arabic equivalent of the Roman numerals MDCII?
- LITERATURE:** In what book do the characters Flopsy and Mopsy appear?
- LANGUAGE:** What is a poseur?
- FOOD AND DRINK:** What product is advertised as "Vermont's Finest"?
- SCIENCE:** What is the chemical symbol for mercury?
- GEOGRAPHY:** Where are the Pillars of Hercules?

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- Beige
- Owns
- Excellent, in slang
- "You've got —"
- Individual
- Wealth source
- "— She Lovely"
- Periodical, for short
- Congregation's cry
- Government in power
- Stress
- Wrestling surface
- Towel designation
- Vocal comeback
- Snake-related
- To and —
- Personal question?
- Ernesto Guevara
- Middle-ear membrane
- Old card game
- Shade source
- Ram's mate
- Of Hebrew descent
- Lighthouse light
- Shaving cream

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
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| 50 Tokyo's old name | 52 Tardy | 53 Catherine, Henry VIII's sixth wife | 54 Moreover | 55 Grand story | 56 BPOE members | 57 Deposit | 58 Dilbert's workplace | additive | grew up | Literary collection | Genesis name | Tranquil | Nostalgic, in a way | Port of Yemen | Camper's shelter | Mother | Actor McBride | Salamander | Weep | Student's assignment | Dien Bien — (Vietnam city) | One disinclined | to do the town | "Eureka!" | Trawler need | Needlenose tool | Mornings (Abbr.) | Unopened | You and I | Scoff | Israeli airline | Get better | Garb for Superman | Elevator name | Choker location | "CSI" evidence companion |
|---------------------|----------|---------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|------------|------------------------|----------|---------|---------------------|--------------|----------|---------------------|---------------|------------------|--------|---------------|------------|------|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------|--------------|-----------------|------------------|----------|-----------|-------|-----------------|------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|

DOWN

- Eastern
- 24 bottles
- Peal
- In the preceding month
- Where you

- Eastern
- 24 bottles
- Peal
- In the preceding month
- Where you

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Answers to Trivia Test 1. Kidney stones; 2. House Un-American Activities Committee; 3. Barbed wire; 4. Hoyas; 5. 1602; 6. "The Tale of Peter Rabbit"; 7. Someone who pretends to be something he or she is not; 8. Ben & Jerry's ice cream; 9. Hg (hydrargyrum); 10. Strait of Gibraltar

Faith, vision of settlers led to services, LL Church

By Ray Ruef

LIBERTY LAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

This article on the history of the Liberty Lake Community Church (now Liberty Lake Church) is a compilation of articles and memories of Amanda Madson (a member of a pioneer family at Liberty Lake who donated the present site of the church), Bessie Gilliland (an early resident of Liberty Lake), along with Mildred Brereton, Art and Linnie Rice and Ruth Root. They were all a special part of the church life and have all passed away. The birth of the church was long and challenging. Many attempts were made by early residents to establish a witness of Christ's love and grace.

Efforts to start a Sunday School and worship services faced challenges of wars, the Depression and the arrival and departure of many summer residents. This article will touch on some of the highlights of the community church.

Amanda Madson reported a Reverend William Cable preaching at the Steve Liberty log cabin near the spring on the Madson home property about 300 yards west of the present Liberty Lake Church. There is a barn located on that site now. Later, he preached at Pleasant View Baptist Church near the Idaho state line. That church is still there today.

Amanda also reported that in 1900, a William Landes led worship services at the new little white schoolhouse located at the corner of Molter and 2nd Avenue. She remembers him "as a fine old gentleman who loved his Bible and his God. I loved to hear him read and pray."

In 1912, three grocers from Spokane organized a summer Sunday School with classes for adults, youth and children. Mrs. Flossie Arends taught the children's class. Amanda, a recent graduate, assisted with that class. This effort was under the direction of the Presbyterian Board. Services were often held outside. A Reverend George Hagerman led these services.

In the fall of 1912, the Sunday School moved to a new schoolhouse. Bill and Amanda Madson and Mrs. Dan Neyland led this effort. Seven children accepted Christ as their Savior and were baptized. War came in 1914, and the Sunday School closed.

In 1925, new efforts to begin worship services were led by Mrs. Lena Thomas Scott from Pilgrim Holiness Church, who formed a Sunday School. But Mrs. Scott began teaching in the public school system, and the Sunday School was closed. Later, the Albert Arend family was spending the summer at the lake and observed the large number of children in the area. They contacted Jess Baker of the American Sunday School Union. Five community members met with him for a time of prayer in the schoolhouse about the Sunday School need.



Above: This picture of the sanctuary of Liberty Lake Community Church dates back to the early 1970s. The photo shows traditional Christmas decor that was annually displayed by Rex and Donna Lindell.



At right: This drawing of Liberty Lake Community Church, which dates back to the 1960s, was used in its annual community calendar published for many years. The artist is unknown.

PHOTO AND RENDERING COURTESY OF THE LIBERTY LAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

July 2, 1933, the Sunday School was started and was called the Liberty Lake Community Sunday School. That first summer, Vacation Bible School was held with an attendance of 17. A fundraiser was held to help raise car funds for Mr. Baker. They raised \$60 toward the cost.

In 1937, Eddy Madson, Amanda's brother who had been helping with the Sunday School program, was called to serve as pastor at the Eden Church in Otis Orchards (now the Otis Orchards Community Church). The Liberty Lake Community Sunday School reorganized and continued through 1940. In 1941, the public school closed, the war came, times were hard, and the Sunday School closed once again.

Anna Carrie Madson, Amanda's and Eddy's mother, dreamed of a church on the corner of 8th and Garry Road, so she donated the original half-acre site. In the following years, additional land was purchased, including the parsonage on the other side of 8th Street. After a community survey in which it was found there were 23 denominations represented in the community, it was decided that they were in favor of a non-denominational Protestant community church.

Victor Sherling became the American Sunday School Union area director, followed in that same year by Reverend McLean, who worked with the church for a few years. He

obtained the services of Reverend Hugh Collins, a student in the theology department at Whitworth College in Spokane. When he became a long-term missionary in France, he was replaced by Reverend Maurey Peterson, a former missionary in Africa. Maurey was a strong leader in the construction of the present sanctuary.

October 1965 brought the arrival of Pastor Ray Ruef and his wife, Karen, plus a 6-month-old daughter, Marilyn. They served the community for the next 24 years as their family grew with a son, Steve, and a daughter, Janice. The church grew to about 200 and completed the present office area and the Christian Ed building. After a few years, a children's daycare and kindergarten grew into a thriving program. This is now located in the Stepping Stone facility on Mission Avenue.

The church became the center of community activities with the facility hosting Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Brownies, the sewer district, Liberty Lake Property Owners Association, AA, a year of CVSD kindergarten when space ran out in the district's facilities, and a voting poll for two precincts for many years. The church family initiated the community Easter egg hunt, which was held in Alpine Shores before all of the homes, then moved to the Liberty Lake County Park. With the departure of Pastor Ruef, the egg hunt rested until it was resurrected by former Mayor Wendy Van Orman.

The DEVELOPMENT of a COMMUNITY

A series from the Liberty Lake Historical Society, appearing in the first Splash issue of each month in 2013.

JANUARY: Relocation of the Coeur d'Alenes

FEBRUARY: Formation of the Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation

MARCH: Transportation Overview

APRIL: Railroads

MAY: Homesteaders

JUNE: Homesteaders in the hills

JULY: Utilities

AUGUST: Church

SEPTEMBER: School

OCTOBER: Commerce

NOVEMBER: Government

DECEMBER: Medical

DID YOU KNOW?

1. Don Becht built the first pulpit for the church and built the pews that were used for many years.

2. Rev. Ray Ruef was the first full-time pastor.

3. Nancy Ashworth was the founder and director of the Liberty Lake Preschool and Kindergarten.

4. Amanda Madson taught her Sunday School class (3rd grade) until she was 85. She lived to be 102.

5. Mildred Brereton served as our youth director into her 60s. Her commitment and love for the kids was unequalled, and the youth returned that affection in full measure.

6. Youth camps were held at the Hess property at Flathead Lake, Montana for more than 20 years. Many campers chose to follow Christ and were baptized there.

7. Stained glass windows in the sanctuary were in memory of church members.

In recent years, the church has been pastored by Lonnie Castillo, Jim Mikos and most recently by Dave Butler. The church is presently being served by an interim pastor, Reverend Ron Miller.

Ray Ruef, a resident of Liberty Lake for nearly 50 years, is a member of the board of the Liberty Lake Historical Society. He served as pastor of Liberty Lake Community Church for 24 years.

COMMUNITY

Book Review

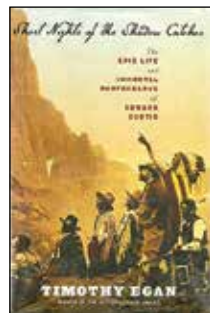
Snapshot of an 'epic life'



By Daniel Pringle

LIBERTY LAKE MUNICIPAL LIBRARY

Seattle author Timothy Egan has received many awards throughout his career. He contributed to a Pulitzer-Prize winning 2001 series on race for The New York Times. His



history of the Dust Bowl, "The Worst Hard Time," won the National Book Award in 2006. Now his latest work, a biography of photographer Edward Curtis called "Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher," has been awarded the Carnegie Medal for

Excellence by the American Library Association. A committee of library professionals chose Egan from among 50 titles published last year and announced the winner at the ALA's annual conference in June.

Curtis lived, according to Egan, an "epic life." Born in Wisconsin to a sickly and destitute Civil War chaplain, father and son moved to the Seattle area in the 1880s for a fresh start. His father died shortly after the family joined them out west, and Curtis struck out on his own as a true American individual. Curtis' photography married advancing technology with the industriousness of the frontier, and his career offered an example of the burgeoning American Century in miniature. As a portrait photographer, he gained the attention of Seattle society, but his interest in documenting the vanishing native peoples became his true life's work, beginning with the aged daughter of Chief Seattle, Princess Angeline.

With the endorsements of naturalist Bird Grinnell and President Roosevelt, Curtis secured the support of capitalist titan J.P. Morgan, and spent almost 30 years learning from and photographing American Indians. The 20 volumes of The North American Indian, released between 1907 and 1930, were received with increasing disinterest, yet remain a peerless record of the ascendancy of the new American people seen through the decline of the old. In Egan's hands, the story the images tell is rivaled only by the story of their making.

Daniel Pringle is adult services and reference librarian at the Liberty Lake Municipal Library.



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COMMUNITY

Shakespeare troupe returns with 'Henry V'

By Brenna Holland
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

"O for a muse of fire to ascend, that would ascend to the brightest heaven of invention, A kingdom for a stage, princes to act and monarchs to behold such a sweltering scene!"

And so begins a play of epic proportions restricted to the finite confines of a stage and its members. This is the first line of Shakespeare's "Henry V," the play that Montana Shakespeare in the Parks will be performing for Liberty Lake at 5 p.m. Aug. 25 at Pavillion Park. The event is part of the Friends of Pavillion Park Summer Festival Series, and like other such events, is free to attend.

The mission of the Montana Shakespeare in the Parks is simple: provide live and enthralling productions of Shakespeare's plays and other classics to communities in Montana and nearby communities. The program also emphasizes an importance on reaching rural and less accessible communities who might not have the chance to see a quality Shakespearean performance.

The first season of Montana Shakespeare in the Park was in 1973 and was an amalgamation of professional and amateur actors. The company didn't perform full plays, but a myriad of Shakespearean scenes for a sprinkling of performances throughout rural Montana.

Since its inception, MSIP has performed more than 2,250 times to nearly a million people, becoming a fixture in the Montana arts and entertainment landscape. The productions, since the beginning, are always free and outdoors with a bare stage and minimal sets. MSIP tries to have a fresh rotation of Shakespearean plays. The last time the company performed "Henry V" was in 1993.

Artistic Director Joel Jahnke credits his own bias for the return of the tragedy.

"Well, it is one of my favorite Shakespeare plays because it's a hero story," he said. "It's



King Henry V (Sean Driscoll) woos the French princess Katherine (Grayson Heyl) during "Henry V." The play, which is free of charge, will be performed at Pavillion Park 5 p.m. Aug. 25.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

a story about coming of age, a story about proving yourself, a story about ... bravery, about trust, about working together for a common cause. It's a hero story, and I think that we could use a hero story right now."

Because of the scene that plays out in the play, a historically massive battle, Jahnke — and Shakespeare himself in writing the play — calls on the audience to employ a healthy dose of imagination.

"Shakespeare gives us this chorus character, a sort of narrator, which he used in other plays, but never as extensively as this one," Jahnke said. "At the beginning of the play, the chorus asks us to 'on our imaginary forces' work.' To imagine that, even though this is a stage, 'an unworthy scaffold,' we must still tell this epic story. And to top it

off, there are only 10 actors. How on earth can we possibly present this great Battle of Agincourt and this great saga, given those elements, the limitations of the theater? And so the chorus says please, you're going to have to work on your imaginations here."

The actors and crew of MSIP beseech not only the Liberty Lake audience, but everyone who in his or her lifetime has the opportunity to see a live performance of a Shakespearean play, to employ their own imagination. Enjoy the brilliant acting and the delicious lines Shakespeare wrote hundreds of years ago that still reverberate in our day-to-day lives. Through this open mind, as the beginning of the Henry V states, massive historical events can come alive on a simple wooden stage. Whether it is in the countryside of Montana or Pavil-

lion Park, Shakespeare's timeless words still weave magic to audiences.

This is the third year the Montana Shakespeare in the Parks has come to Liberty Lake, and the first year that they are not performing a comedy. Liberty Lake was the first venue in Washington to host the company, Friends of Pavillion Park President Bob Schneidmiller said.

"They had been trying for a long time for a venue (like ours), and when we contacted them we were exactly what they were looking for," he said.

Schneidmiller encouraged entire families to attend this free community event.

"Kids are important to the community; we want to broaden their horizons," he said.

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Net proceeds from the event bolster the many community organizations and activities supported by the Kiwanis Club of Liberty Lake. Since its founding in 2001, the club has raised and donated hundreds of thousands of dollars and committed countless volunteer hours.

Please join us for the
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Saturday, June 14, 2014




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LOCAL LENS

Mayor on the move



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY GARY ROBERTO PHOTOGRAPHY

Mayor Steve Peterson won a ride in an antique biplane through a drawing at the Valley Chamber Business Connections event at Felts Field in July. The pilot and prize donor was Addison Pemberton of Scanivalve.

Buon appetito!



SPLASH PHOTO BY TAMMY KIMBERLEY

Trezzi Farms provided polenta and pasta for donations benefitting the Alzheimer's Association of Spokane during the Italian Festival July 20 at the Liberty Lake Farmers Market.

Mixing fun with fitness



SPLASH PHOTO BY TAMMY KIMBERLEY

Kids learned different activities they could do to help their bodies stay strong during a free camp held by U-District PT at Rocky Hill Park in July.

Shutterbug snapshots



Michael Hassett took this photo of Madeline Hassett standing by a giant anthill next to the Centennial Trail just east of Harvard.

Madeline also found a baby Spotted Sandpiper near the Spokane River in same area at the end of June.

Local Lens

Share your snapshots for The Splash's photo page.

Email photos@libertylakesplash.com with scenes from around town, community events and Splash Travels.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Celebrate, remember, fight back



SPLASH AND SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Members of community fundraising teams converged on Meadowood Technology Campus July 19-20 for the third annual Liberty Lake Relay for Life, which raised more than \$26,000. Several mascots from area teams stopped by to provide entertainment and walk a few laps with participants.



LOCAL LENS

Liberty Lake Days transforms park



SPLASH PHOTOS BY BRENNA HOLLAND

The city of Liberty Lake hosted Liberty Lake Days July 26-27. Pictured are Saturday's events, which included games, activities, vendors and a car show at Pavillion Park. On Friday night, a portion of Liberty Lake Road between Albertsons and Safeway was shut down for a car show and street dance.



Celebrating a decade



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

The Liberty Lake Municipal Library celebrated its 10-year anniversary in July with cake, remarks from community officials and the unveiling of the Library Foundation mural "Community Spirit." Library Director Pamela Mogen said she appreciated the subtitle of the mural: "The library is the glue that binds people together through education, cultural preservation and community spirit."



LegoMania winners



Caden Johnson was the overall winner in the LegoMania contest sponsored by the Liberty Lake Municipal Library in July.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Other winners in the Lego contest included Adam Hughes (left) in the age 12 and over category; Tyler and Emily Agnew (below left) in the ages 7-11 category; and Drew Schulhauser (below) in the ages 4-6 category.



Lunch at LL Portal



SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Ninety-nine tenants along with family members enjoyed delicious food and great company at the first Liberty Lake Portal lunch on July 19. The large white tent and 6-foot fans helped keep the atmosphere pleasant for the diners during the 100-degree weather. Portal leasing agent Steven Daines and manager Bob Olson were joined by Sheri Kannapien of Washington Trust Bank and Rik Stewart of Red-Drop in serving the lunch.




Thank You For Supporting Relay For Life of Liberty Lake!

The American Cancer Society would like to say a great big THANK YOU to our teams, sponsors, committee volunteers, day-of-event volunteers, and — most importantly — OUR SURVIVORS! Without you, finding a cure cannot be possible.

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LOCAL LENS/COMMUNITY

Liberty Lake celebrates a fabulous Fourth



Liberty Lake celebrated the Fourth of July in grand fashion yet again in 2013, beginning with the parade led by grand marshals Harley and Lorraine Halverson, a concert featuring 6 Foot Swing (above, right) and Tuxedo Junction and capped by fireworks over the lake, starting promptly at 10 p.m.

SPLASH STAFF PHOTOS



CALENDAR

Continued from page 22

month, 23123 E. Mission Ave.

Liberty Lake Library Foundation meeting
Noon the first Wednesday of each month, 23123 E. Mission Ave.

Liberty Lake Planning Commission 4 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month, City Hall, 22710 E. Country Vista Drive.

Liberty Lake SCOPE 6:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month, City Hall, 22710 E. Country Vista Drive

Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District board meeting 4 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month, 22510 E. Mission Ave.

HEALTH & RECREATION

Aug. 2 | Way to Well Health Tour Noon to 7 p.m., Walgreens, 1502 N. Liberty Lake Road. Three

free health tests will be administered to adults age 18 and older. No health insurance needed. A free, one-year AARP membership will be given to all adults who receive tests. For more: www.walgreens.com/waytowell

Aug. 3 | Splash night with Spokane Indians 6 p.m., Avista Stadium, 602 N. Havana. Join with other baseball fans for a game followed by fireworks. For tickets and more: www.spokaneindians.com

Aug. 5-9 | Advantage Basketball Camp 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. For ages 7 to 18, this camp is a well-balanced mix of practice drills and friendly fun that encouraged respect for sportsmanship, enhanced fundamental athletic abilities and a deeper understanding of teamwork and responsibility. Cost is \$195 for 3-day option and \$265 for 5-day option. For more: www.hubsportscenter.org

Aug. 8 | LLCTA/LLRC neighborhood event 6 to 8:30 p.m., Rocky Hill Park. Liberty Lake Running Club and Liberty Lake Community Tennis

Association are hosting free activities and a neighborhood concert. A 3-mile run will begin at 6 p.m., and the silent tennis clinic will begin at 6:30 p.m. Music by the Angela Marie Project will begin at 6:30 p.m. Food will be provided, and attendees are encouraged to bring blankets or chairs for the concert.

Aug. 12-14 | Isaiah Thomas Youth Skills Academy 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. NBA player Isaiah Thomas will teach basketball skills to ages 6 to 16 through fun games and NBA-style drills. Cost is \$250. For more: www.hubsportscenter.org

Aug. 13 | Criterium Bike Race 5 to 9 p.m., Half Moon Park, River District neighborhood. This sixth annual event is hosted by the Baddlands Cycling Club and features a kids race, adult races and wood-fired pizza by Veraci Pizza. Open to children under 12, registration for the kids race will take place at the north end of the park at 4:30 with the race beginning at 5 p.m. Adult races begin at 6 p.m. on a short, closed course. Neighborhood parking and traffic restrictions will be in place from

noon until 9 p.m. For more: 255-9456

Aug. 15-17 | NBC Basketball Position Camp 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. For athletes ages 9 to 15, this camp provides specific instruction for excelling in the guard, wing or post position. Cost is \$150. For more: www.hubsportscenter.org

Aug. 17 | Inland Empire Martial Arts Tournament 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. Admission is \$5 for adults; children under 12 are free. For more: www.hubsportscenter.org

Aug. 17-18 | Barefoot 3v3 Soccer Tournament & Festival Pavillion Park. Cost is \$150 per team, which includes a T-shirt for each participant. Enjoy music, food, beverages and jumpy castles. For more: "Barefoot 3v3 soccer" on Facebook

Aug. 19-21 | Eclipse Volleyball Camp 1 to 4 p.m., HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave.

See CALENDAR, page 45

COMMUNITY

Education Briefs

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Pair receive honors award

Nick Hillstrom of Liberty Lake and Troy Wellington of Greenacres were both recent honors award recipient in the College of Science, Health and Engineering, Eastern Washington University announced last month.

Hillstrom graduated in 3D animation and game development in June. He is the son of Tim and Carolyn Hillstrom of Liberty Lake and a 2008 graduate of Central Valley High School.

Wellington served in the U.S. Navy as an aviation electricians mate for 20 years before studying computer information systems at Eastern and graduating in June. He is the son of David and Phyllis Wellington of Liberty Lake and a 1985 graduate of Central Valley High School.

Schneidmiller graduates from Whitworth

Janae Schneidmiller of Liberty Lake was awarded a bachelor's degree from Whitworth University earlier this year, the Spokane school announced in July. Schneidmiller is the daughter of Ross and Kelli Schneidmiller.

EWU spring Dean's List released

The following students from Liberty Lake were named to the Dean's List for the spring quarter at Eastern Washington University:

Ryan Conley, Tyler Dines, Garrett Hendrick, Sarah Herner, Ashley Hickson, Nicholas Hillstrom, Madison Hilpert, Patrick Hinea, Leslie Ho, Beth Hotchkiss, Anne Johnson, Alexandra Kern, Amanda Maifeld, Maria McCauley, Madison McNett, Nathan Nelson, Eric Norman, Elizabeth Otis, Shelby Pace, Brooke Petersen, Hannah Robb, Janelle Schweitzer, Jessica Sharpe, Kendra Sherrill, Michael Sherry, Austin Simpson, Acacia Smith, Adam Stintzi, Moriah Sveonius, Connor Szott, Amber Troyer, Nicholas Valentine and Kaylee Wilhelm.

LL pair make MSU honor roll

Paige Wanner and Rebecca Wolf of Liberty Lake were named to the spring semester honor roll at Montana State University in Bozeman. The students achieved a 3.5 GPA or better.

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THE Splash
THE LIBERTY LAKE SPLASH

Expansion to LL opening doors for Lakeside Holistic Health

By Valerie Putnam
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

For the past three years, husband and wife Dr. Pamela Langenderfer and Dr. Jerry Bailey considered expanding their Coeur d'Alene-based business, Lakeside Holistic Health, into Washington state. But the demands of a growing family required the couple to put the move on hold.

"We have two small children, I was either pregnant or having babies the past several years," said Langenderfer, laughing. "My youngest will be 4 in September, so they're at an age I can do a little bit more, and we could expand our hours."

In January, Lakeside Holistic Health opened the doors to a new 2,000-square-foot location in Liberty Lake, 21651 E. Country Vista Drive, Suite F. Langenderfer, both a naturopathic physician and licensed acupuncturist, is the doctor treating patients at the Liberty Lake location.

A graduate of the National College of Naturopathic Medicine in Portland, Ore., Langenderfer offers services such as general healthcare, acupuncture, naturopathic medicine, functional medicine, nutrition, fertility and menopausal support.

Langenderfer splits her time between the two clinics. Bailey plans to practice at the Liberty Lake of-

office next year. He currently provides chiropractic services, acupuncture and functional medicine at the Coeur d'Alene office.

The couple's decision to expand to Washington State was driven in part by the increased offerings the state's laws allow.

"Washington has a better law for naturopaths," Langenderfer said. "We wanted to be able to offer more services for our patients."

Washington's law gives Langenderfer the ability to offer patients hormonal replacement therapy for women. The hormonal replacement therapy uses compounded bio identical hormones.

"They are plant-based hormones and mimic human physiology," Langenderfer said. "People tolerate them better and tend to have less side effects."

Believing naturopathic and oriental medicine can help a variety of conditions affecting the body, Langenderfer has worked with patients from birth to the elderly. Patients come to her with medical concerns ranging from autoimmune diseases to colds and flu.

"The one thing about natural medicine is we have so many different tools that you can choose from and different ways to help the person heal," Langenderfer said. "... We have diet, herbs, homeopathy, supplements and acupuncture. We're not just confined



SPLASH PHOTO BY VALERIE PUTNAM

Earlier this year, Dr. Pamela Langenderfer recently opened a second location for Lakeside Holistic Health, this one in Liberty Lake. Langenderfer and her husband, Dr. Jerry Bailey, also see patients out of Lakeside's main location in Coeur d'Alene.

to one type of medicine or drug."

Looking at the whole person, she attempts to identify the underlying cause of each concern and works to bring the body back into balance, emphasizing diet and nutrition to reach optimal health.

"Diet is huge," Langenderfer said. "We do supportive things to help the body get to the optimal place. ... We spend a lot of time with people. I work really hard for people. If I can't figure something out, I do extra research. I want to make sure I'm doing everything possible that I know to get them back on track."

At both locations, Langenderfer practices functional medicine, which she describes as "a more patient-centered approach, using natural medicine that is evidence-based using common sense biochemistry and physiology."

"We're not guessing out of thin air," Langenderfer said. "There is a logic and science to it."

Langenderfer also specializes in women's reproductive health,

offering support for menopausal symptoms and fertility issues. She is a fellow of the American Board of Oriental Reproductive Medicine, with extra training in Chinese medicine for fertility.

"We're really a good option to start with because we can help put that good foundation piece in, even if people are deciding to have in vitro done," Langenderfer said. "We will address their whole constitution because you want to make the body as healthy as possible before they even conceive."

Beginning in November, Langenderfer will be licensed to offer intravenous (IV) Therapy for vitamins and minerals — another service Washington state allows.

"The body can absorb it better and differently," Langenderfer said of taking supplements through an IV. "That whole area is exploding in terms of how beneficial it can be for different diseases."

Langenderfer said IV therapy is used for patients when they are either too sick to take supplements or need dosages the body can't tol-

erate taking in pill form.

In addition to treatment options, the practice features innovative lab testing and pharmaceutical grade supplements from its dispensary.

The "small-town feel" of Liberty Lake brought the couple to the area.

"I really like this community," Langenderfer said. "I'm a small-town person. I would much rather work in an area like this."

Langenderfer said the community has been supportive since the opening of the new office.

"They have been really receptive," she said. "We're getting to know more people. It's been good."

Currently, Langenderfer meets with clients every Tuesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. She works at the Coeur d'Alene office on Monday and Thursday.

The couple plans to hire additional physicians and eventually expand their hours and days at the Liberty Lake location next year.

In Biz

Caribbean Heat changes hands

Caribbean Heat Tanning Salon, 23801 E. Appleway Ave., has a new owner.

Jen Resnik set up Caribbean Heat Tanning LLC and purchased the business from previous owners Julie and Mike Toole. The transaction became official July 1.

Resnik has experience managing tanning salons and a degree in business. She said she has added merchandise, such as purses, wallets, hats and apparel. The salon has also become Smart Tan Certified,

meaning all employees have undergone training in ultraviolet light administration, skin type systems, sunburn prevention and skin care, eyewear usage and sanitation.

"We want to help our clients understand the science behind tanning and the importance of not burning, along with the benefits of indoor tanning," Resnik said.

Resnik said she purchased Caribbean Heat out of a love for the place and a respect for the previous owners.

"Some tanning salons sell because they didn't know how to run it in the first place or they haven't kept up on their establishment," she said. "That was not the case with Caribbean Heat. The previous owners just had too much on their plate as they both had full-time jobs outside of the salon. They had done an amazing job with the salon, and I fell in love with it the first time I walked in. They are still clients here now, and their daughter is still working here as well."

For more, call 892-3905.

Twisp open Sundays

Twisp Café and Coffeehouse, 23505 E. Appleway Ave., is now open from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sundays. The move, which begins in August, expands the business to seven days a week.

For more, visit www.twispcafe.com or call 474-9146.

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

Off to a great start



SPLASH PHOTO BY JOSH JOHNSON

Young runners are cheered on by spectators at Pavillion Park during the kids races of the Liberty Lake Loop on July 13.

Young ace fires hole-in-one



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Liberty Lake's William Reese Jr., 10, scored a hole-in-one on the 67-yard seventh hole at Eagle Ridge Short Course in Spokane July 3. "I have been playing for 30 years and never even seen one," William's dad, William Reese Sr., said. The Splash's sister publication, The Current, interviewed William about his accomplishment, which came during the first round of golf he had ever played. That story is on page 39 of the August Current, available for free at newsstands throughout Liberty Lake and the Spokane Valley or at issuu.com/valleycurrent.

Scoreboard

COMMUNITY GOLF

6/27 Liberty Lake Ladies Nine Hole

Flight 1: Gross, Linda Church, 46; Net, Judy Cameron, 37
Flight 2: Gross, Bette Devine and Sadie Ruechert, 56; Net, Arla Beck, 36

Flight 3: Gross, Judy Booth, 58; Net, Luana Hager, 33
Chip-in: Judy Clark, No. 11

7/11 Liberty Lake Ladies Nine Hole

Flight 1: Gross, Linda Church, 46; Net, Bette Devine, 34
Flight 2: Gross, Darlene Reilly, 56; Net, Kathy Camyn and Shirley Roberts, 40

Flight 3: Gross, Emma Long and Luann Hager, 64; Net, Dotti Blake, Judy Booth and Polly Soderquist, 41

Chip-ins: Deanna Hauser, No. 8; Dotti Blake, No. 3

Game Day: Bette Devine, Darlene Reilly, Ann Archibald, Mary Ann Grannell, 37

7/13-7/14 Liberty Lake Classic

Third annual 36-hole tournament hosted by Junior Golf Northwest at Liberty Lake and Meadowood golf courses.

Girls 16-18

Nicole Berg, Spokane (77/72 = 149); Katie Ochoa, Spokane (78/80 = 158); Sammi Jo Spring, Lewiston (76/82 = 158)

Girls 13-15

Hanna Gropp, Spokane (87/88 = 175); Jo Jo Jaeger, Coeur d'Alene (99/91 = 190); Emily Heck, Spokane (107/94 = 201)

Boys 16-18

Quinten Meyer, Scottsdale, Ariz. (78/82 = 160); Jake Vetsch, Coeur d'Alene (87/79 = 166); Josh Symon, Coeur d'Alene (92/92 = 184); Anthony Ferrante, Spokane (96/88 = 184)

Boys 13-15

Alex Callahan, Coeur d'Alene (80/75 = 155); Jake Dringler, Spokane Valley (80/77 = 157); Phillip Flexer, Spokane (85/79 = 164)

Boys 10-12

Will Reeves, Sandpoint (75/85 = 160); Brayden Ogle, Coeur d'Alene (84/83 = 167); Jack Johnson, Liberty Lake (89/80 = 169)

7/15 Spokane Valley Women's Evening Golf League

Flight A: Gross, Marie Neumayer, 51; Net, Dorene Meltingtallow, 39

Flight B: Gross, Bobbie Hunsinger, 58; Net, Evanlene Meltingtallow, 37

Flight C: Gross, Jean Jones, 72; net, Elaine Edwards, 51

Flight D: Gross, Margo Schmitz, 66; Net, Jean Hauer and Nancy Moore, 42

Closest to pin: Jackie Jones

Chip-ins: Jean Jones and Elaine Edwards, No. 3; Gail Bailey, No. 8

7/18 Liberty Lake Ladies 9 Hole

Flight 1: Gross, Linda Church, 50; Net, Nancy Lampe, 36

Flight 2: Gross, Darlene Reilly, 57; Net, Ann Archibald, 36

Flight 3: Gross: Luann Hager, 60; Net, Emma Long, 26

Chip-in: Linda Church, No. 4

7/22 Spokane Valley Women's Evening Golf League

Flight A: Gross, Marie Neumayer, 47; Net, Robyn Sciuchetti, 43

Flight B: Gross, Bobbie Hunsinger, 51; Net, Kathy Zinkgraff, 32

Flight C: Gross, Barb Byington, 47; Net, Mary Hager, 33

Flight D: Gross, Jean Hauer, 64; Net, Margo Schmitz, 39

7/25 Liberty Lake Ladies 9 Hole

Flight 1: Gross, Robin McKee, 50; Net, Mary Ann Grannell, 37

Flight 2: Gross, Lorraine Martin, 63; Net, Dotti Blake, 40

Flight 3: Gross, Luann Hager, 64; Net, Judy Clark, 55

Second time champs



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Liberty Lake Hurricanes U10 UNICEP girls softball team recently won the SVGSA league championship for the second year in a row. Pictured are (bottom row) Kylie Constance, Kaycee Gores, Sarah Pecha, Sara Van Liew, Kate Gardner; (middle row) Lauren Hoskins, Kelsie Gores, Savannah Pratt, Baylee Bankey, Chloe Williams, Emma Horton, Emma Johnston, Clair Kaufman; (top row) coaches Doug Pecha and Brett Gores

Fighting Snails conquer Hoopfest



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The 7th grade girls Fighting Snails (sponsored by SLECU) were 2013 Hoopfest Champions. Pictured are Tomekia Whitman, **Madison Reynolds**, Alyssa Molina and Cheyenne Parker. (Liberty Lake resident is highlighted in bold.)

Father and son finishers



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Dave Wright and his son Alex both finished in second place in their age divisions during the Liberty Lake Loop in July.

Scene from Valley Girl Tri



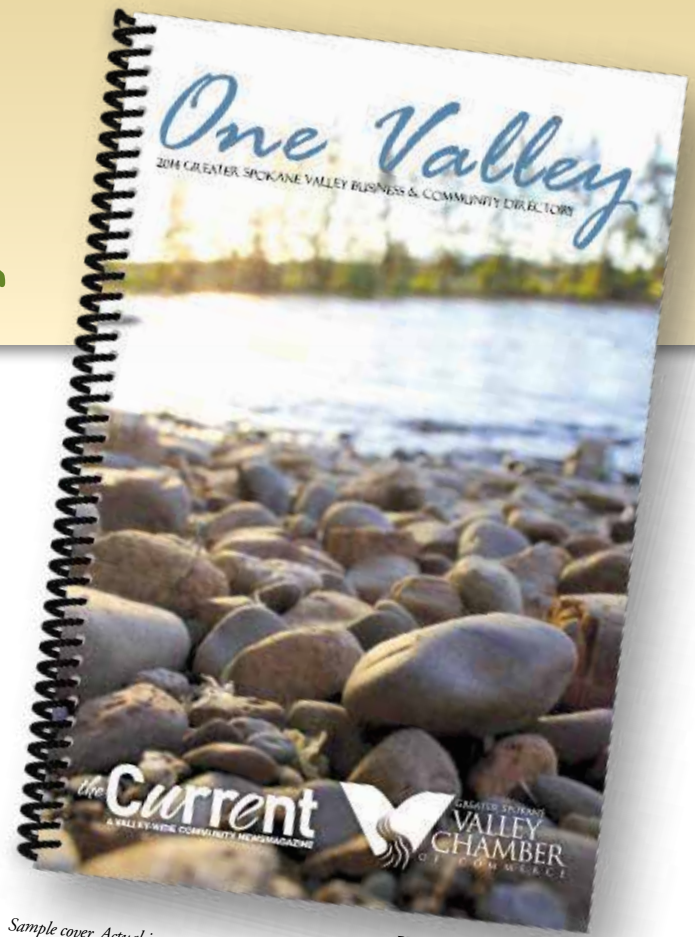
SUBMITTED PHOTO

Jennifer Richey took second place in the Elite division and fifth overall in the Valley Girl Triathlon held July 14 in Liberty Lake.

INTRODUCING ...

One Valley

2014 GREATER SPOKANE VALLEY BUSINESS & COMMUNITY DIRECTORY



Sample cover. Actual image and cover verbiage may change. Photo: Jasmine Emerson

What is it?

Trusted business directory + showroom for the community = One Valley

What continues?

Long published by the Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Directory has always been a trusted source for connecting the community with preferred local businesses and businesspeople.

What's new?

Rebranded as "One Valley," this reimagined publication is like a yearbook for the greater Spokane Valley community. One Valley will now highlight and serve as a resource for what we love about the community with loads of custom content, including features about recreation, education, history, snapshots of our local cities and much more.

Why?

By the Valley, for the Valley, this annual publication is truly a celebration of our community and our shared identity. If you identify your business as a member of the greater Valley community, you'll want to be a part of One Valley.

Market your greater Spokane Valley business ...

Sample Rolodex Listings Page

94 Valley Business & Community Directory

— A —

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Agnew, Tom 509-255-6686
Agnew Consulting

Aitken, Jamie 509-448-2000
KREM TV

Alexy, Michelle 509-893-0955
La Quinta Inn & Suites

Allan, Mike 509-624-8848
Hagadone Directories, Inc.

Allan, Rosalee 509-755-8900
Pathology Associates Medical Laboratories (PAML)

ALLEN, STEVE 509-891-2258
Clinic Director
Therapeutic Associates - Liberty Lake Physical Therapy
libertylakept@taiweb.com

ALMEIDA, PAM 509-924-6976
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pama@valleymow.net

Alsaker, Dan 509-534-1502
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Barts, Dennis (FACHE) 509-473-5000
Valley Hospital

notes

Sample Business Listings Page

Business Listings | Connecting our community 71

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Carver Farms 9105 N Idaho Rd | Newman Lake WA 99025 | 509-226-3602
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Distributing throughout the Valley, Dec. 2013. Also ask about the 15th annual Liberty Lake Community Directory.



Be a part of One Valley.
Call 242-7752 or email janet@valleycurrent.com.

Running club another way to connect for Whybrew

By Jocelyn Stott
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

Kathy Whybrew says she's not a runner. The 45-year-old dynamo founded the Liberty Lake Running Club more for the love of people than for beating the pavement.

"It's really the only time I run," Whybrew said of the club's weekly Thursday gathering. "It's just a great way to be active and drink a beer. I think the fact that I'm not super competitive makes it easier for all types of people to feel like they can join in the fun."

The running club is a perfect example of how Whybrew's inspiration works. One Thursday evening several years ago, Whybrew and her husband, Howard, were downtown at O'Doherty's Irish Grille and Pub when the Flying Irish Running Club arrived for a beer and club initiation (telling an Irish joke while standing on the bar). Whybrew loved the concept, but with three kids and a home in Liberty Lake, she wanted something for her community.

Not long after, Whybrew and a few friends met at Palenque's Mexican Restaurant to start a running club of their own. Now, the group has about 45 regulars and 133 folks who have shown up for a three-mile run and a beer afterwards between March and Nov. 1. The club has since moved its meeting location to True Legends Grill but still meets every Thursday at 5:45 p.m.

The club's most recent run included a Spokane Shock coach, and a few players ran along with the club.

"We saw about 16 new runners just that night," Whybrew said.

About 40 people have earned the right to purchase a \$16 Liberty Lake Running Club T-shirt, which comes when a person has run with the group six times.

Liberty Lake Running Club founder Kathy Whybrew and her daughter, Emma, completed the Schweitzer Mountain Trail Run July 20. Emma, a member of the Central Valley High School cross country team, took first place in the 13- to 18-year-old division for the 10-mile race, while Whybrew opted to run the 3.5-mile route with fellow LLRC member Paula Kahl.

The running club holds several themed runs throughout the year — even after the regular running schedule. A Turkey Trot is planned for Thanksgiving morning and a Jingle Bell Run is scheduled Dec. 21. Whybrew said the group will likely hold another Story Time Stroller Run for parents with kids (story boards are placed along the route for the parents to read to their kids) and a St. Patrick's Day run. The group also hosted an Earth Day Run, where runners placed plants from a local grower on door-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

steps along the running route.

The group is also known for its impromptu celebration runs on birthdays, crazy sock day, Cinco de Mayo and other such events.

As the group has grown, they've organized to help other events, like this year's start of the Windermere Marathon and the Aug. 8 concert at Rocky Hill Park, featuring the music of the Angela Marie Project.

In addition to starting the running club, Whybrew also serves as vice president of the Liberty Lake Community Tennis Association and on the board of directors for the

IF YOU GO ... Run, play tennis and listen to music

The Liberty Lake Running Club and Liberty Lake Community Tennis Association are hosting free activities and a neighborhood concert from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Aug. 8 at Rocky Hill Park. A 3-mile run will begin at 6 p.m., and a tennis clinic will begin at 6:30 p.m. Music by the Angela Marie Project will also begin at 6:30 p.m. Food will be provided, and participants are encouraged to bring blankets or chairs.

profiles:

KATHY WHYBREW

Alma Mater

Purdue University

Age

45, going on 25

Most recent outdoor adventure

The only female (with her sons) on a 50-mile canoe trek with Boy Scout troop in Montana

Activity she's not interested in trying

None

Next big project

An Ultimate Frisbee group for Liberty Lake

Liberty Lake Fallen Heroes Circuit Course. The Fallen Heroes Circuit Course is a collection of exercise equipment (chin-up bar, sit-up bench, etc.) along the walkway between the parks in Liberty Lake started by local Marine, Bobby Wiese, to encourage fitness and honor the memory of Marine Corporal Joshua Dumaw of Spokane Valley, who was killed in Afghanistan.

Not that Whybrew hasn't been a part of community organization for a while now. The Whybrews — Kathy, Howard and children Emma, age 15, Calvin, 12, and Nelson, 10 — moved to Liberty Lake in November 2004 from southwest Michigan. Within a few months, Kathy had started a Liberty Lake Moms and Friends group that united a number of local moms for playgroups.

Whybrew said growing up with a lot of opportunities to plug in to community through her church and family friends, as well as her mother's sense of hospitality, has a large influence in her tendency to create connections. Throughout her life in Michigan, she enjoyed attending and later running her local church camp. For several years, she went back to her hometown for eight weeks in the summer to help with the camp.

See WHYBREW, page 43



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Liberty Lake's Mayra Oakes enjoyed last year's Jingle Bell Run with her three children. The annual run is one of many themed runs organized each year by the Liberty Lake Running Club.

WATERSHED WATCH

who knew?

A single 1/2" wisp of milfoil can multiply into 250 million new plants in a year. — Washington State Department of Ecology

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PROFILES/SPORTS

Barefoot soccer tourney debuts at Pavillion Park

By Josh Johnson
SPLASH STAFF WRITER

William Miller is a businessman, a sports aficionado and a driven personality, but his decision to start a barefoot soccer tournament came down more to his experience raising daughters and a mission trip to Costa Rica.

Miller was in the Central American country in February with a group from Valley Assembly of God Church. He brought with him donated soccer stuff — cleats, balls, etc.

“That soccer ball was their prized possession,” he said. “I had all kinds of soccer shoes and stuff; they didn’t care about those. They would play on gravel with ripped-up shoes.”

But the balls, Miller said, were the can’t-play-without commodity, and most he saw in Costa Rica were tattered and flat — “In America, if one of the soccer balls kids use has stitching coming off, it’s garbage.”

In particular, Miller recalled giving a new ball to a boy named Leo, who attended a chapel service in Los Guidos, Costa Rica.

“He was carrying a ball ripped to shreds, kind of half flat,” Miller said. “I tried to get that ball from him, and he wouldn’t give it to me. He left carrying two soccer balls —

one new one, one old one.”

The experience was the needed push for Miller to get serious about an idea he had been considering for a few years — putting on a barefoot soccer tournament.

“I’ve got all daughters, and they all played soccer, so I’ve been around it for 20 years,” he said. “Playing at home with cleats on, one of them would often get hurt — usually the younger ones. I would say, ‘Guys, come on, play barefoot.’”

When they took their Dad’s advice, an interesting thing happened.

“They played better soccer,” Miller said. “They dribbled better, controlled the play better. I’m like, ‘This is good for them.’”

With a boost of support and encouragement from Liberty Lake City Council member Josh Beckett, Miller said the idea came

IF YOU GO ...

2013 Barefoot 3v3 Soccer Festival
Aug. 17 and 18
Pavillion Park, Liberty Lake

Divisions: Brackets are available for U9-U15, high schools and adults. Cost is \$150 per team and includes a T-shirt for each participant as well as championship T-shirts for winners.

For more or to register: Search for “Barefoot 3v3 Soccer” on Facebook or visit www.barefoot3v3.com. Registration closes soon.

together quickly to hold the tournament Aug. 17-18 at Pavillion Park. Local friends Chaz Valdez, Rik Robles and Mike Cousins rallied around Miller to help make the tourney happen, and a partnership with another local organization that knows a thing or two about putting on tournaments also contributed to making the inaugural Barefoot 3v3 Soccer Festival

minimum of three games over the course of the two-day event.

Teams from U9 to adult are encouraged to sign up or learn more by looking up the tournament on Facebook. The event isn’t associated with any particular soccer club, and special “One World Futbols” have been purchased to be utilized at the event. The balls don’t have a bladder in them, so they don’t go flat. Miller compares the material they are made out of to Crocs shoes, providing a “foamier, softer” but with the same weight as a normal soccer ball.

He said the balls are great for bare feet, but even better for use in countries like Costa Rica, where all the balls will be donated following the tournament.

“Across the world, all these kids grow up playing barefoot soccer,” Miller said.

The plan is to turn a Liberty Lake tournament on well-manicured grass into an annual way to give kids like Leo the epitome of prized possessions — a futbol that doesn’t go flat.

a reality.

“We’re actually partnering with Hoopfest to be a beta test with them for software,” said Miller, explaining the event’s format will be similar to Hoopfest’s 16-team, double-elimination brackets that guarantee teams a

View all of the content in The Splash at:

www.libertylakesplash.com



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Liberty Lake Running Club members celebrate a birthday as they prepare to launch out on another three-mile run recently from True Legends Grill.

WHYBREW

Continued from page 42

Whybrew also teaches preschool at Liberty Lake Children’s Academy — and has since its inception seven years ago. The position at the preschool has played a large part in her connecting with local families.

Whybrew said the running club hopes to form a board of directors and begin the process of seeking nonprofit status so it can do more for the community.

“We are supposed to live in community with one another, and I try to facilitate that,” she said. “I try to look for ways to connect people, and I just like to do stuff outside.”

HOW TO JOIN THE LIBERTY LAKE RUNNING CLUB

Meet at True Legends Grill, 1803 N. Harvard Road in Liberty Lake, at 5:45 p.m. on Thursdays. Run three miles with the group six times to earn the right to purchase a \$16 club T-shirt. For more, call 954-9806 or email kathyawhybrew@msn.com.

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Be purposeful about extending gratitude

Brian Tracy said it so well: “Develop an attitude of gratitude, and give thanks for everything that happens to you, knowing that every step forward is a step toward achieving something bigger and better than your current situation.”

As a boy, my “current situation” was on the east side of London during World War II. Even my school was bombed; fortunately for us, it was at 5:30 a.m. We witnessed overhead dog fights as Spitfire fighter planes shot down Nazi V-1 rockets. Today, I am still full of gratitude for all the GIs who came through our village on their way to France to fight for freedom.

As an immigrant, I’m thankful for a

By Ian Robertson
SPLASH GUEST COLUMN



Scottish employer, John Fergusson, who loaned me the money to come to the United States to continue my education. Imagine that! Loaning someone money to buy a one-way ticket to another continent. And I’m thankful to Dennis Ogle, a grocery store manager in Kansas City, who provided my first job within 12 hours of

being in this country.

The attitude of gratitude — and the list goes on and on!

Thanks + Action = Gratitude. It’s something we do. This month, show an attitude of gratitude once a day. It’ll make your day, and others will be grateful to you.

*Lost at sea, in the dark, and alone
Round my neck was a heavy millstone.
You threw a lifeline
And it came just in time
To face issues I’d tried to postpone.*

As I celebrated my 76th birthday last month, I am so grateful that I have a church and community that still provides

the opportunity to serve others.

So, this month, make a list, a list of people.

Ian Robertson is pastor of Central United Methodist Church in Spokane, executive director of Shalom Ministries, and founder of Change for the Better Spokane. He received “Community Caring” and “Citizen of the Year” awards from the Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce. The focus of his present ministry is providing skills training and creating jobs for the homeless and disadvantaged. He wrote this column as part of a series highlighting the PACE (Partners Advancing Character Education) trait of the month. The trait for August is gratitude.

Letters to the Editor

GMS PTA says thank you

It has been an amazing two years for Greenacres Middle School and the GMS PTA. We wanted to thank the families and businesses of this amazing community for their support and to let them know what we did with their monetary donations.

In 2011-2012, \$15,845 was provided to GMS through the PTA. This helped update two labs with brand new Multipoint Servers, providing 60 workstations. This money also helped purchase five SMART boards.

In 2012-2013, \$47,000 was provided to GMS through the PTA. This allowed for the purchase of 18 additional SMART boards and four SMART Response systems (two math and two general).

To the hundreds of families and businesses who donated over the past two years, thank you for your support in changing the educational opportunities for our GMS students.

Michelle German, President

Laura Wampler, Co-Vice President

Stephanie James, Co-Vice President

Christine Ohlsen, Secretary

Kelli Gardner, Treasurer

GMS PTA Executive Board

Thanks for making the Relay a success

The 2013 Liberty Lake Relay for Life was a great success, raising more than \$26,000 in preliminary totals — with Team F-5 raising more than \$9,000 alone!

The teams decorated their sites with themes from various decades, and it was really fun to see the costumes. Again, F-5 really knocked it out of the park

with their three-tent setup representing the “Celebrate, Remember, Fight Back” theme of Relay for Life.

Thanks to Mirabeau Park Hotel and Cindy Esch for organizing a special catered dinner for our honored survivors. They really made it very special for our special guests and their caregivers.

And, of course, our wonderful Kiwanis friends provided breakfast again. They do so much for our community. Along with breakfast, we had the Ryan Larsen Band, a favorite in the local area, and I am grateful they came to entertain us so early in the morning as they had a show until 2 a.m. the night before, and three shows including us on Saturday. Thanks also to Tony Townsend and family for their help. Thanks to Home Depot for the fun kids crafts. The Stateline Speedway is also very helpful by having a Relay Night at the Speedway, where a 50-50 raffle helped raise money for this cause.

There are more to thank, so please also see the advertisement in this issue. Thanks in general to all the entertainment, helpers, committee people and friends and family who jumped in to help out.

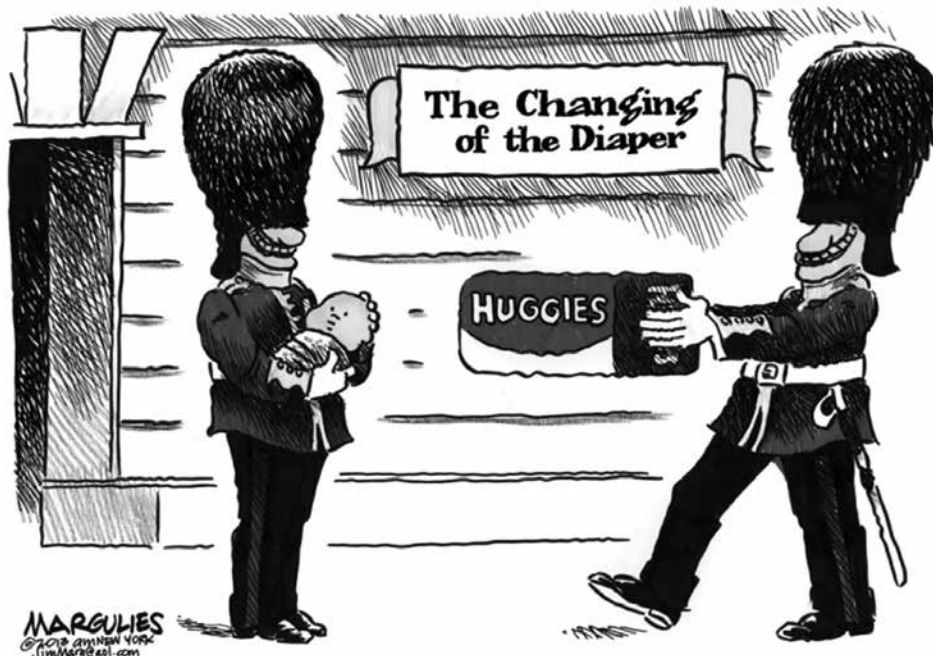
But we need more help to put on this grand of an event. Come and find out what we are doing. There are many ways to help, teams to raise money, individual donations, volunteers to set up or take down — plan with us. You can contact Jennifer Kronvall, our ACS staff partner, at 242-8303 or jennifer.kronvall@cancer.org.

I know that almost everyone has had some kind of experience with this disease, and I know we all want to fight it!

Jean Simpson

Co-organizer, 2013 Liberty Lake Relay for Life

Editorial Cartoons



THE Splash

Volume 15, Issue 11

COMMUNITY

CALENDAR

Continued from page 37

EDITOR/PUBLISHER Josh Johnson
josh@libertylakesplash.com

GENERAL MANAGER Tammy Kimberley
tammy@libertylakesplash.com

SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE Janet Pier
janet@libertylakesplash.com

GRAPHICS EDITOR Sarah Burk
sarah@libertylakesplash.com

CIRCULATION Sandy Johnson
Mike Wiykovic
circulation@libertylakesplash.com

CONTRIBUTORS

Brenna Holland, Craig Howard,
Daniel Pringle, Valerie Putnam,
Ray Ruef, Jocelyn Stott

On the cover:

Design concept by Sarah Burk

About

The Liberty Lake Splash
2310 N. Molter Road, Suite 305
Liberty Lake, WA 99019
Phone: 242-7752; Fax: 927-2190
www.libertylakesplash.com

The Splash is published monthly by or before the first of each month. It is distributed free of charge to every business and home in the greater Liberty Lake area. Additional copies are located at 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. Submissions should be received by the 15th of the month for best chance of publication in the following month's Splash.

Subscriptions

Liberty Lake residents receive a complimentary copy each month. Subscriptions for U.S. postal addresses outside of the 99019 ZIP code cost \$12 for 12 issues. Send a check and subscription address to P.O. Box 363, Liberty Lake, WA 99019. Subscriptions must be received by the 15th of the month in order for the subscription to begin with the issue printed the end of that month.

Correction policy

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

Advertising information

Display ad copy and camera-ready ads are due by 5 p.m. on the 15th of the month for the following month's issue. Call 242-7752 for more information.

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This camp for all skill levels focuses on basic skills and how to build a stronger overall player. Cost is \$75 per player. For more: www.hubsportscenter.org

Aug. 22-24 | Red Lion Cup NAIA Volleyball Tournament 10:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. Women's college volleyball teams challenge each other in multiple matches during the Cascade/Frontier Red Lion Challenge. For more: www.hubsportscenter.org

Aug. 22 | Detox wrap demo 6:30 p.m., Healthy Living Liberty Lake, 2207 N. Molter Road, suite 203A. The public is invited to learn about a botanically-based formula that tightens, tones and firms wherever applied while minimizing the appearance of cellulite and skin slackening. Call to reserve a spot at this free, informative demonstration. For more: 924-6199

Aug. 25 | Emerald City Basketball Academy Fall 2013 Tryouts 10 to 11:30 a.m. (girls) and noon to 1:30 p.m. (boys), HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. For athletes in grades 3 through 12. For more: 206-248-9730

Recurring

HUB Sports Center 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. Various classes, activities and events occur throughout the week including:

Badminton open gym: 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesdays, \$5/ person

Basketball open gym: 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Tuesdays, \$4/person

Pickleball drop-in: 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Mon. through Thurs.; 6 to 8 p.m. Sun. and Wed., \$2/ seniors (\$4/non-seniors)

Zumba classes drop-in: 10 to 11 a.m. Mon./ Wed./Fri.; 6 to 7 p.m. Mon.; 9 to 10 a.m. Sat.; \$3/person

Liberty Lake Ladies 9-Hole Golf Club 9 a.m. on Thursdays, Liberty Lake Golf Course, 24403 E. Sprague Ave. For more: 255-9498
Liberty Lake Running Club 6 p.m. on Thursdays, True Legends Grill, 1803 N. Harvard Road. Runners or walkers are invited to gather with others for a 3-mile route. For more: 954-9806 or kathyawhybrew@msn.com

Aug. 8 at Rocky Hill Park

Liberty Lake Community Tennis Association

Rocky Hill Park. The group offers adult evening clinics 6:30 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays, kids clinics 9 and 10 a.m. Saturdays, and a ladies day 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays. Clinics will run through Aug. 31. For more: 255-9293 or larrywest1@live.com

Trailhead Golf Lessons Trailhead Golf Course, 1102 N. Liberty Lake Road. Programs are available for youth and adults. For more: 928-3484 or libertylakewa.gov/golf

Trailhead Ladies 9-Hole Golf Club 9 a.m. on Wednesdays, Trailhead Golf Course, 1102 N. Liberty Lake Road. Club meeting 8 a.m. the first Wednesday of the month. For more: 939-5119

All calendar listings were provided to or gathered by Splash staff. If you would like your event considered for the community calendar, please submit information by the 15th of the month to calendar@libertylakesplash.com.

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Our sincere appreciation to the following businesses for their foundational partnerships with The Splash and its partner publications:

THE Splash

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How the 'witches' saved Liberty Lake County Park

By Eleanor Limmer
SPLASH GUEST COLUMN



In the mid-1980s, residents of Liberty Lake began hearing rumors about logging trucks hauling logs from the park out through back roads to Idaho. My friend, Lisa Nania, called me saying she was greatly upset by what was happening to the park. While on a vision quest in the park, she had heard the trees "screaming" and the sounds of a logging operation. She knew I would understand, as I am a poet and fellow "tree hugger."

We decided to ask three other women to join us in protesting what appeared to be a destruction of Liberty Lake County Park. These women were all deeply concerned with preserving the lake and the 4,000-acre park that feeds into it. We were a group of five women who privately called ourselves "The Liberty Lake Witches." We were good witches determined to protest to protect the park and lake.

Each of us was dedicated in our individual ways and brought our passions and talents to this cause. Sue Kahn was then director of the Liberty Lake Sewer District. Mary Vollmer was then president of the Liberty Lake Property Owners. These two women had much experience as environmentalist leaders. Lisa Nania was a sensitive, courageous woman who was talented in making media contacts. She and I were willing and able to speak out for what we clearly saw were mistaken public policies. Swanie Tyler was the eldest member. Swanie liked a conflict; she was of a generation of women who found it difficult to express their thoughts or feelings. She, however, could be depended on to be present and to stir up controversy in the community as she had lived near Liberty Lake most of her life and knew just about everyone who lived around the lake.

We soon discovered the Spokane County Park Director, Sam Angove, was responsible for the decision to carry out a large log-



SPLASH FILE PHOTO

An overlook along the loop hike at Liberty Lake County Park allows a glimpse of the lake, marsh and hundreds of surrounding trees.

ging operation involving building roads in the wilderness of the park and cutting down and hauling away trees through Idaho. He justified this operation by giving two improperly announced hearings in which he claimed the logging operations were necessary to preserve the park by cutting down diseased and dying trees.

The Liberty Lake Witches in response soon demanded a public hearing to address park officials and to express our outrage at this subterfuge. We were outraged that park officials were destroying the park and threatening the lake. None of us bought the ruse that harvesting trees that were supposedly "diseased and dying" was protecting the park.

We elicited the help of Stan Schultz, an attorney for the Sewer District and a friend of Sue Kahn. We were not familiar with all the laws and regulations but knew we had a right to speak out against a blatant threat to Liberty Lake Park and the lake. I sat next

to Lisa and felt her fear when no legal voices came to our defense and supported us in our right to protest. We were intimidated and humiliated, but defended our right to speak out and the improper manner in which the logging had been instigated.

It made no sense to allow park officials to run a logging operation just because the park director had a limited budget and wanted to pay for salaries and toilets he felt he needed. A shortfall in his budget was one of the explanations given for the logging — not a legitimate one in our eyes. Schultz, the attorney, who had professional ties to the county, did not speak in our defense during the meeting. We learned later Schultz visited Angove privately and warned him that his actions to log the park were not only unwise, but possibly illegal.

We learned later there were park department employees who objected to the logging operation. Later, Lisa arranged for

representatives for the Departments of Natural Resources, Wildlife and Ecology to visit the sites of the ongoing logging operations. Lisa promised these officials she could show them where there were run-offs into the lake from the logging roads. I went along to see what she had discovered, but silently prayed for help, because I could see these officials were unimpressed with what she showed them.

Then something unexpected happened: the head of the "soil conservation," a park department employee, led these officials to an area within the lake watershed we did not know about. Here we found an impressive stormwater runoff directly into a major stream that fed the lake upon one of the logging roads leading to an area of the watershed that was soon scheduled to be logged. Shortly after this episode, this park employee recommended these 50 acres of the watershed not be logged. The other government agencies agreed and later

required water-bars be made in the logging roads where the run-off occurred to prevent further harm to the lake.

After the logging operation stopped, Mary Vollmer and Sue Kahn considered suing the park director after reviewing the receipts from the logging operations. They discovered there was little or no profit from the logging operation after the cost of constructing roads and the transportation of the logs to Idaho were considered. They decided a lawsuit was unnecessary since the logging operation had stopped after our protests.

The Liberty Lake Witches saved Liberty Lake County Park and Liberty Lake from further destruction.

Eleanor Limmer is a longtime Liberty Lake resident. For more on Limmer, visit www.eleanorlimmer.com. To submit an opinion column to The Splash for future consideration, email editor@libertylakesplash.com.



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