

THE Splash

LIBERTY LAKE'S COMMUNITY NEWSMAGAZINE
SEPTEMBER 2013

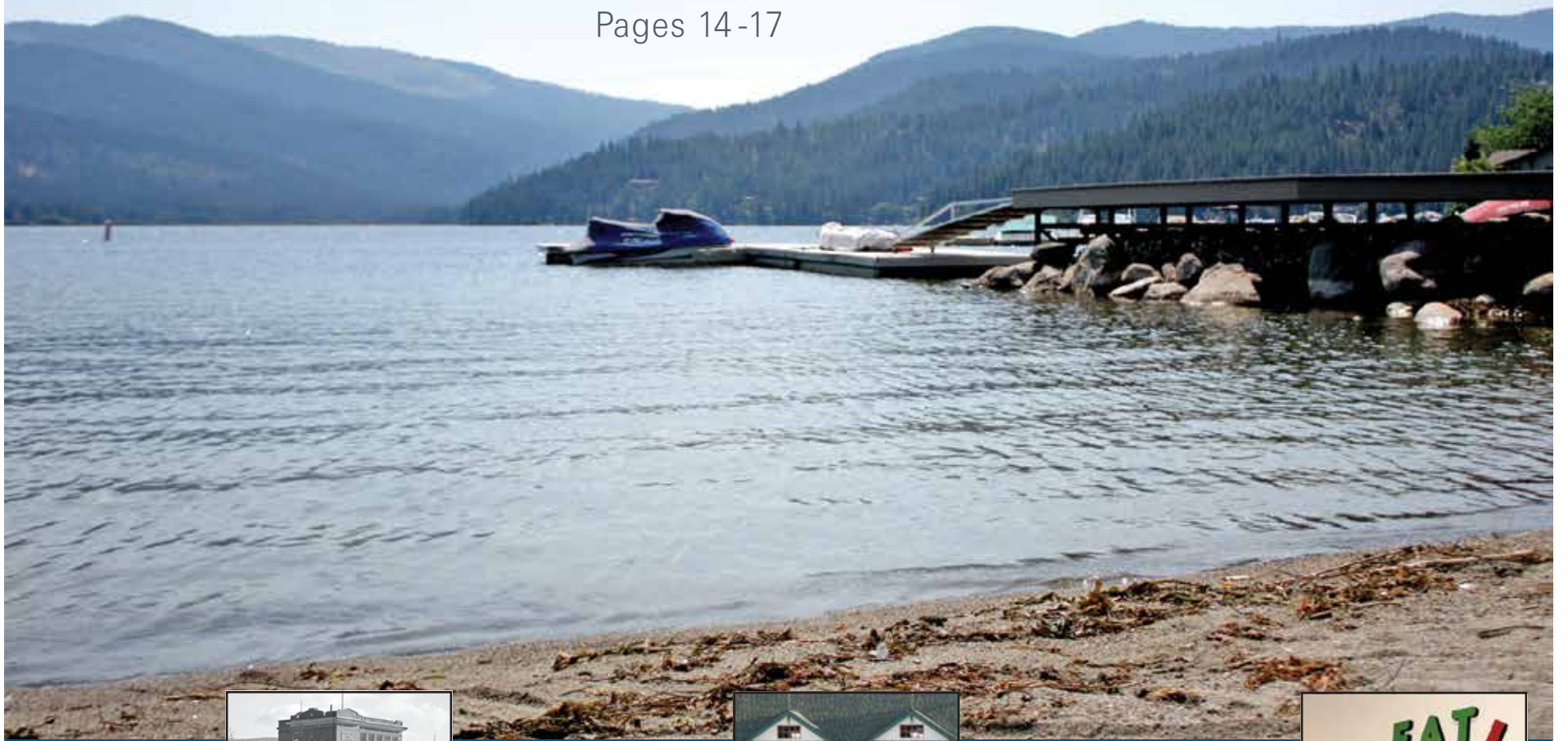
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From green to pristine

Now 40 years old, how the LLSWD methodically wrote an environmental success story

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RECALLING
ORIGINAL LL
SCHOOLS
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SYMPHONY
CAPS FOPP
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PAGE 27



'EAT GOOD'
AIMS FOR BOTH
HEALTHY AND FAST
PAGE 40



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Lake doctor

WSU professor goes back to early days of LLSWD, lake protection

By Craig Howard
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

Touring Liberty Lake with Dr. Barry Moore is like strolling through the Grand Canyon with Ansel Adams or exploring the farms of New England with Robert Frost.

From identifying a great blue heron in the far distance to pointing out an area near the county park where early homesteaders once harvested crops, Moore is a floating encyclopedia of lake history and traits. He began surveying the lake in 1978 when he arrived as a graduate student with Washington State University to help with a treatment strategy designed to reduce the levels of phosphorous in the water.

Moore came to the Palouse from his native Alabama where he had graduated from Birmingham Southern College with a degree in biology and plans to pursue a career in air pollution control. At WSU, he discovered the work of Dr. Bill Funk, one of the pioneers in lake protection who had been working with the founders of the Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District since the early 1970s. Not long after arriving in Pullman, Moore would shift his area of study from the air to the water, or limnology, with Liberty Lake serving as the central research lab.

These days, graduate students from WSU migrate to Liberty Lake twice a month from May to October to take samples on the lake. With Funk now retired and living in Utah, Moore has taken over the coordination of the research here as well as on Newman Lake and several sites on the Colville Indian Reservation. He makes the trip from Pullman to the greater Spokane area once or twice a month during the warm weather season.

“Dr. Moore and his predecessor, Dr. Funk with Washington State University, have been instrumental to the success of the Liberty Lake restoration,” LLSWD General Manager Bijay Adams said. “Washington State University was the first connection homeowners made to address water quality issues on Liberty Lake. For 45 years, they have been dedicated to the management and continued protection of this precious resource.”

Moore chose Liberty Lake for the setting of his Master’s thesis, examining the recycling of phosphorous through aquatic weeds.



He has his doctorate degree in engineering and has been teaching at the WSU School of the Environment since 1992. He took up scuba diving in order to do research in Liberty Lake for his Master’s and eventually became a scuba instructor, teaching diving at WSU since 1982. According to the National Association of Underwater Instructors, Moore has certified more scuba divers — around 8,000 — than any other instructor in the country.

The North American Lake Management Society has honored Moore with a technical merit award in 2011 for his restoration work on both Liberty Lake and Newman Lake. He serves on the editorial board for “Lake and Reservoir Management,” the journal published by NALMS, and is also active in the Washington State Lake Protection Association.

Improved water quality in Liberty Lake has acted as a catalyst for development since the involvement of Funk, Moore and WSU. Moore estimates that nearly all of the homes now around the 710-acre lake have been built since he began taking samples 35 years ago. Before that, he recalls little more than cabins and cottages. In addition to the community of shoreline dwellers, the lake is home to a thriving ecosystem that includes rainbow trout, bass, perch and blue gill as well as waterfowl like osprey, ducks and eagles.

Over the years, Moore has run into muskrats on Sandy Beach, seen bass nesting below the surface and pulled rows of invasive milfoil by hand. Then there was the winter of 1992, when an influx of crawfish meant filling a five-gallon bucket and transporting them back to Pullman for a boil while catching the second half of Washington State’s legendary “Snow Bowl” victory over cross-state rival Washington in the Apple Cup.

The Splash visited with Moore about his years studying Liberty Lake during a recent stop he made in the community.

Q. What were some of your first impressions of the Liberty Lake community when you visited here in 1978?

A. Well, there was nothing where the whole city of Liberty Lake is now. I remember kind of where the golf course is now, north of that was just a turf farm. Hewlett Packard came in and told the local community that

See LAKE, page 4

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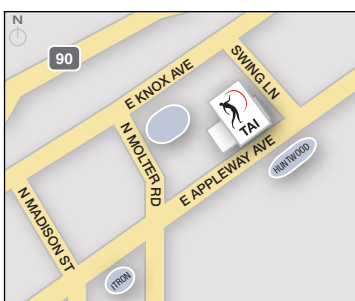
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LAKE

Continued from page 2

the reason they came in and built that plant was they wanted a place where they could get good workers and keep them here, and they said they wanted a community that had a commitment to the environment, and the lake restoration was part of that. I think this community continues to be a great resource for outdoor recreation, from fishing to boating and just aesthetically. The local community, I know they love their lake. It's a resource for the entire state and the region.

Q: What about your transition from Alabama to Pullman? What was it like going from the heart of the South to the Palouse?

A: The biggest difference was that there were no trees. Where I grew up, in the suburban area around Birmingham, we were kind of on the edge of the city, but you'd think you were out in the middle of nowhere because you can't see so far with all the trees. Pullman is a tremendous (agricultural) area, lots of rural lands and tremendous interest in the environment. In Birmingham, we had access to a lot of wilderness areas and that was one of the things I liked about here is that a short drive gets you to a wilderness area. The variety of landscapes up here is tremendous.

Q: What was the status of environmental awareness in Alabama and the South in general when you were going to college some 40 year ago?

A: I think the South, in some respects, was a little behind certain parts of the country back then, but in other respects, they were a little ahead. Much of the South is still rural, and people are very close to the environment. There are a lot of situations where people were directly affected by pollution, and there was a lot of concern. I was involved in a case where we shut down a guy in a swamp north of Mobile Bay that had no air pollution control and was using some hazardous waste material. It took us six months, but we caught him. He destroyed 40 acres of cypress trees around his plant.

Q: What are some of the main differences between protecting against air pollution in comparison to water pollution?

A: In air pollution regulation, you're dealing more with sampling of stacks — it's more on an engineering approach. In order to quantify the amount of material that's being emitted there are some pretty elaborate engineering, technological procedures as opposed to dealing with the biology. I had done a little bit with air pollution effects on vegetation, but what's different with water is you have a tremendous ecosystem, so we try to understand what happens to the plants and animals when pollution is having an impact on



SPLASH PHOTO BY CRAIG HOWARD

Dr. Barry Moore has been working on water quality at Liberty Lake since 1978, when he arrived from his native Alabama as a fellowship student at Washington State University. Moore took over for another WSU professor and lake protection pioneer, Dr. Bill Funk, in the coordination of Liberty Lake sampling and testing efforts when Dr. Funk retired.

the system and try to reverse that.

Q: What can you tell us about Dr. Bill Funk and his involvement with the formation of the Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District and the restoration of Liberty Lake?

A: Bill was instrumental in helping Liberty Lake get funding from the EPA. The folks around the lake who were instrumental in forming the sewer district really wanted to get WSU involved to see what was the cause of all these algae blooms. As a result of those studies, they made some recommendations as to what could improve water quality in the lake, and one of the first recommendations was to get the nutrients out of the lake and sewer it. But in order to do so, you had to form a sewer district. Bill also recommended doing an alum treatment, which removes particulates out of the water, but also removes phosphorous. Lake restoration is really only about five decades old, and Dr. Funk was one of the first practitioners. The paradigm was that reducing phosphorous was the key to reducing blue-green algae growth. As with all paradigms in science, it pays to test them. We are just starting to see the results of 30, 40 years of lake restoration. One of the things I've been real fortunate in working with Liberty Lake and Newman Lake for so long is we have a data set

which is pretty unusual in that we have 30, 40 years of data to show what has happened as these nutrient reductions have kicked in. Liberty Lake has been a tremendous success.

Q: As you've probably heard, the Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. What do you think the district's impact has been over the years?

A: In the east and central part of the U.S., people have been living around lakes for 50, 100 years. Here, you have these small communities that have to protect their lake but they also are doing all the other things that communities do and, really, the sewer and water district has grown into a mini-city entity. I think if you look at communities around the state, the Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District has really been at the forefront. They've done a great job of protecting their lake and having dealt with the staff and the commissioners through the years, protecting water quality has been uniformly a priority.

Q: We hear a lot about the damage that too much phosphorous can have on a lake or a river. Can you set us straight on what actually happens?

A: Phosphorous is the key. Plants need nitrogen, phosphorous and carbon to grow. Carbon

is in the air, nitrogen is too. Phosphorous has to come from terrestrial sources, so in most fresh waters, phosphorous is the nutrient relative to the need of the plant that's in shortest supply. So, it's the phosphorous that really drives the plant growth you have in the water. If you get too much phosphorous, blue-green algae are able to use nitrogen that's dissolved from the atmosphere. The blue-greens are able to use this nitrogen source that's not available to other algae. We call it blue-green algae, but it's really bacteria. The blue-greens short-circuit the food chain; the zooplankton don't eat them. They're toxic. They shade out other plants and other algae and they die. And when they die, they can deplete oxygen. Before the sewer district, you had this tremendous biomass, rows of blue-greens concentrating on the surface and they would shade out the rooted weeds and those plants would die and release more phosphorous which would drive more blue-greens. The blue-greens would end up on the shore and decay and stink.

Q: Looking back at the history of the district, the elimination of septic tanks around the lake really seemed to be the key to addressing water quality. But what about the alum treatments that you were a part of when you first worked here in 1978? How much of an impact did they have on phosphorous levels?

A: The alum dropped the level of phosphorous in the water, short-term. Much of that phosphorous that had accumulated in the lake over time, it all ends up in the sediment, and these lakes become real efficient at recycling, so we were intervening in that recycling. So, between what was coming from the outside and what was being recycled, we had to intervene in both. The change was pretty dramatic, but I remember Bill Funk always said one problem with the alum treatment is that the lake clears up and everyone thinks you fixed the problem, but it's not that easy. A good analogy I always use is it's like a heart attack patient. If you have a heart attack, you go to the hospital, you have to intervene and get the person back in a healthy state, but long-term, you have to make those lifestyle changes. For a lake, it's about protecting the watershed, and that's where the community has to be committed to it.

Q: Between the removal of septic tanks, sewerage, the alum treatments and other strategies, how long did it take to really see a difference in water quality?

A: I will say there was a very immediate response in not having those blue-green blooms. The blue-greens were still a pretty substantial part of the community from year to year. We use the term "blooms," but what you really had then were concentrations of cells that were millions of cells, per cubic meter, and

See LAKE, page 17



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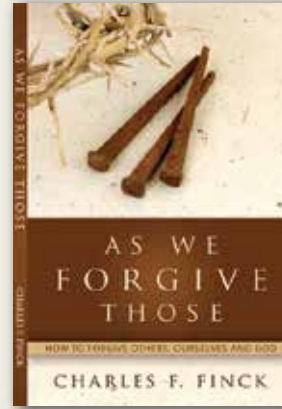
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■ ■ ■ Police Report

The following incidents, arrests, calls for service and citations were among those reported by the Liberty Lake Police Department July 29 through Aug. 26. The incident report is listed in chronological order.

Incidents and arrests

• **Vehicle prowl** — At 11:44 a.m. July 30, LLPD was dispatched to a prowling at the 1800 block of North Pepper Tree Lane for a theft. The complainant reported someone had entered his vehicle and stolen a \$230 GPS system and \$216 of liquor.

• **Vehicle prowling, take two** — At 6:15 P.M. July 30, LLPD responded to a vehicle prowling at the 1800 block of North Pepper Tree Lane. The complainant reported coming out to her vehicle and noticing items missing in the amount of \$727.

• **Malicious mischief** — At 5:50 p.m. Aug. 4, LLPD responded to a malicious mischief call at the 1200 block of North Fairway Lane. The complainant reported that upon coming home, he noticed his vehicle had egg on the windshield, and his garage door had blue spray paint on it. The complainant provided suspect information, and the LLPD officer made contact with two juvenile boys and their parents regarding the incident. Both juveniles admitted to the malicious mischief, and it was agreed by the parents and at the discretion of the complainant that the matter be handled within the parties involved. Two vehicles on the road had also been vandalized with blue spray paint and the owners were contacted.

• **Harassment** — At 9:39 p.m. Aug. 4, LLPD responded to the 2100 block of North Harvard Road when a complainant reported that while riding bikes with his four children, a driver of a pickup truck became upset that he had to stop while they crossed a driveway he was trying to pull into. The driver of the pickup was contacted by an officer and admitted to yelling at the man and kids and calling them names, but said he was upset that he almost hit them after not seeing them due to the bikes having no lights. Charges were forwarded for harassment.

• **Suspicious person** — At 5 a.m. Aug. 7, LLPD was dispatched to the 1800 block of North Pepper Lane for a suspicious person. Upon arrival, officers made contact with the subject standing outside in the parking lot who reported his girlfriend was a call girl and was upstairs with a customer. The subject made multiple attempts to contact his girlfriend with no answer. Hotel staff asked that both individuals be trespassed from the property.

• **Fraud** — At 9:23 a.m. Aug. 9, LLPD responded to the 1700 block of North Madson on the report that 16 checks had been written on the business' account fraudulently, all cashed and totaling the amount of \$3,473.26. The matter was

placed under investigation.

• **Burglary** — At 5:53 p.m. Aug. 12, LLPD was dispatched to the 19000 block of East Maxwell for a burglary. The complainant reported her home was broken into while she was at work and suspected the responsible party knew her daughter and her daughter's boyfriend, who also live at the residence. Items totaling \$2,314 along with medication were taken. On Aug. 13, the complainant and her daughter were able to procure the last name of the female subject involved and identified her through a photo montage. Neighbors also reported to an LLPD officer that they witnessed a vehicle matching that given by the complainant parked outside the residence at 9 a.m. and a man and woman carrying items to the vehicle. The case was placed under investigation.

• **Stolen vehicle** — At 8:15 a.m. Aug. 13, LLPD responded to a stolen vehicle call at the 21000 block of East Country Vista Drive. The complainant reported she came out to her vehicle in the morning and found it was missing and had been stolen sometime during the night. She said she heard a car start and leave the area around 4 a.m. The case was placed under investigation.

• **Rollover accident** — At 4:08 p.m. Aug. 17, LLPD was dispatched to North Liberty Lake Road and East Appleway Avenue for a traffic accident. A Kia ran the red light and was struck by a Dodge proceeding through the green light. The Kia rolled over, and a witness provided first aid to the driver, who sustained minor injuries, possibly whiplash and back pain. A traffic citation was issued to the driver of the Kia.

• **Warrant arrest** — A 16-year-old girl was arrested Aug. 19 on a warrant out of Idaho after LLPD responded to complaints regarding a possible homeless camp near the path that runs along Liberty Lake Road. The LLPD officer went to the location near the trail's intersection with East Settler Drive and found juveniles had made a place to hang out and smoke marijuana. The officer made contact with four juveniles, who were smoking cigarettes. There was a purple Crown Royal bag on the ground containing a glass marijuana pipe. The officer ran the juveniles names and found the warrant. The girl was then placed under arrest and transported to the Spokane County juvenile detention center. The other juveniles involved were released to parents or guardians.

• **Guardrail damage, DWLS** — A 38-year-old Coeur d'Alene man was arrested at 5:50 p.m. Aug. 20 at East Appleway Avenue and North Spokane Bridge Road for driving with a suspended license. LLPD initially responded to the scene of a traffic accident. The man reportedly fell asleep at the wheel and ran into guardrail, taking out about 20 feet in the collision.

• **Theft** — A 27-year-old Spokane Valley woman was arrested at 1:54 p.m. Aug. 22 at the 1200 block of North Liberty Lake Road, where she had been detained for stealing \$125.14 in liquor from the store. Officers were also presented with surveillance footage of seven previous incidents in which the woman stole a total of \$1,012.89 in liquor. She was arrested and booked into the Spokane County Jail for second degree theft.

• **Assault** — At 5:09 p.m. Aug. 22, LLPD was dispatched to the 19000 block of East Maxwell Avenue for an assault. The complainant reported being struck with a 2x6 piece of wooden board after taking a friend to check on the vehicle she had left at a home for repairs. He reported sitting in his vehicle and waiting when the subject approached him with the board and wanted to fight. The complainant reported remaining in his vehicle until the subject started to hit his car and cause damage to the vehicle. The complainant tried to block damage the subject was trying to cause to his back window with the board by using his arm. Medics were contacted, and the complainant left the scene. Officers made contact with the subject's wife, who reported her husband had asked the complainant to leave their property multiple times before approaching him with the board. She also reported her husband had left, and she had no idea where he may be. Officers checked the residence again that evening for the subject's return, but were unable to make contact. The subject's wife requested that charges be pressed against the complainant for trespassing.

• **Assault arrest** — A 50-year-old Liberty Lake man was arrested at 7:05 p.m. Aug. 22 at the 1200 block of North Eagle Road for fourth degree assault. A complainant reported that while walking his dog, the accused man's garage door came up, and two dogs ran out and started barking at him. The arrested man then approached the complainant and became threatening through the use of profanity and physical behaviors. The victim reported continuing to walk away and being shoved in the chest with both hands. Officers arrived and spoke to both parties involved. After taking pictures of the victim's chest and finding two large red marks, the accused man was arrested.

• **Rape arrest** — A 28-year-old man was arrested at 6:45 a.m. Aug. 25 at the 1400 block of North Fairway Lane for rape third degree. LLPD received a report regarding the rape and after investigation and speaking to the suspect, it was determined the crime had occurred. He was arrested and booked into Spokane County Jail.

• **Assault arrest** — A 34-year-old Spokane man was arrested at 10:25 a.m.

Calls for service

Reported by the Liberty Lake Police Department July 29-Aug. 26

Abandoned vehicle	1
Agency assist	1
Assault	2
Burglary	1
Citizen assist	4
Citizen dispute	3
Domestic violence	1
Drug possession	1
DUI	4
False report	1
Fraud	2
Fugitive	4
Juvenile problem	1
Lost or found property	3
Malicious mischief	2
Medical assist	1
Message delivered	1
Not classified	5
Property theft	4
Rape	1
Suspicious person/circumstance	5
Traffic accident	4
Traffic offense	24
Vandalism	1
Vehicle prowling	3
Vehicle theft	1
Welfare check	3

Citations

Reported by the Liberty Lake Police Department July 29-Aug. 26

Assault IV	2
Controlled substance violation	1
Defective lights	3
Driving without license/ID	1
DUI	3
DWLS	21
Expired registration	5
Failure to obey traffic control	1
Failure to stop/yield	5
Failure to wear safety belt	2
Following too close	1
Hit and run	1
Ignition interlocks	1
Interfering with report of DV	1
Liability insurance	10
License in possession/display	1
Minor in possession of alcohol	3
Minor operating veh. after alcohol	1
Negligent driving	1
No stop lights or turn signal	1
Parking in handicap zone	1
Possession of drug paraphernalia	2
Possession of marijuana	1
Providing false evidence	1
Reckless driving	1
Speeding	20
Theft	1
Transfer of ownership	1
Use of cell phone	2
Violating intermediate license	1

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POLICE

Continued from page 6

Aug. 25 at the 25000 block of East Hawkstone Loop for fourth degree assault and interfering with the reporting of domestic violence. Officers arrived and spoke to a complainant, who reported the man threw her phone off the balcony when she tried to call 911 and let the air out of her car tires. When officers arrived, the man had left the area on foot. The complainant advised she was scared of what the man would do to her if he showed back

up as he had been threatening in the past. An hour later, the man called 911 and advised he wanted to tell his side of the story. He reported the complainant got mad because she thought he was talking to another woman, they got into a verbal argument and she scratched him on the chest as they were arguing. He showed the officer the scratch, and he reported he then left the apartment in order to get something to eat and cool down. He also reported that complainant accused him of stealing her phone and said he had no idea where it was. An officer made contact with the complainant again and helped

her locate her phone. She then reported that the man had grabbed her right wrist and took the phone from her right hand, pushed her down into a chair in the living room and told her he was going to call 911 and tell them that she had scratched him so they would arrest her. The man was placed under arrest and transported to the Spokane County Jail.

Unincorporated Liberty Lake

The following report was provided by the Spokane County Sheriff's Office:

• **Hikers located** — At 9 p.m. Aug. 18, Spokane County Sheriff's Deputies

responded to two missing hikers at Liberty Lake Regional Park. Family members of the 18-year-old female and 17-year-old male said the two of them left to go hiking around 11:30 a.m. and had not returned. Both hikers had cell phones with them. They were able to call 911 and, in turn, 911 was able to relay coordinates to park rangers on the ground. Air1 was deployed, and with this information, tactical flight officers located both hikers safe within 25 minutes of takeoff. They were able to guide deputies to the hikers and escort them off the southwest corner of the lake safely.



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NEWS

Council votes to formalize trio of 2014 priorities

By Craig Howard
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

It's official — the Liberty Lake City Council will not retreat from a list of established priorities for 2014.

While extended gatherings of the city's governing board have been part of the municipal calendar going back to the early years after incorporation, council retreats have typically not been followed by a formal motion formalizing the discussion and corresponding goals.

That changed on Aug. 20.

In a unanimous vote, the City

Council passed a resolution confirming the top three topics of emphasis for next year based on the retreat that took place on Aug. 11. The trio includes:

1. Finalizing a plan for the eastern portion of the Liberty Lake Ball Fields.

2. Identifying a strategy to develop two acres in the center of town set aside for a town square.

3. Facilitating funds for a street maintenance program based largely on utility tax revenue.

The street maintenance conversation will also include an

evaluation of options to shift the percentage of tax now charged for various utilities.

"If we don't formalize this by resolution, it just becomes part of the minutes," said City Administrator Katy Allen, when giving her reasons for putting the priorities up for a vote. "This is about what we want to work on as we put together a budget for next year."

Before the vote was called, several council members emphasized that the resolution would not include official decisions on funding let alone moving forward with any project — or, in the words of Council Member Dan Dunne, "this is not shoveling dirt."

"There are still some concerns," said Council Member Cris Kaminkas. "This is just about getting the information."

Council Member Keith Kopelson went one step further, proposing that a separate workshop discussion be held to address potential changes to the utility tax. His colleagues agreed, voting to include an amendment on the workshop, now scheduled for Sept. 10.

Mayor Pro Tem Odin Langford said he, for one, will need more details on expenditures related to the town square project that could include everything from basic upgrades like a parking lot and street improvements to amenities such as an amphitheater and decorative fountain.

"I won't be in favor of moving forward on the two acres until we know what's going to be there in the future," Langford said.

On the street maintenance front, the city has targeted a budget of \$815,000 for next year, with \$662,000 generated through the utility tax. Allen recommended that council use the baseline of \$662,000 when deliberating on potential shifts to the percentage collected from cable, gas, garbage, phone and electric bills — all currently taxed at a rate of 3 percent.

There has been talk of reducing the percentage on gas and electric, based largely on feedback from the local business community, although on Aug. 20, Langford urged council to



SPLASH FILE PHOTO

The first phase of work on transforming the vacant field next to Liberty Lake Elementary School into ball fields will take shape after a contract is awarded at the Sept. 17 meeting. The City Council plans to keep discussion about the site on its radar, listing the project as one of three official priorities for 2014.

proceed with caution, saying he would be opposed "to assigning an extra burden on everyday citizens in favor of one or two businesses."

Allen said the average Liberty Lake home currently pays around \$100 in utility taxes each year. Council Member Lori Olander pointed out that the growth of the city — the official population now stands at 8,190 — translates into a broader tax base and added rationale to decrease the rate.

"What we really want to do is scrutinize the utility tax based on growth and see if we can get close to the \$662,000 with some kind of percentage change," Allen said.

In other city news:

- Allen reported that representatives of the business community affected by the roundabout project met with city officials as the work was beginning last month to discuss methods of minimizing the impact on cus-

tomers traffic. The city posted message signs letting motorists know that businesses in the area are open.

- Andrew Finneman addressed council during the public comments portion of the Aug. 20 meeting, expressing concern over stray golf balls from the first tee at the Trailhead at Liberty Lake Golf Course. Finneman said he was nearly struck by a golf ball earlier this month when walking down the trail between the course and Liberty Lake Road. He recommended that the city consider raising the height of the fence to protect against potential incidents.

- Allen related that Arlene Fisher, former Liberty Lake city clerk and finance director, was honored with the prestigious "Award of Excellence" by the Association of Washington Cities this month. Fisher currently works as city administrator in Cheney.

IN THE BOOKS, ON THE DOCKET

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

By Craig Howard
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

In the books (August)

- Representatives of the City Council met at City Hall for a retreat on Aug. 11. The four-hour meeting was facilitated by Mike Kennedy and included Mayor Steve Peterson and City Administrator Katy Allen in attendance.

- At the council meeting on Aug. 20, the governing board unanimously approved a resolution confirming the three top municipal priorities for 2014 as discussed at the retreat. The priorities include: reaching a consensus on a development strategy for the eastern portion of the Liberty Lake Ball Fields; confirming a plan for the two-acre plot along Meadowwood Lane that has been discussed as the potential site of a town square; and allotting revenue for the street maintenance fund based on proceeds from the city's utility tax. For more on this, see the accompanying story.

- A number of city-sponsored capital projects broke ground in August, including the Sprague Avenue Trail, Harvard Road Roundabout,

Fallen Heroes Circuit Course and an upgrade of Valleyway and Mission roads.

- The city's crew of grazing goats began their last tour of greenspace duty for this year on Aug. 27 at Rocky Hill Park.

On the docket (September)

- The council meeting originally scheduled for Sept. 3 has been cancelled due to a light agenda and proximity to Labor Day. Council will meet instead on Sept. 10 for a workshop discussion at 7 p.m. on the utility tax, its correlation to the street maintenance fund and the possibility of shifting the rate charged to respective utilities.

- The Liberty Lake Salary Commission will hold a public hearing Sept. 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at Liberty Lake City Hall. The hearing will provide an opportunity for public comment on the topic of salaries and salary schedules for the city's elected officials.

- Council will discuss an interlocal agreement with Spokane County over the Aquifer Protection Area at its Sept. 17 meeting.

- Also on Sept. 17, council will address development code updates as proposed by the planning commission. Street trees and campus monument signs are expected to be among the topics.

NEWS



Summer construction report

The orange is out in force. Work on a long list of summer projects inside the city of Liberty Lake began in earnest during the month of August. City Engineer Andrew Staples and City Administrator Katy Allen helped supply this update of where several projects stand heading into September.

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

Status report: Crews are hard at work from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., six days a week. The work, which began Aug. 17, has a target completion date of Nov. 1.

Traffic impact: Reduced lanes on the north side of the Harvard Bridge, with flaggers and signage directing 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.

Status report: As of press time, the paving process was well under way, with application of lane stripes and project cleanup scheduled for the week following Labor Day.

Traffic impact: Minor delays caused by reduced lanes or detours. Flaggers directing traffic at the work site.

• **Sprague Trail** — Construction of two 10-foot wide path segments on Sprague Avenue and Neyland Drive.

Status report: This project is scheduled for completion on Sept. 1. A dedication ceremony is planned for 9:30 a.m. Sept. 7 at the intersection of Molter and Sprague.

Traffic impact: Minimal impact with traffic control directing drivers around the construction along the north shoulder of the road.

• **Liberty Lake Ball 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.

Status report: The award for this contract has been moved to the Sept. 17 City Council agenda. Allen said construction on the two baseball diamonds and accompanying features will still begin this year.

Traffic impact: None.



SPLASH PHOTO BY CRAIG HOWARD

Crews direct traffic as work continues on the Harvard roundabout installation project in late August.

• **Fallen Heroes Circuit Course** — Installation of exercise equipment at Rocky Hill Park that honors military veterans, with plans for this to be a circuit connected to other Liberty Lake parks in the future.

Status report: The project was slated to wrap up by Labor Day. A dedication ceremony for the Fallen Heroes Circuit Course in Rocky Hill Park will take place on Saturday, Sept. 21 at 4 p.m. The program will salute Cpl. Joshua R. Dumaw of Spo-

kane Valley who was killed while serving in Afghanistan in 2010. Local Marine Corps will lead a cadence. The agenda will also include color guards, speakers, demonstrations of the exercise equipment and refreshments.

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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NEWS

Chair reflects on work of trails committee



By Tom Specht
SPLASH GUEST COLUMN



Happy trails to you!

I'm Tom Specht, the chairperson of the Liberty Lake Transportation Benefit District advisory board. This article is about the importance of the Sprague Trail, the value of trails, and some of the history of the trails at Liberty Lake.

Sprague Trail

The City of Liberty Lake is now just finishing up adding to trails along Sprague using the last of the funds from the Transportation Benefit District, or TBD. This trail is brought to you by the TBD Advisory Board, Spokane County and the city of Liberty Lake. Pat Harper represents the county. Mayor Steve Peterson, City Administrator Katy Allen and City Engineer Andrew Staples are the driving force from the city.

The Sprague Trail is an important addition to the trails system of Liberty Lake. It completes the loop from the Outlet Channel Trail that runs along Trailhead Golf Course to the Molter Road Trail and connects to the Liberty Lake Golf Course Trail along Sprague. The addition east of the Liberty Lake Golf Course clubhouse will solve the erosion problems on the north side of Sprague that made walking, running and biking difficult.

The value of trails

Trails allow us to live a better life and are so important to our children. They connect us to nature and provide recreation. Liberty Lakers are ardent trail users. Joggers and walkers are a frequent sight. Commuters are walking or riding their bikes to work. Children dot the sidewalks on their way to school. Employees walk, run or bike during their lunch hour. Liberty Lake is a "walkable community." When one of the biggest problems facing America is obesity, trails help us to have an active lifestyle.

Trails help provide a sense of community. So many cars today have tinted windows, which make it almost impossible to see the driver or passengers. When you see a car or truck with smoke windows, it is hard to relate to it as something human. If you are in a car and you see another car not using their turn signal or trying to cut you off, often the reaction is the same as with any machine that does not work, be it computer, cell phone or whatever. It is easier to be rude to a machine. Compare this to when you are walking or biking and you come



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Work on the Sprague Trail in August adds the final component to a loop connecting the Outlet Channel Trail and the Molter Road Trail.

across someone on the trail. You immediately recognize them as human. It is hard to be consistently rude to someone. Especially when you know they are your neighbor. I run or bike on the trails all the time. When I see someone day after day on the trail, even if I have never talked to them, I feel a sense of friendship. We have something in common — we share the trails. We start to say "hi" as we pass. It is a small step toward a sense of community, but it is a step.

I think the children benefit most from trails. Using trails is often a family affair. So often the active kids of today are chauffeured to and from practice and games. When they are home, they have the TV and video games. To a large extent, kids are dependent on their parents to have an active lifestyle. When you have trails, you have just freed them. They can safely skate, scooter and bike to school, friends and parks. When Liberty Lake Elementary first opened, the bike racks could not accommodate all the bikes and scooters. They still can't. You have scooters hanging off the school fence and bikes leaning up against the fence. As any elementary teacher or youth soccer coach can tell you, the habits you develop from

the age of 8 to 12 often carry through to adulthood. This is the time to teach our children to have an active lifestyle.

The birth of the trails system

Greenstone had installed trails in the MeadowWood Development of Liberty Lake. The trails ended at the end of the development. In 1995, a group of citizens at Liberty Lake started a committee to find a way to connect the community with trails.

We worked under the umbrella of Friends of Pavillion Park. In April 1999, we held a design meeting (we called it a "charette" — which is an intense period of design or planning) with Mike Terrell and the Washington Society of Landscape Architects. We put together a Liberty Lake Trail Plan, which was adopted by the county. In the fall of 1999, we held an election and formed the first successful TBD in Washington State. Sixty people helped in the campaign. Volunteers went door to door, stood on the corner waving signs and made telephone calls. We needed 60 percent of the vote, and the people of Liberty Lake responded with a 69 percent approval to increase their property taxes to fund trails. Our

IF YOU GO ...

Sprague Trail Dedication Ceremony
9:30 a.m. Sept. 7
Intersection of Molter and Sprague

slogan was for the price of a pizza dinner you can afford to pay for trails for your community.

The TBD

The money raised has acted as seed money so that with city, county and state funds we have been able to use it to fund trails costing four times as much. Working with our partners and obtaining grants have extended our \$650,000 to provide trails and enhancement valued at more than \$2.5 million dollars. We extended trails to the Centennial Trail, built an I-90 overpass and trails along the golf courses.

Partners

Our number one partner is the people of Liberty Lake. They voted for the TBD.

See TRAILS, page 11

NEWS

TRAILS

Continued from page 10

They volunteered. They use the trails. Our community makes it a safe place by slowing down for bikes, giving walkers the right of way. Some of the top contributors were Tina Wallingford, Kaye Whitney, Mary Jo Foss, Shawn Brown, Russell Kinney, Gene Domanico, Barb Midkiff, Joan Steele, Shirley Schoenberger, Polly Soderquist, Jane and Mark Bitz, Kerry Masters, Chris Bowers, Bob and Stacy Conley, Tom McLaughlin, Chip Abrams, the Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District commissioners and Lee Mellish.

I also want to thank the TBD Advisory Board members. They were awesome. Bruce Steele, who has since passed away, was a charter member, charette member and vice president. Leslie Zilka, charette member and secretary, whose minutes and inputs were invaluable. Jim Frank, who was involved from the get-go, whose vision, knowledge and support we greatly rely upon. Jim is a true believer in building communities and one who knows how important trails are to a community. Glen Long, our maintenance guy, with uncommon common sense, who continually checks every trail out. Bob Martin stepped in for Stan Chalich, a charette member and Liberty Lake history expert. Bob Martin's technical and political knowledge has served us well. Lud Kramer, who has also passed away, was a past Washington Secretary of State. His stellar reputation helped tremendously when working with Olympia. He was a guiding force in helping in the election for the TBD and his mantra, "Let's get something done," guided us. His only other demand was, "Give me something to do or I go where they need me." And boy, did we need him.

Pat Harper serves not only as a liaison with the Spokane County Commissioners but also is and has been a major guiding force for us. He is a model for what every public service person should be — totally committed to making a better place for the people. He knows how the system works and how to make it work for the people.

When we all thought the I-90 overpass was not going to happen, Mayor Steve Peterson put the project on his back and breathed life back into it. He and the city have been a valuable partner.

Greenstone and Telect have been two of the businesses that have always supported our efforts.

I feel proud and lucky to be a part of this community and to have such people as friends.

Tom Specht has lived in Liberty Lake since 1985. He is chair of the Transportation Benefit District Advisory Board.

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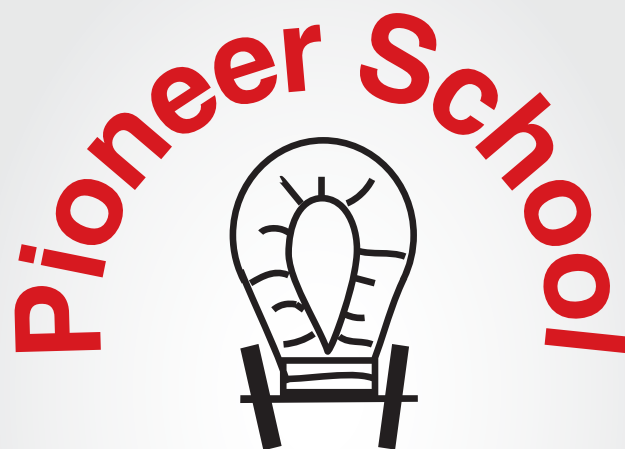


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Introducing Dr. Anthony Weber to the Spokane Valley Communities!



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.

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The Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District was formed with the health of the lake and its watershed in mind.

SPLASH PHOTO BY CRAIG HOWARD

Water watchdog

LLSWD celebrates 40 years as utility provider, lake proponent

By Craig Howard
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

In case you missed it, the Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District did observe its 40th anniversary earlier this year.

Like the district itself, the occasion on May 8 was understated, efficient and void of self-promotional window dressing. Billed as a low-key potluck with invitations to those who had served with the district over the years, the “official” celebration came and went with about as much hoopla as a routine test for alkalinity on the lake that bears the utility’s name.

For district insiders like LLSWD Commissioner Tom Agnew, the idea of commemorating four decades with an extravagant agenda seemed slightly out of character.

“I’m not sure how excited the commu-

nity would be about celebrating this anniversary,” Agnew said. “After all, most of us take these things for granted. I think we’ve done a pretty good job if for no other reason than people expect the water and the wastewater systems to work and to the extent that they do, we just kind of become this part of the landscape.”

Liberty Lake City Administrator Katy Allen is one district customer who feels LLSWD deserves kudos for its contributions to the community over the past 40 years. A resident of the area since 1983, Allen said the district warrants credit for “doing an outstanding job taking care of their infrastructure, keeping rates low and protecting the environment.”

During her tenure with the city of Spokane Public Works department, Allen was part of a local utility network that included Mellish and current LLSWD Commissioner Steve Skipworth, who then worked at Spokane Valley-based Vera Water and Power. As a part of the Liberty Lake community, Allen said she appreciates district initiatives like the beach and leaf cleanup as well

as water conservation efforts like the sensor system she had installed to monitor irrigation at her home.

“I was sure thankful when I saw the difference in my water bill,” Allen said.

Mark Richard, who served as a Spokane County commissioner from 2005 to 2012, said LLSWD is widely heralded for its efforts in environmental protection dating back to the campaign to save Liberty Lake that formed the groundwork for the district’s formation.

“I think the district has shown great leadership and stewardship and certainly turned that lake around at a time when it was really going downhill,” Richard said.

While plans for a ticker tape parade down Liberty Lake Road to honor LLSWD may not be in the works for this year, Agnew does acknowledge that a look back at the beginnings of the district and a basic grasp of its continuing mission is useful.

“We might not have a big party in the park, but there is some reason to raise the flag and remind people that it’s a pretty robust history,” he said. “There are some really key people who made it happen. Besides that, it’s more of a reflection of what our community has done than the commissioners or the staff. The district has the support of the community and that makes it easier to do our jobs. I think the community deserves the bulk of the credit.”

The Roots

Etienne Eduard Laliberte homesteaded on the west side of

Liberty Lake in the 1870s, but that once-pristine watershed had become a distant memory nearly a century later. Murky, blue-green currents characterized Liberty Lake by the late 1960s as invasive algae blooms began to monopolize the surface. Meanwhile, tons of deteriorating plants and algae were being removed from the lake each year.

“You’d drive a boat across the lake and you’d see a path,” said Harley Halverson, who served as LLSWD commissioner from 1992 to 2007.

Over time, the algae buildup became so thick and toxic that plants below the surface couldn’t photosynthesize. Meanwhile, as plants died and decayed, oxygen for fish was steadily depleting. Visitors to the lake began to see posted signs that warned against public use.

“I can’t remember exactly what the signs said, but the lake was noticeably uninviting,” Agnew said.

When it came to water recreation, most people in the area made it a point to avoid Liberty Lake because of its new status as a swampy quagmire. For a group of residents living around the lake, however, the bleak scenario became a rallying point.

A citizens advisory committee was formed in 1968, and soon after, samples from the lake were sent to Washington State University for testing. Later, the committee, led by Denny Ashlock, petitioned Spokane County commissioners to form a sewer district to address the scourge of effluent from septic tanks surrounding the lake.

See LLSWD, page 16



COVER STORY

Towing the line

Veteran operators comprise district's dedicated duo

By Craig Howard
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

Pillars, cornerstones, stalwart girders — pick your foundational metaphor and chances are that Dan Grogg and John Yake fit the bill.

Since the early 1980s, the pair has been central to the institutional framework of the Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District, serving as savvy catalysts on the operational side of a utility that sprang from a community campaign to rescue Liberty Lake four decades ago.

“The staff here is very efficient about what they do, and we always make it a point to emphasize customer service,” said LLSWD General Manager BiJay Adams. “We’re spending the customers’ money. The district has really benefited in so many different ways from having staff that is committed long-term to the service of the community, and both John and Dan have shown that. They’ve been here since close to the beginning.”

In 1976, Yake was part of an engineering team that helped design and build the facilities for sewer collection and treatment in Liberty Lake. From 1980 to 1982, he worked as a systems inspector before being brought on by the district in 1982 as an operator.

“This place has my name on it a few places,” Yake said. “I like the work.”

Yake arrived on the scene just three years after the district was formed in 1973 and knew each of the original LLSWD commissioners — Denny Ashlock, Skip Toreson and Bill Lancaster.

“I wasn’t too far behind the leaders,” Yake said.

After completing an associate’s degree program at Boise State University and working for a time in Meridian, Idaho, Grogg joined the LLSWD crew in March 1983.

“I didn’t know much about the history of the district, but it was clear from the facilities that this was a first-class deal,” Grogg said.

Grogg is the chief operator at the water reclamation facility, where wastewater is treated. The state-of-the-art facility opened in 1982 and underwent an expansion in 2006. Along with numerous honors awarded to the plant from the



SPLASH PHOTO BY CRAIG HOWARD

John Yake, left, and Dan Grogg represent institutional knowledge for the Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District. Both men have served at least 30 years with the utility.

Washington state Department of Ecology, Grogg himself was named “Operator of the Year” by the Pacific Northwest Cleanwater Association in 2010.

“An award like that gives you an idea of the type of people who work here,” said former LLSWD General Manager Lee Mellish, who led the district for 20 years beginning in 1993. “The staff is outstanding.”

Yake serves as the chief operator for the district’s sprawling water and wastewater collection operation, overseeing miles and miles of sewer line, lift stations and other machinery. As part of his role with the district, Yake helps with the operation and maintenance of two utility entities that contract with LLSWD — the Eastside Liberty Lake Improvement Club and Greenridge.

“I like being outside,” said Yake, who estimates he spends 75 percent of his time removed from a desk. “There’s a lot to do other than just operating and maintaining. There are calls where you have to go out and work the lines.”

Yake and Grogg are part of a team that includes Mike Schmidt, Hayden Symbol and Larry White as operators on the water and wastewater side and Darrell Gamble at the reclamation facility.

“The district has always prided ourselves in being a lean and efficient machine,” Adams said. “Districts similar to us would have more employees on the operations side and the water

reclamation side.”

Turnover is almost nonexistent among district employees, resulting in a seasoned staff that, according to Grogg, has always felt valued by LLSWD administration.

“I think there’s a reason the longevity is there, and that’s because the district is such a good employer,” he said. “They offer good benefits; they let you do your job. That’s what makes the district special.”

Grogg describes his duties at the reclamation plant as those of “a rancher,” corralling bacteria that work to remove substances like phosphorous and ammonia while also breaking down nitrates.

“Basically, we’re running a biological system,” Grogg said. “We’re working with certain microorganisms and varying environmental conditions. We’re not adding any chemicals, although the next upgrade will require chemicals. We’re putting a lot of oxygen and nitrogen back into the air. Consistency is your ultimate goal, but there’s always something that’s changing. In the winter, it’s not a lot of fun collecting samples.”

Both Grogg and Yake said they don’t concern themselves with the lack of appreciation common in an industry that provides the community with critical water and sewer services. Grogg said even though the work may often be taken for granted, residents could stand to know more about how drinking wa-

ter is provided and wastewater is treated. Among the items flushed down the commode, Grogg said, dental floss “is just one of the things that causes us grief.”

“I just wish the general public understood more of what happens,” Grogg said. “I think it’s important for them to take pride in the district.”

As LLSWD celebrates the 40th anniversary of its formation this year, Grogg and Yake have reflected on their individual tenures as well as the impact of a district that now serves well more than 6,000 customers. Looking back, Grogg said one of the concerns in the years after the treatment plant went online was the dearth of development and a facility operating far short of capacity.

“To me, the technology is probably the biggest change, other than the geography,” Grogg said. “When I came on board, the word was that they would really need some operators because the area was really going to start growing, but for 10 years the biggest challenge of running the plant is there wasn’t enough sewage coming in. That changed.”

Looking ahead, Yake said the district will continue to build on a solid foundation.

“I think about where we started and where we’ve been and also where we’re going,” he said. “I just see great things for the district. It’s been a good district; it really has.”



COVER STORY



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

In these circa 1970s photos provided by the Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District, the invasive algae blooms that dominated the lake are seen from different vantage points. In 1968, five years before the LLSWD was officially formed, tons of decaying aquatic weeds and dried algal mats were being removed from the lake. Residents formed a citizens advisory committee and began sending water tests to Washington State University. It was the genesis of regular water quality testing of Liberty Lake by WSU that has continued to this day. Lake restoration efforts were under way.

LLSWD

Continued from page 14

“You have to kind of get in perspective that when we started all this, there wasn’t a city here,” Halverson said. “There was the lake and the people around the lake — and for the people around the lake, their focus was the lake. There wasn’t a sewer district, there wasn’t a city. Every decision was made in regard to the lake.”

In 1973, the Liberty Lake Sewer District (the Water part would be added later) was formed with residents voting in the first trio of commissioners — Ashlock, Skip Toreson and Bill Lancaster.

“I was approached by one of the old-time residents of the lake to run as a write-in prior to the election,” said Toreson, who served on the board from 1973 to 1989. “I had been interested in the lake’s water quality since we moved back in 1970. I thought it would be a good thing to be involved and work to help.”

The Restoration

WSU continued to conduct research of lake samples and, in 1974, collaborated with the district to publish a comprehensive water quality study that included possible treatment strategies. A year later, LLSWD received a grant through the Clean Lakes program to build a sewage collection and treatment system.

Sue Kaun moved with her husband and three kids to the Liberty Lake area in 1974 and soon became part of the local effort to save the lake. She began working for the dis-

trict as a part-time clerk and eventually rose to the rank of general manager. Kaun would be part of the staff from 1976 to 1990, a critical time that saw LLSWD establish itself as a civic bellwether and one of the region’s most respected special purpose districts.

“I am most proud of the fact that with the assistance of state and federal agencies, a small community carried out a vision to successfully restore, protect and preserve Liberty Lake, and importantly, the work continues today,” Kaun said.

Kaun was there when the design of the sewage collection system began in 1976. Construction began a year later, with residences being connected to the lines once they were ready. As septic tank pollution subsided, the condition of the lake began to improve. In 1980, the district oversaw the dredging of 50 acres on the southwest end of the lake that eliminated a two-foot layer of sludge.

“I remember standing on the dock with my neighbor, and he says, ‘No way this little community can afford or needs a sewer district,’” Agnew said. “The next year, we’re standing on the dock, and he says, ‘This lake hasn’t been this clear ever, and I’ve lived here 25 years!’”

Kaun now lives on the west side of the state and says she has even greater appreciation for the strides made by the district in those early years.

“After observing how difficult it has been for the city of Bellingham and Whatcom County to seriously address the water quality decline in Lake Whatcom, which is listed as an impaired lake by the Department

of Ecology, I began to realize how rare and difficult it is to save a lake,” she said.

By 1982, the district announced the completion of its wastewater treatment plant. Within two years, the floor of the lake was visible for the first time in decades.

“It was like night and day,” Agnew said. “Sanitary sewers have improved the quality of water. Now I think there’s emerging sense that we’re the reason there’s as little pollution as there is.”

The Repercussions

While state-of-the-art systems for sewer collection and treatment were online in Liberty Lake by the early 1980s, the economy — and corresponding development — were far from flourishing. The area’s main employer, Hewlett Packard, which was expected to build up to as many as 10,000 employees, peaked at 1,700. LLSWD officials found themselves trying to maintain a new plant processing far short of the available capacity.

“We ended up with a much larger sewer system and therefore the operations and expenses incurred with that,” Agnew said. “The system was bigger than necessary, and the ratepayer base could not support it.”

When Mellish arrived as the new general manager in March of 1993, he learned that the district had scarcely enough funds to cover payroll the month before.

“The economy in 1993 still hadn’t recovered, but fairly soon after that, things really started picking up,” Mellish recalled. “The success here wasn’t because of me, it was the economy. You had all these developments

“The Rebirth of Liberty Lake”

When Liberty Lake was the putrid eye of a fish left on the beach to rot, the common sewer of a hundred years of human neglect, the lake lovers would not concede her to the mud, the snakes, bullfrogs and bloodsuckers.

They saw the black, unruly hair that clogged the underground streams and stilled the motion of propellers, the mud that advanced upon the water, the algae that bloomed upon the vacated beaches, but they would not leave.

They found an antidote and poured it into the wound cut back the long, unruly hair and opened the clogged veins of the virgin, underground streams.

All morning I watch the grebes dip their whole bodies into the lake and bob back up again. I look at the face of the lake that the wind impresses with gusty rhythms that the light dresses and undresses in green silk, azure and silver sheen an ever changing impressionist painting and thank the lake lovers who saw the mud, but would not turn away.

— Poem by Eleanor Limmer, Liberty Lake

out here, everything north of the lake like Meadowwood and others. It was pretty much one developer, Greenstone and Jim Frank.”

When construction took off, the district was ready. For more than a decade, the infrastructure had been in place to manage the collection and treatment of up to 1 million gallons of wastewater per day.

“The revenue comes from the customer,” Mellish said. “If you don’t have new customers, the only way you can keep up with inflation is to raise the rates. It was just real stagnant, but things really started taking off

See LLSWD, page 17



COVER STORY

The commissioners

Following is a list of the men and women who have led the Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District on the board of commissioners.

Denny Ashlock	June 1973 to September 1981
Art "Skip" Toreson	June 1973 to December 1989
Bill Lancaster	June 1973 to December 1975
Shirley Johnson	December 1975 to September 1976
Lynn Genteman	September 1976 to December 1977
Rick Manum	December 1977 to November 1988
Gib Sears	September 1981 to December 1991
Cris Hayes	December 1988 to December 1989
Bill Hemmings	January 1990 to February 1992
Jack Blair	January 1990 to December 1993
Frank L. Boyle	January 1992 to September 2012
Harley Halverson	October 1992 to February 2007
Bob Gamble	January 1994 to December 1999
Tom Agnew	January 2000 to present
Steve Skipworth	February 2007 to present
Kottayam V. Natarajan Jr.	December 2012 to present

LLSWD

Continued from page 16

after 1993. We were getting 125, 130 houses a year."

The Reputation

In 1988, just six years after opening the treatment plant, LLSWD was acknowledged by the Environmental Protection Agency with a Superior Service award "in recognition of outstanding leadership in lake restoration, protection of groundwater supplies and Spokane River water quality improvement."

Over the years, the district has collected enough honors to fill a pair of trophy cases. Along with the "Outstanding Performance Award" from the Washington state Department of Ecology in 1997, 2006, 2008, 2009 and 2010, LLSWD was named "District of

the Year" by the Washington Association of Sewer and Water Districts in 2002.

Along with the accolades, the district has set the standard in passing ordinances that protect watersheds from products that contain phosphorous, a nutrient-rich substance that promotes growth of aquatic plants. When plants die, the decomposition robs the water of oxygen, leading to the demise of fish species. LLSWD was the first district in the nation to pass a resolution against both phosphorous laundry detergent and dishwashing soap, and the first in Washington state to ban fertilizers with phosphorous.

"We've been looked at as the people to go to," said current LLSWD General Manager Bijay Adams, who began as the district's lake protection manager in 2002. "We get calls from people all over the country about lake manage-

ment and what we've done here. We really kind of set the precedent not only on the lake management side but also on the utility and sewer and water side of things."

Jeremy Jenkins, the new lake protection manager, oversees water resource education and conservation efforts for the district as well as stormwater management and water quality monitoring. Leading by example, the district has employed xeriscaping — a method of landscaping with a lower premium on irrigation — at its headquarters on Mission Avenue.

When the district completed an ambitious upgrade to its treatment plant in 2006, there was no need to put a bond on a ballot for the project. The district paid for the expansion with its own money and help from the public works trust fund.

"We had \$7 million we'd saved for the plant upgrade," Mellish said.

The upgrade expanded the capacity of the plant to two million gallons a day.

"We are a nonprofit," Adams said "The money we save is not to buy fancy stuff; it's for capital improvement projects."

Despite the challenges of maintaining and building efficient and up-to-date infrastructure, the district has managed to keep water and sewer rates among the lowest in the state. Water charges have remained unchanged for 20 years while commissioners approved a rare hike in sewer rates (8.5 percent) at the end of 2012.

"One of the things we've always prided ourselves in here is customer service, whether it's the beach and leaf cleanup, the phosphorous-free fertilizer giveaway or whatever," Mellish said. "It's just the way things have always been around here."

From grappling with the Department of Fish and Game over the application of Rotenone — a



SPLASH PHOTO BY CRAIG HOWARD

From left, Bijay Adams, Harley Halverson, Lee Mellish and Tom Agnew catch up during the Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District's 40th anniversary year. Adams recently replaced Mellish as general manager, and Halverson and Agnew are both longtime commissioners.

poisonous substance used to eliminate certain types of fish prior to the lake being replenished with a stock more appealing to the fishing crowd — to successfully refuting the city of Liberty Lake's bid to add the utility business to its municipal portfolio during an expensive and lawsuit-ridden assumption attempt, the district has scaled some daunting hurdles over the years. In nearly every case, the late Frank L. Boyle was front and center. The longtime commissioner passed away last fall while in office. He had served the district faithfully since 1992.

"I remember saying if Frank Boyle ever resigns from this thing, I'm gone," Halverson said. "He had such a good memory for the past. Whenever we would make a decision, he would know the history and that was very, very helpful."

Kottayam V. Natarajan Jr. was appointed to replace Boyle last December, joining Agnew and Skipworth to form the district's latest board triumvirate.

District old-timers like Mellish will tell you that it has not always been smooth sailing for an organization that is now viewed as a standard-bearer for special purpose districts. The first go-around of the beach and leaf cleanup

— an event that one year netted more than 9,000 bags — residents simply raked their refuse into the front yard. District officials were left with the painstaking task of transferring the piles into a front-end loader then into a dump truck.

"It was a bad day," Mellish said. "We learned a lot."

Moving forward, the district will face its share of challenges, including a mandatory upgrade of the treatment plant due by 2018 with an estimated pricetag of \$12.8 million. Yet Adams and others who now constitute the LLSWD leadership crew say they will navigate the waters with an appreciation of the district's unique history, as well as an eye toward the future.

"When I got here, I really made it a point to educate myself about the district and the history," Adams said. "It definitely meant a lot to do my own research, but it also really helped to do talk to the individuals who were around. I learned a lot by talking to people like Lee and Harley and certainly Frank. These people are the history. It's one of the best examples of grassroots efforts you'll ever find. What the district is doing now is just giving back to the community."

LAKE

Continued from page 4

now we're talking about tens of thousands, at most. We haven't seen, over the last four or five years, a substantial blue-green component in the lake. The trend is definitely going in the right way. There's still stormwater, and that's been addressed and there are still nutrients going in the lake from individual pieces

of property. It's a constant education. Bijay's talked about some restoration in the wetlands in the south side of the lake. All those things are keys to protecting the lake. Liberty's got a great advantage in that the upper watershed is a county park; it protects those lands around the streams.

Q: When the crews from WSU are working on Liberty Lake, what exactly is taking place?

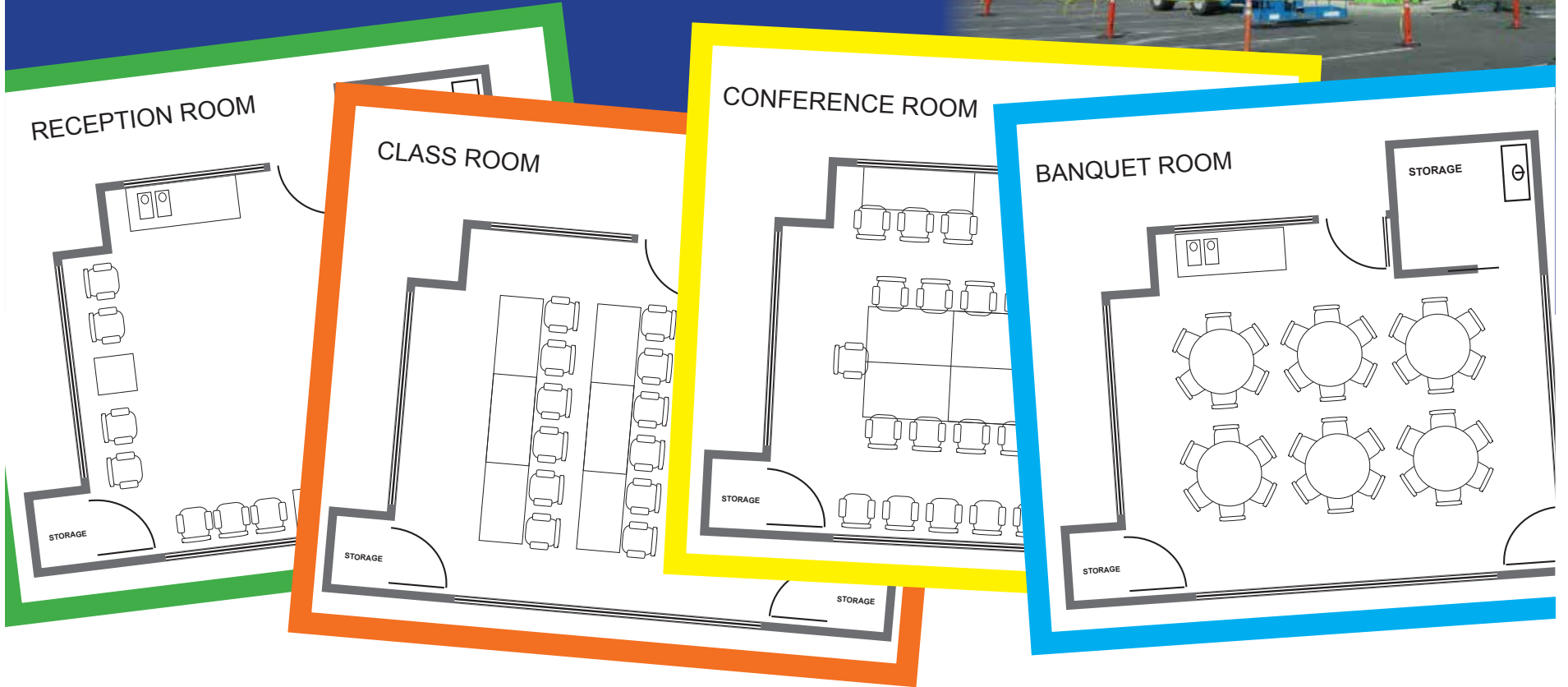
A: When the days get longer

and there's more sunlight, so that's when the plants start to grow. What we're trying to see is the ecological trend over time that we're seeing in terms of plant growth and the types of animals that are in the lake. We measure dissolved oxygen, temperature and other parameters at established stations. Then we take samples and bring them back to the lab. We look at the algae, the zooplankton. We also look at benthic invertebrates; those are

the little critters that live on the bottom of the lake that are an important part of the food chain for fish. We also analyze the nutrients that are going in and out of the lake. For every day spent up here on the lake, we probably have around 10 days of lab time. We're not trying to keep up with all of the minutia; we're looking for long-term trends, what's changing over time with the lake. This lake is a tremendous laboratory.



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Calendar of Events

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Sept. 2 | Labor Day Liberty Lake Municipal Library closed in observance of the holiday.

Sept. 7 | Back-to-School 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.

Sept. 7 | Sprague Trail ceremony 9:30 a.m., intersection of Molter and Sprague.

Sept. 7 | Singles potluck 1 p.m., Liberty Lake County Park, 3707 S. Zephyr Road. The "Tired of Online Dating" group is hosting a potluck for singles. Attendees are requested to bring food to share. For more: lynnyz80@yahoo.com

Sept. 12 | Beginning Genealogy class 2 to 3 p.m., Liberty Lake Municipal Library, 23123 E. Mission Ave. Join Steve Dahlstrom, member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, for an entertaining course on how to get started researching your family history. To register or for more: 232-2510 or dpringle@libertylakewa.gov

Sept. 13 | Introduction to FamilySearch.org 2 to 3 p.m., Liberty Lake Municipal Library, 23123 E. Mission Ave. Take the next step in your family history with an overview of the specialized online resources at FamilySearch.org. with genealogist Steve Dahlstrom. To register or for more: 232-2510 or dpringle@libertylakewa.gov

Sept. 14 | Canine Carnival & Pet Blessing in the Park 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Pavillion Park. Enjoy live music, raffles, face painting, bounce houses, giveaways, mini classes, K9 fashion show and more. Free pet competitions include best pet trick, dog-owner look-alike and worst doggy breath. All donations will go toward local rescue organizations. For more: www.summitnorthwest.org

Sept. 14 | GermanFest 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Evergreen Fountains, 1201 N. Evergreen Road, Spokane Valley. German dancers, music, bratwursts and sauerkraut and community tours will be available. For more: 922-3100 or www.evergreenfountains.com

Sept. 15 | Picnic with the Beavers 1 to 4 p.m., Liberty Lake County Park, 3707 S. Zephyr Road. Bring a picnic lunch and join The Lands Council and Liberty Lake Sewer & Water District for an afternoon of learning, fun, a beaver hike and a sweet surprise. To RSVP or for more: 209-2851 or www.landscouncil.org/events

Sept. 15 | Is It True? 5:30 p.m., Lakeside Church, 23129 E. Mission. This free event in Q-n-A format will answer the questions of existence and purpose, exploring logic, philosophy and worldview from a scientific basis as they intersect the Bible. It will also be held Oct. 20 and Nov. 17. For more: 210-9779

Sept. 19 | Liberty Lake Municipal Library Opens late at 1 p.m. due to staff training. For more: 232-2510

Sept. 20-21 | The Art & Practice of Living with Nothing or No One Against You 6 to 9 p.m. (Fri.) and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Sat.), Unity Center of North Idaho, 4465 N. 15th St., Coeur d'Alene. Liberty Lake resident Susie

Leonard Weller will be co-leading this weekend workshop that will integrate leading-edge spiritual tools and scientific research to cope with trauma and stress in innovative ways. The \$115 fee covers the workshops, workbook and three follow-up sessions. Pre-registration is required. For more: 255-6676 or unity@unitycenter.org

Sept. 20-21 | Riverstone Street Fair & Harvest Fest 4 to 10 p.m. (Fri.) and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. (Sat.), Riverstone Village, Coeur d'Alene. There is free admission and parking for this event which will include 160 vendor booths, food court, shopping and live entertainment. For more: www.riverstonestreetfair.com

Sept. 20-22, 27-29 | Corn Maze 5 to 8 p.m. (Fridays), 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. (Saturdays) and noon to 5 p.m. (Sundays), HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. Cost is \$9 for adults, \$6 for children (ages 5 to 12) and seniors (60+). Discounted group rates are available. A haunted maze will also be offered starting in October. For more: www.hubsportscenter.org/CornMaze

Sept. 21 | Customer Appreciation Day 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Liberty Lake Farmers Market, 1421 N. Meadowwood Lane. For more: www.lfarmersmarket.com

Sept. 21 | Fallen Heroes Circuit Course dedication ceremony 4 p.m., Rocky Hill Park, corner of East Mission and Winrock. The public is invited to a ribbon-cutting ceremony, demonstration of the equipment and fun run around the park. The ceremony will honor Marine Corporal Joshua Dumaw, a West Valley graduate who died at age 23 in Afghanistan while serving during Enduring Freedom. For more: 755-6726

Sept. 25 | Prevent Fraud and Identity Theft Noon to 1 p.m., Liberty Lake Municipal Library, 23123 E. Mission Ave. Presented by STCU, this free workshop will help you protect your finances from the bad guys who want to steal your hard-earned money. A light meal with be served, so plan to arrive early. For more: www.stcu.org

Sept. 26 | Books-n-Brew Book Club 6:30 p.m., Liberty Lake Municipal Library, 23123 E. Mission Ave. All are welcome to discuss the book "The Painted Veil" by W. Somerset Maugham. For more: 232-2510

Sept. 27 | Stop Violence Against Women Day 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., Coeur d'Alene Resort & Casino Event Center, 37914 S. Hwy. 95. Tickets are available for \$75 and include lunch, dinner, seminars and women's health and resource fair. For more: 928-9664

Oct. 5 | Hoedown for Hope 5 to 9 p.m., Rockin' B Ranch, 3912 Spokane Bridge Road. A fundraiser for HOPE School, a nonprofit preschool for local deaf and hard-of-hearing children, the evening will include cocktails, music, raffles, dinner and dessert. Tickets are \$55 per person. For more: www.spokanehopeschool.org

Recurring

Friends of the Liberty Lake Municipal Library 4 p.m. the last Tuesday of every month, Library, 23123 E. Mission Ave.



FOR MORE ...

Read about the Spokane Symphony concert over Labor Day weekend. **P. 27**

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.lfarmersmarket.com

Liberty Lake Lions Club Noon on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, Barlow's Restaurant, 1400 N. Meadowwood Lane. For more: 869-7657

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. 4 p.m. Mondays, Lego club; 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays, toddler/preschool story time; 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. 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. 31 | Spokane Symphony: Lud Kramer Memorial Concert 6 p.m., Pavillion Park. Bring a picnic dinner, blanket or chairs to enjoy a mix of classics, show tunes and patriotic marches over the Labor Day weekend. The free performance concludes Friends of Pavillion Park Summer Festival Series. For more: www.pavillionpark.org

Sept. 6-15 | Interstate Fair concerts Spokane County Fair & Expo Center, 404 N. Havana St. A wide range of performers will be on the stage including The Band Perry (Sept. 10), Eli Young Band (Sept. 11), the Carnival of Madness concert (Sept. 12) and MercyMe (Sept. 13). Prices vary depending on show and seating. For a complete schedule and more: www.interstatefair.org

Sept. 28 | Artist Showcase Art Auction 5 to 6:30 p.m., CenterPlace Regional Event Center, 2426 N. Discovery Place. Wine, food and music will be a part of the fun during this 7th annual event sponsored by the Spokane Valley Arts Council. A quick draw demonstration will begin at 5 p.m., followed by the auction. Tickets are \$50 per person and are available at Pacific Flyway Gallery. For more: 747-0812

Sept. 28 | Liberty Lake Community Theatre Gala Liberty Lake Community Theatre, 22910 E. Appleyway Ave. This fundraising event will include performances by Cross My Heart and the one-act play "Well Written." For more: www.libertylaketheatre.com

Sept. 29 | Matsiko World Orphan Choir 10 a.m., Lakeside Church, 23129 E. Mission. Organized by the International Children's Network, the choir's presentation of original songs and dance brings hope and awareness to the world's 600 million at-risk children. The performance is free and open to the public. For more: 210-9779 or www.icnchildren.net

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

Sept. 20 | Greater Spokane Valley Chamber Business Connections Breakfast 6:30 to 8:30 a.m., Mirabeau Park Hotel, 1100 N. Sullivan, Spokane Valley. Grant Forsyth, chief economist for Avista, will present a program on "Mid-Year Economic Update." 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

Sept. 20 | Hiring Our Heroes 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Spokane County Fair & Expo Center, 404 N. Havana St. This free job fair is for veteran job seekers, active duty military members, guard and reserve members and military spouses. An employment workshop focusing on military skill

See CALENDAR page 21

COMMUNITY

CALENDAR

Continued from page 20

translation, effective interviewing techniques and resume writing will be offered at 9 a.m. For more: www.uschamber.com/hiringourheroes

Sept. 20 | Salary Commission Public Hearing 6:30 p.m., City Hall, 22710 E. Country Vista Drive. The public is invited to comment before the Liberty Lake Salary Commission regarding the salaries and salary schedules of elected city officials. For more: 755-6729 or aswenson@libertylakewa.gov

Sept. 26 | Business After Hours 5 to 7 p.m., Liberty Lake Portal, 23403 E. Mission Ave. A networking event sponsored by Greater Spokane Incorporated, business people are invited for a sneak peek of available space in the building. Free to members; \$10 for non-members. Register at events.greaterspokane.org. For more: 343-0103

Oct. 1 | QuickBooks Training Andrean Accounting, 2310 N. Molter Road, Suite 205. Space is limited; contact the office to register. For more: 928-8500 or www.andreanaccounting.com

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.

Sept. 3 meeting is cancelled, but a workshop discussion will occur on Sept. 10.

Liberty Lake Municipal Library board meeting 10:30 a.m. the first Thursday of each 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

Sept. 6-7 | Interstate Fair PRCA Rodeo Spokane County Fair & Expo Center, 404 N. Havana St. Ticket prices start at \$5 (plus gate admission). Sept. 6 performance is "Tough Enough to Wear Pink" with \$1 from each ticket going to help breast cancer awareness. For more: www.interstatefair.org

Sept. 11 | Complete Woman's Wellness informational seminar 6:30 p.m., Healthy Living Liberty Lake, 2207 N. Molter Road, suite 203A. In October, a three-month comprehensive program will launch to address all aspects of a woman's health throughout her adult life. The package program will include hormone, nutritional, emotional and physical components with extensive testing of hormones, neurotransmitters and bloodwork plus nutrition and exercise classes. For more: 924-6199

Sept. 15 | Rotary in Motion Ride the

Rim 7 a.m. (first start time), Meadowood Technology Campus, 2100 N. Molter Road. This bike ride through Liberty Lake, Post Falls, Green Bluff and Spokane Valley includes routes of 100 miles (\$45 registration fee), 50 miles (\$45), 25 miles (\$35), 15 miles (\$35) and 5-mile family ride (\$15). A complimentary lunch will be provided by Quiznos. Early registration is due by Sept. 1. For routes and more: www.rotaryinmotion.com

Sept. 15 | Pickleball Tournament Clinic 4 to 6 p.m., HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. The clinic will cover the skills and strategies necessary for competition, followed by open play. Cost is \$5. For more: www.hubsportscenter.org

Sept. 16 | 4v4 Coed Volleyball League 6:30 to 10:30 p.m., HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. Match play will take place on Mondays Sept. 16 through Oct. 28. Teams must register with \$150 team fee by Sept. 6. For more: www.hubsportscenter.org

Sept. 21-22 | Slam Jamma Pickleball Tournament 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. The tournament features men's, women's and mixed doubles in different age groups over two days of play. Cost is \$20 per person plus \$5 per event. Registration deadline is Sept. 6. For more: www.hubsportscenter.org

Sept. 28 | HUB Family Fun Festival 2 to 5 p.m., HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. Celebrate the facility's 6th birthday with a free open house offering fun activities for the entire family including fitness opportunities, jump house, face painting and food. For more: www.hubsportscenter.org

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: 6 to 7 p.m. Mon.; 10 to 11 a.m. Fri.; 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, Twisp Café & Coffee House, 23505 E. Appleway Ave. Runners or walkers are invited to gather with others for a 3-mile route. For more: 954-9806 or kathyawhybrew@msn.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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LL School provided 'old-fashioned' education

By Karen Johnson

LIBERTY LAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Rote memorization, reading aloud, copying sentences and recitation in front of the class. How did our older generations get so smart? When formal American education was birthed in 1647 through a Massachusetts Court recommendation that schoolhouses be built, the three R's — reading, writing and 'rithmetic — were secondary to developing moral, spiritual and aesthetic values. In rural areas, the reality for an education was a parent's responsibility, and subject matter largely revolved around family and community needs. Where schools did exist, they usually provided a map, globe, Bible, dictionary and blackboard (often merely a black board).

Before textbooks (mid-19th century), children read whatever books were available. The Sears catalogue transformed into math story problems about community needs; literature stressed values and virtues. Discipline consisted of a quick rap on the hand with a ruler or being sent to the cold corner of the room. Before taxes supported schools, box socials, where females created lunches that males purchased (knowing the creator and purchaser dined together), secured a few dollars for schools through "tasting" a bit of fun and romance!

As the east to west transcontinental rail blazed through the Spokane area in the 1880s and populations rapidly increased, schools became a priority. By the 1890s, Liberty Lake, Spokane Bridge, Saltese, Quinnamose, Greenacres, Trent, Mica and Lone Fir boasted individual school districts comprised of a schoolhouse and a school board. Five-year-old Amanda Madson, whose parents were contemporaries of Steven Liberty (for whom the lake was named), remembered neighbors asking her parents if she might be allowed to attend school. It was 1897, and that marked the beginning of Liberty Lake School, as Amanda and two others became its first class. They met for three months each spring and fall. Her teacher, Miss Mitchell, would sometimes hold Amanda on her lap because she was so tiny, and that motivated Amanda to become a teacher. She graduated from Coeur d'Alene College in 1912 and taught in the Spokane area for 35 years, including two at Liberty Lake.

Meanwhile, federal, mandatory attendance laws became effective, and districts were to provide adequate facilities and transportation for all children. A Massachusetts educator, John Philbrick, subsequently introduced a new concept in school design: one building with 12 equal-sized classrooms to house 12 grades with 12 teachers. It was a bold move toward consolidation, though not easy to accomplish in more rural areas where parents fiercely protected their schools' independence. But in time,



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE LIBERTY LAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The first Liberty Lake School was a one-room school-house with a handful of students. Pictured is the second Liberty Lake School, a two-story brick building with a basement. Average attendance for the school through the years was somewhere around 25. Statistics disclose the 2012-13 student population at the present Liberty Lake Elementary School at 674.

they couldn't resist consolidation's promise of curriculum options, better teachers, up-to-date equipment and organized sports programs.

Locally, two of these larger schools were built in 1912. With increasing numbers of students advancing through the early grades, Vera High School opened at Sprague and Progress, offering advanced levels of education. Attendance soared and academic options expanded within a few years to include typing, physics, biology and geometry. In 1918, Vera closed for six weeks when its principal was drafted in World War I. Despite the war and its heavier dependence on students to work plus a lethal flu epidemic nationwide, Vera's continued growth compelled the district to hire three more teachers for its next school term. Further consolidation occurred in 1925, when Vera and Liberty Lake schools combined with three others to become Central Valley School District. Two years later, a new Central Valley High School opened on Appleway (later becoming Greenacres Junior High and presently replaced by Greenacres Middle School). Students, faculty and others immediately initiated an annual Campus Day, where they planted and maintained the school's yard, track and athletic fields, then added a gym a couple years later. In 1941, students raised funds and erected lights so that CV's Douglas Field became the first lighted field in Spokane. Untamed growth districtwide was the driving force that pushed CV district's facilities to multiply in the '50s, including a new \$1.1 million CVHS in 1956 at its present site.

The other school built in 1912 was a two-story brick Liberty Lake School located on the southeast corner of Sprague and Molter, just north of the old one. There was one classroom per level, with an occasional kindergarten class occupying the basement.

In 1941, after Liberty Lake was a part of the CV district, Liberty Lake's newly hired teacher didn't show on the first day, so the board shut it down for the year and bused the eight to 10 students to Greenacres Grade School on Barker. By 1948, though, Liberty Lake was accommodating five grade levels.

Former Liberty Lake students tend to reminisce fondly about their schools' history and old-fashioned character. When asked what they remember, a loud and heavy school bell tends to lead everyone's list. Even Amanda shared a New Year's Eve remembrance where "those boys someway crawled up and rang that bell," the bell that she believed was transferred to the brick school. "Brick schoolers" readily describe a large, heavy and loud handbell teachers swung and clanged to signal the end of recess. Some lakers tell of walking to and from school eating their way through the crab apple orchard (east of the school), of building forts out of tumbleweeds and eating wheat grain picked out of the head of the stalks that grew voluntarily in the dirt schoolyard. There was an inside classroom corner known as the jail when playing cops and robbers. Academics included the Dick and Jane readers as well as math practice without pencils and paper, only boxes of Scrabble-like wooden tiles with numbers and symbols students arranged in the lids, hoping not to trip en route to the teacher (voice of experience). Some stories apparently never die, like the rumor about the boy who got in trouble for swinging on the classroom light, then jumped out the window and was chased all the way home by the teacher.

Sadly, the brick Liberty Lake School was condemned midway through the 1957-58 school year, and students were bused to and awed by the "supersized" Greenacres Grade School. The older part of that school was

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?

- By the 1880s, the national fashion statement regarding school buildings evolved from white (because red paint was too expensive) one-room schools to brick schools sporting indoor bathrooms, cloakrooms, porches and bell towers. Liberty Lake's 1912 brick school was a fashion icon, sans the bell tower.

- Liberty Lake School never had a principal or secretary.

- Fun recess activities at Liberty Lake School included playing on the big old wooden teeter totters, swings and merry go round, plus games like Ante Ante Over the Shanty, Crack the Whip, Fox and Geese and Kick the Can.

- When Liberty Lake School was condemned, it was sold to two CV teachers who repurposed the school's bricks for their home located on the site.

- The county library system sent its bookmobile to the school on occasion for lake students and families to check out selected books.

demolished, but the remaining portion is utilized today as CV's Kindergarten Center. From crab apples to Apple iPads, and from Scrabble-tile boxtops to computer-chip laptops — what old-fashioned characteristics will our 2013 Liberty Lake Patriots be reminiscing about in 2063?

Karen Johnson is a longtime resident and Liberty Lake Historical Society board member. She attended Liberty Lake School as a girl. ...

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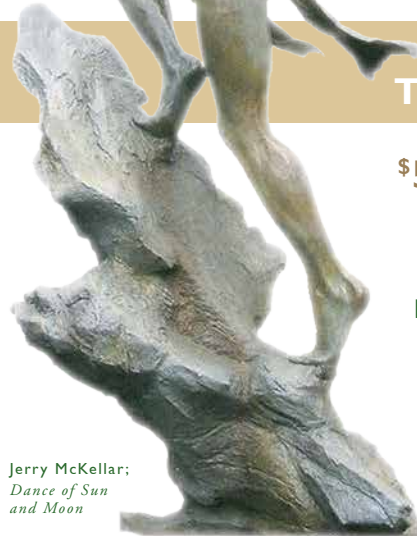
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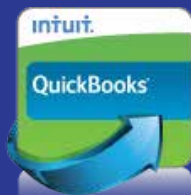


Mark Your Calendar!

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Andrean Accounting is introducing QuickBooks training, Tuesday evenings, beginning Oct 1st. Space is limited so contact us today to register. More information is available on our website.

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Humble Schneidmiller leads Friends of Pavillion Park

By Brenna Holland
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

Bob Schneidmiller does not seek any praise nor crave any attention. So how does the current Friends of Pavillion Park feel about a newspaper story written about him?

“It’s OK,” Schneidmiller rolled his eyes and smiled after finally assenting to The Splash’s repeated request. Then he made one more plug for somebody else: “I mean, you could write this on so many different and other people.”

Schneidmiller’s humility, drive and commitment to helping others throughout the Liberty Lake community is what — unfortunately for him — garners praise from the many people it touches.

Schneidmiller first came to Liberty Lake in the mid-1960s after a stint with the U.S. Army. He needed a job and worked at the Schneidmiller Land Company, a family business that included farms that dominated land that today is largely developed as the city of Liberty Lake. The seasonal work prompted a move to the Seattle area, where Schneidmiller procured a job at Boeing as a forklift operator.

After a few months at Boeing, he decided it was time to obtain a degree and went to back to school at Seattle Community College. He left with an associate’s degree in Information Systems. He soon found work at Uniguard Insurance and dedicated 34 years to the company.

profiles:
BOB SCHNEIDMILLER

It was never a part of Schneidmiller’s plan to come back to Liberty Lake, but after visiting friends and family in the area, Schneidmiller’s wife, Sue, confided in him that she could live in Liberty Lake.

“I had never thought about it before, and at first I didn’t really know what to think,” Schneidmiller said. “But we talked about it for quite some time, and it soon became clear that we needed to get away.”

After retirement, the Schneidmillers relocated to Liberty Lake permanently in 2002, where Bob immediately began looking for opportunities to get involved.

“I asked (cousin and fellow Liberty Lake resident) Ross and Kelli Schneidmiller one Fourth of July what I could do,” he recalled. “They suggested I could get involved with Kiwanis. ... Sue and I volunteered for our first event, the (Friends of Pavillion Park) Holiday Ball.”

Involvement in both Kiwanis and FOPP became regular outlets for Schneidmiller’s energetic goodwill. He is currently the FOPP president and has held leadership positions with Kiwanis, including a stint as president and as the longtime organizer of one of the club’s flagship fundraisers: its annual Scholarship Scramble golf tournament.

“The members are so great,

and volunteers for Kiwanis are not just one age; there are a wide array of ages,” Schneidmiller said.

Schneidmiller ascended to the presidency of Friends of Pavillion Park in March 2013 after years volunteering in various posts in the organization.

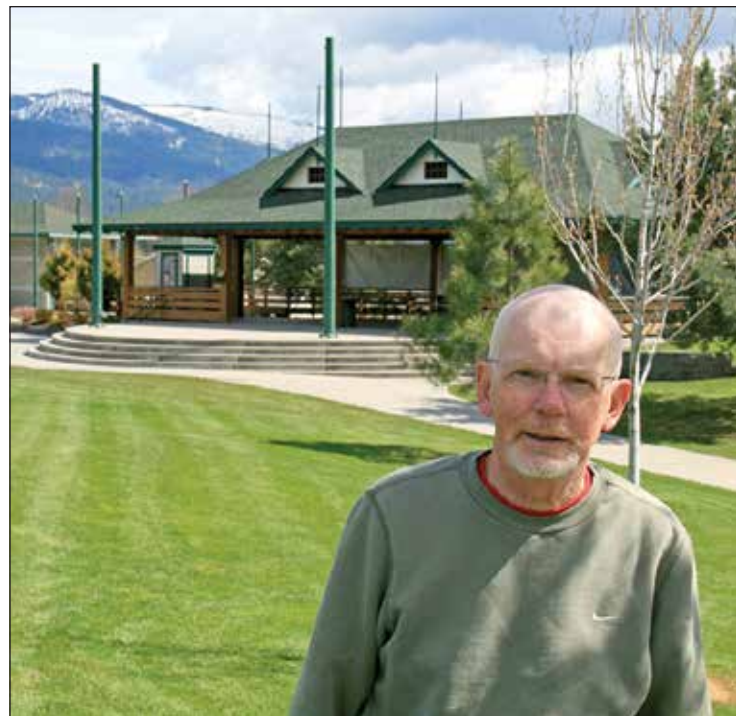
Pat Lutzenberger first met Schneidmiller when he showed up for a Kiwanis meeting in 2002. She had a quick answer regarding her longtime friend’s greatest qualities.

“Leadership,” she responded. “He has a heart of gold and always wants to be involved.”

When the history of Liberty Lake is written, Bob should be mentioned as an honorable community service servant. Since moving here he has been involved with SCOPE, served as Kiwanis president, and as president of FOPP. He always has a lot on his plate, but he is willing to step up and do the right thing. He does a lot of community service, he’s always there and never complains. He quietly goes about his business and does good.”

David Himebaugh, a former FOPP president himself who now serves in the vice president role, describes Schneidmiller as “dedicated, accountable, organized and committed to serve our community.”

“His work ethic is second to none,” Himebaugh said. “He keeps the entire board on their toes as he gets things done quickly and efficiently. ... Bob



SPLASH FILE PHOTO

Longtime community volunteer Bob Schneidmiller became president of Friends of Pavillion Park in March.

represents the spirit of Liberty Lake and what makes this community a great place to live through his service and dedication.”

As for Bob Schneidmiller, he can only deflect praise onto his community.

“Liberty Lake is a great community that is friendly and offers so many different things to do,” he said.

Part of what makes it that way is volunteerism.

“I believe that every person who is capable of volunteering should do so — especially younger people, as they are the future of our volunteer organizations,” he said. “... I think that it is good to extend yourself through the community. It just gives me so much pleasure.”

YOUR TURN

As the curtain closes on another Friends of Pavillion Park summer concert series, President Bob Schneidmiller is looking for volunteers to help with the efforts that make those free events possible.

The annual Holiday Ball, which this year will be Dec. 7 at the Davenport Hotel, is FOPP’s sole fundraiser to cover the costs associated with the series.

Volunteers are needed. To help plan or put on the event, email bschneidmiller@pavillionpark.org. For more about the Holiday Ball and FOPP, visit www.pavillionpark.org.

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The July 18 scramble at MeadowWood Golf Course was an enormous success, and Spokane Valley Partners would like to thank all participants, volunteers and supporters. The scramble, along with the 2013 Will-Golf-For-Food Summer Food & Fund Drive, netted **\$27,600** in support of programs and services offered to low-income and disadvantaged families of Greater Spokane Valley.



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COMMUNITY

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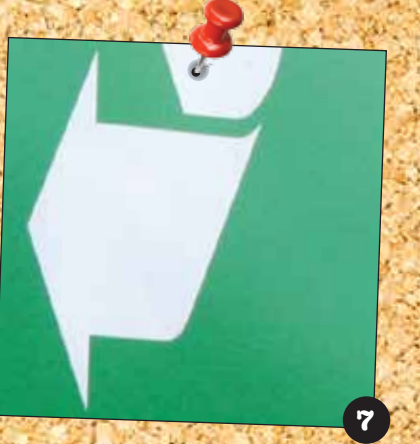
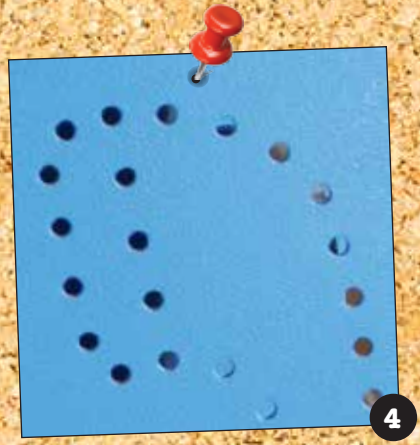
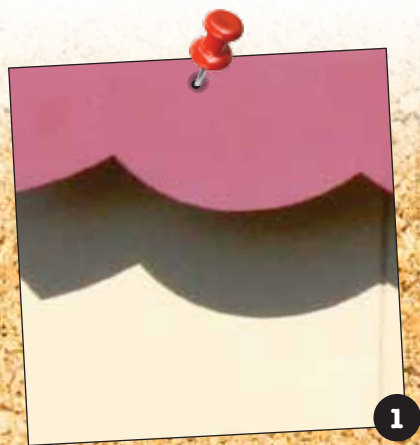
The following 12 photos were taken in the area including both sides of Liberty Lake Road between and including its intersections with Appleway and Country Vista. Do you know what

these pictures were taken of?

The reader who submits the highest number of correct answers by Sept. 12 will earn a \$20 gift card to a business of his or her choice that is located along this corridor (a drawing will be held in

case of tie). Submit your answers via a Facebook message at www.facebook.com/libertylakesplash or email them to editor@libertylakesplash.com.

Want to know the answers? Check out The Splash's Facebook page on Sept. 13.



Book Review

'Ocean' uncovers darker sides of adulthood



By Daniel Pringle
LIBERTY LAKE MUNICIPAL LIBRARY

In "The Ocean at the End of the Lane," Neil Gaiman turns down the overt fantasy elements of his earlier books like "Anansi Boys," "Coraline," and "The Graveyard Book" for a story in which magic subtly penetrates reality in the mind of an impressionable boy.



When a middle-aged man returns to the English village he grew up in for a funeral, he is drawn back to his boyhood home and then to the farmhouse at the end of the lane where he met a remarkable girl, Lettie Hempstock, when he was 7. Sitting beside the pond that she'd called an ocean when they were children, memories of the harrowing events of a spring long ago flood to the surface.

When a strange man commits suicide in the family car, it summons a dark force from another realm. Lettie and the boy think they have sent it back but it returns in human form as the boy's new nanny. As she pursues her twisted mission, she brings the frightening power of the adult world to bear on the boy and Lettie to thwart their attempts to banish her for good.

They ultimately succeed but at great cost. The disheartening moral of Gaiman's mature fairy tale is that adulthood, with its vague fears and "foolish casual cruelty," is the inescapable monster inside all of us, and that, once we reach it, we forget the path that led us there and don't recognize our own monstrousness. That we may recall it, though, and that the world will briefly make sense, is the bleak promise of their ocean.

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

COMMUNITY



SPLASH FILE PHOTO

The Spokane Symphony has become a Labor Day weekend tradition at Pavillion Park. This year's free concert falls on Aug. 31.

Symphony returns for popular concert

By Brenna Holland
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

The Spokane Symphony believes that music can nurture the human spirit and sweep an audience away. The Symphony will bring its musical magic to Pavillion Park at 6 p.m. Aug. 31 for the Lud Kramer Memorial Concert, an annual Labor Day weekend tradition named after one of the city of Liberty Lake's founding fathers.

The Spokane Symphony has been coming to Pavillion Park for more than a decade. Friends of Pavillion Park President Bob Schneidmiller hopes that it is a tradition that lasts for years to come.

"Personally, of all the concerts, this is my favorite," he said. "The Symphony is very popular, and it enhances the community. Many do not have the opportunity to see the Symphony in Spokane. The free concert is also good for those who may find tickets to the Symphony to be expensive. Overall, the concert is good for us and the Symphony."

The lively music that will be performed at Pavillion Park will begin, as is traditional, with the timeless, "The Star-Spangled Banner," by John Stafford Smith. A patriotic thread connects the music as the Symphony will also play Morton Gould's "American Salute" and Aaron Copland's "Hoe Down" from "Rodeo." Under the command of conductor Eckart Preu, the Symphony will delight the audience with classics, show tunes and popular compositions from classical genres.

Schneidmiller said he cannot speak more highly of Preu.

IF YOU GO ...

Spokane Symphony's annual Lud Kramer Memorial Concert

With Music Director Eckart Preu

**6 p.m. Aug. 31
Pavillion Park, 727 N. Molter Road**

About: Free concert; attendees are encouraged to bring low-back chairs, blankets and a picnic dinner. Concessions will also be available from Liberty Lake Kiwanis.

For more: www.pavillionpark.org

"He is a very personable guy," he said. "Whatever he plays, he explains or surprises the audience. Many conductors come out in the beginning and bow as an introduction then come out for applause. That's it. We are so fortunate to have him as a conductor."

Friends of Pavillion Park is a nonprofit organization that was established in 1992 and is dedicated to providing Liberty Lake with opportunities for recreation, education and the entertainment of the arts. The concert is a part of the 16th annual Summer Festival series hosted by the organization. Concessions are available at the concert through the Liberty Lake Kiwanis. The cost of the concerts and events come from the organization's annual fundraiser, the Holiday Ball held at the Davenport Hotel.

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LLES students work together to better school

By Tammy Kimberley
WAVE STAFF WRITER

Even though it's a month before the first bell will ring to kick off the school year, four incoming fifth-graders willingly met up at Liberty Lake Elementary School on a recent Monday morning.

Were they that anxious to get back to the books? Not exactly. These elected ASB officers — minus two who were unavailable due to a soccer tournament — took a break from their summer fun to share with The Wave what it means to be a part of ASB, as well as how they intend to make the school year a great one for LLES students.

Based on the chatter and ideas flowing among

the group, one might assume that ASB stands for “A Smart Bunch” or “A Sassy Batch” (of kids). It actually stands for Associated Student Body, a leadership crew for which they got elected last spring.

“You basically represent the school and are a voice for the students,” president Andrew Monson said.

Once the 2013-14 school year is under way, the group will meet weekly with LLES counselor DM Freed, whom sergeant at arms Madie Bruno called an “awesome advisor.” While their individual responsibilities vary, the group helps with morning announcements, assemblies and fundraisers.

Besides empowering students to speak to issues they feel are important, Mr. Freed said ASB is unique in that it is a

See ASB, page 29



The Associated Student Body (ASB) at Liberty Lake Elementary enables students to have a voice about issues they feel are important. Four of the elected ASB officers—Madie Bruno, Riley Gavin, Jaylee Lake and Andrew Monson—are pictured above on the school playground.

WAVE PHOTO BY TAMMY KIMBERLEY

2013-2014 ASB officers: “How do you hope to make LLES a better place?”



I hope to set an example by encouraging everyone and making our school a positive place to come to each day.

Andrew Monson,
President

Son of Ryan and Cheryl Monson



I hope to make LLES even better by trying to get even more kids involved in all of our various activities.

Riley Gavin,
Vice President

Son of Paul Gavin and LeAnna Kennedy Gavin



I plan to do my best to set a positive example for other students by being kind and working hard.

Grace Williams,
Treasurer

Daughter of Brian and Eileen Williams



I want to work to make school lunches better.

Jaylee Lake,
Secretary

Daughter of James and Jenna Lake



I want to make the school a better place this year by focusing on helping and serving others.

Madie Bruno,
Sergeant at Arms

Daughter of Mat and Holly Haneke



I hope to make LLES better by just doing my best anytime they want me to do something.

Jenna Engel,
Sergeant at Arms

Daughter of Dale and Shelly Engel

COMMUNITY

The scoop on school supplies

Compiled by Tammy Kimberley
WAVE STAFF WRITER

Before the first bell rings to summon kids back to the classroom, brush up a bit on your history—of school supplies,

that is. Many of the items on that back-to-school list have a colorful history of how they came to be or evolved over time.

Sources: *mentalfloss.com*, *winfographics.com*, *suite101.com*



Backpack

This word was first coined in the U.S. in the 1910s, although the cloth bags were often referred to as moneybag or packsack. Besides storing books, backpacks are used by athletes, soldiers and travelers.

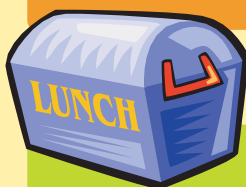
Crayola Crayons

Kids used to get sick from wax crayons, so the Binny & Smith Company developed new, non-toxic pigments in 1903 and called them Crayola (made from the French words, "craie" for chalk and "oleaginous" meaning oily). While the original box only contained eight colors, there are now over 150 different shades.



Lunch Box

Many children in the early 20th century took their lunch to school in an empty cookie or tobacco tin. In 1950, the first successful box and thermos combination featured the popular TV and radio cowboy Hopalong Cassidy and led to a slew of boxes featuring cartoon characters and comic book heroes.



Paper

First invented by the Chinese during the second century A.D., paper is produced by pressing together moist fibers and drying them into sheets. Legend has it that Thomas Holley of Massachusetts first had the idea to collect paper scraps and stitch them together to sell, leading to the invention of the notepad in 1888.



Scissors

Crude versions of scissors from around 1500 B.C. have been discovered in Egypt. Most scissors are best-suited for use with the right hand, but some companies create pairs for left-handed people in order for the users to better see what is being cut.



Mechanical Pencil

Patented back in 1822, this writing utensil was first called a "propelling pencil" by its creator Sampson Mordan. Designs and decorations on the cylinder varied over time, and the push-button type is now the most common type of mechanical pencil.



ASB

Continued from page 28

student-only organization. All students who attend the school are automatically ASB members. Students raise their own budget, which is separate from the PTSA and school budgets.

In order to be elected to their positions, the students had to go through a process that included giving primary speeches, campaigning and general elections. And it was not a challenge they took on alone. The group of 10-year-olds all said their families and friends helped them campaign for their positions by giving feedback on speeches and posters.

The reasons each decided to run for an ASB position varied. Some heard it was a fun experience, others said they wanted to help students, and one kid mentioned following in the footsteps of an older sibling.

"My older brother ran and became sergeant at arms," secretary Jaylee Lake said. "It was fun for him, so I thought I should try it."

No student is discouraged from running for an office, Mr. Freed said, and he admires all students who muster the courage to step forward. He is amazed each year at the incredible students who

are elected as officers, and this year is no exception.

"I've had the privilege of knowing many of the incoming officers since they were in first grade, and I can assure you that they are going to do an outstanding job!" he said. "They are students who shine in all the necessary areas to be great leaders."

While they did not all know one another well before being elected, the officers said they look forward to working together this year. Besides showing around first-grade students at the start of the year, they are also excited to start planning for the coming year, whether it be brainstorming fundraisers or evaluating how there can be less waste during lunch time.

Mr. Freed said the incoming officers will take an oath to uphold the ASB mission statement at the first student body assembly in September. The officers will then lead monthly meetings with ASB class reps and stay connected to classroom teachers. In fact, when asked the best thing about the school, everyone agreed that the LLES staff makes the difference.

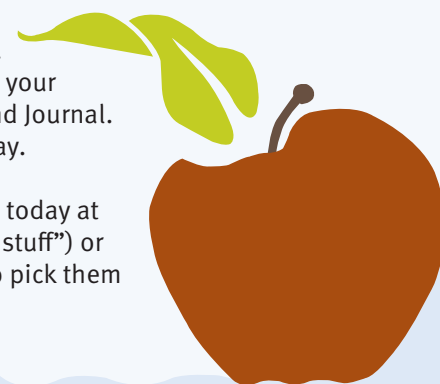
"The staff is so friendly and makes you feel right at home," vice president Riley Gavin said. "They're not just teachers; they're friends."

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The Fountain

About and for Liberty Lake seniors

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Reagan coffee pot worth holding on to

Collecting column by Larry Cox
KING FEATURES SYNDICATE

Q: I was a big fan of Ronald Reagan, and in 1981 purchased a Carltonware "Spitting Image" coffee pot with his likeness. Even though I often visit antiques malls and shops, I have not seen another one like it. I have been offered \$150 for it by a collector. My big question is whether I should sell it for that amount or keep it. — *Deborah, Sun City West, Ariz.*

A: Your ceramic coffee pot was designed by Fluck and Law and was so popular that knock-offs also were produced. If your pot is genuine, it is worth in the \$350 to \$650 range.

Since most modern political campaigns are television driven, souvenirs have become less common, especially items such as your coffee pot. Humor and satire have been an important part of our political campaigns, and that is what makes your pot so unique and collectible. One of the better groups for enthusiasts is American Political Items Collectors, P.O. Box 55, Avon, NY 14414.

Q: I have about a dozen older movie posters, including "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," "Portrait in Black," "Lady Killers," "True Grit" and "Where's Papa?" Whom can I contact to find out what they are worth? — *Steve, Palm Springs, Calif*

A: Conway's Vintage Treasures is recommended to both buy and sell movie memorabilia. The address is P.O. Box 40962, Providence, RI 02940.

Q: I have a piece of my city's past. It is a bumper sticker that reads "Rio Rancho Estates, 1429 Central Avenue, N.W., Albuquerque, New Mexico, The Sunshine Capital of the U.S.A." — *Irene, Rio Rancho, N.M.*

A: Your bumper sticker sounds interesting. Have you considered contacting the New Mexico History Museum, 113 Lincoln Ave., Santa Fe, NM 85701.

Write to Larry Cox in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mail to questionsforcox@aol.com. Due to the large volume of mail he receives, Mr. Cox is unable to personally answer all reader questions. Do not send any materials requiring return mail.

Senior Circle provides education, discounts

By Brenna Holland
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

To be a healthy person means to not only be physically fit and follow dietary standards, but also to be educated about one's personal health and what one can do to prevent any illness.

Enter the Senior Circle, a nationwide organization committed to enhancing the lives of adults over the age of 50. About 1,500 members are served by Senior Circle in the greater Spokane area, including 390 who live in Spokane Valley, said Stephanie Wells, who organizes the program for Valley Hospital and Medical Center.

For an annual membership of \$15, members gain access to discounts on prescriptions, activities, events, exercise and wellness classes, a chapter newsletter, in-

hospital privileges and other bonuses.

The Senior Circle, which boasts more than 120 chapters nationwide, hopes to encourage a healthy lifestyle for seniors through education, wellness and health classes, and social programs.

"We do two to three health talks a month, and lunch is included," Wells said of the local program. "Joining Senior Circle includes many benefits, including if you are in the hospital and we have an open room, you can be upgraded to a private room. Whoever is your caregiver, whether it be your child or spouse, is given a free meal every day you are there. Through Senior Circle, you can also obtain free parking at Deaconess."

There are also local merchants who offer discounts to Senior Circle members. National benefits include discounted prescriptions and hearing aids.

Wells encourages anyone who is craving more information on personal health to join.

"The senior population really loves the information," she said. "They thrive on these health talks, and there are usually 80-90 people (in attendance). Everyone enjoys talking to the doctors and absorbing the information."

Medicare changes merit extra research

By Matilda Charles
KING FEATURES SYNDICATE

Medicare's annual open enrollment period begins in a month: Circle Oct. 15 on your calendar. This is one year you'll want to start your research early. The plans might not be the same this time.

From Oct. 15 to Dec. 7, you can enroll in or change your Medicare Part D drug plan or Medicare Advantage plan, if you currently have Parts A and/or B. You'll also have an opportunity to change to Medicare Advantage with or without drug coverage, or back to the original Medicare.

If you currently have Part D and Medi-

care Advantage and don't make any changes during the enrollment period, your plan will stay the same. Beware if you have Medicare Advantage, and check carefully: Costs (premiums and co-payments) and levels of coverage might change as plans work to meet all the new health-care law requirements. Take a close look at your annual plan notice when it comes in the mail. Call Medicare if you have questions (1-800-633-4227) or compare plans on the Medicare.gov website.

If you turn age 65 and become eligible for Medicare at a time other than the enrollment period, you have seven months to get signed up: three months before your birthday month, your birthday month, and three months after your birthday month. If you don't sign up within that time, you could incur penalties that will last the rest of your life.

Suggestion: Call Medicare six months before you're going to need it. Ask lots of questions, especially if you're still working. Be ready to sign up at the right time.

To enroll or ask questions, call Social Security (they handle the signups) at 1-800-772-1213.

Beware: If you want to read about Medicare on the Internet, be sure you go to Medi-

— King Crossword —

Answers

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

Senior News

Can't find lunch?

The Talon Hills Silver Cafe lunch program in Liberty Lake is available to seniors age 60 and older from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday.

But do you know where to find it?

"I have had quite a few people ask me, 'Where is Talon Hills?'" Coordinator Suzi Walden wrote in an email to The Splash. "Some of the people used to come to the City Hall lunches. Some people think also that it is only for residents of Talon Hills; in reality, it is open to all seniors 60 and over regardless of income, no boundaries at all. All residents of Spokane County are welcome."

For the record, Talon Hills Senior Complex is located at 24950 E. Hawkstone Loop. You can find it by heading east on Appleway (toward the state line). Hawkstone Loop will be on your right, approximately 1 mile east of the intersection at Molter Road.

The meal has a suggested donation of \$3.50, but no one is turned away for inability to pay.

SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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care.gov — the .gov is for "government."

Matilda Charles regrets that she cannot personally answer reader questions, but will incorporate them into her column whenever possible. Send email to columnreply2@gmail.com.

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Chic, to Austin Powers
- 4 Crooked
- 8 Implement
- 12 Tramcar contents
- 13 Decorative case
- 14 Unsightly
- 15 Relinquish the throne
- 17 Smile
- 18 Squid squirt
- 19 Big-time operator?
- 21 19-Across, e.g.
- 24 Chart format
- 25 "Eureka!"
- 26 Run-down horse
- 28 Financial advisor Suze
- 32 Teeny bit
- 34 Deviate off course
- 36 Antitoxins
- 37 Dickinson output
- 39 Space
- 41 Water barrier
- 42 Suitable
- 44 Literary comparison
- 46 Last major battle site of WWII
- 50 Lobbyists'

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12			13					14			
15			16					17			
		18			19		20				
21	22			23		24					
25			26		27		28		29	30	31
32			33		34		35		36		
37			38		39		40		41		
		42		43		44		45			
46	47	48			49		50				
51				52		53			54	55	
56				57					58		
59				60					61		

- 7 Traffic jam
- 8 They're in for the long haul
- 9 Shrek is one
- 10 Hodgepodge
- 11 Singer Loretta
- 16 Bankbook abbr.
- 20 Carnival site
- 21 Moist
- 22 Canton's place
- 23 Shaft of light
- 27 Choke
- 29 Treat an ailment
- 30 Asian sea, really a lake
- 31 Appellation
- 33 Spring (from)
- 35 Existed
- 38 Hot tub
- 40 Ornamental material
- 43 Checker move?
- 45 Buddy
- 46 Muscat's land
- 47 Narc's measure
- 48 Press
- 49 Con
- 53 Press for payment
- 54 — Aviv
- 55 Moray or conger

DOWN

- 1 Bygone bird
- 2 Sphere
- 3 Commit (to)
- 4 Signal, as with a nod
- 5 Schedule abbr.
- 6 "Phooey!"

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TRIVIA TEST

1. **GEOGRAPHY:** Where is Ascension Island located?
2. **MOVIES:** What film featured a character called *The Dude*?
3. **ANATOMY:** What divides the outer ear from the middle ear in humans?
4. **GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** What does an arctophile collect?
5. **TELEVISION:** What were the boys' names on "Home Improvement"?
6. **ANIMAL KINGDOM:** How many teeth does a dog have?
7. **HISTORY:** What English statesman wrote the 19th-century novel "Vivian Gray"?
8. **GAMES:** What is the board-game version of the outdoor game known as "Capture the Flag"?

9. **SCIENCE:** Where would you most likely find a Bunsen burner?

10. **LANGUAGE:** What does the word "hieroglyphic" mean in the original Greek?

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SUDOKU

Answer

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

Answers to Trivia Test 1. South Atlantic Ocean; 2. "The Big Lebowski"; 3. The eardrum; 4. Teddy bears; 5. Mark, Randy and Brad Taylor; 6. 42; 7. Benjamin Disraeli; 8. Stratego; 9. Laboratory; 10. Sacred carving



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COMMUNITY

Thanks to LL for exporting baseball to Ukraine

Following Splash story, community pitches in to help Peace Corps volunteer

By Bailey Wolff
SPLASH GUEST COLUMN

Last winter, when I talked with the Splash about baseball in Ukraine (“Play ball! (In Ukraine)” Jan. 3 cover story), I had a flimsy baseball bat, three tennis balls, two gloves, a few interested kids and a hope that people might donate equipment so that we could organize a real game in our community. We didn’t even have a regular place to play. I thought that if people would donate their old gear and my parents would send it to Ukraine, that by this summer we would be able to play ball. What ended up happening was better than I could have imagined.

Instead of getting old bats, dusty gloves, stinky hats and chewed-up baseballs from peoples’ basements and garages, we got brand-new gloves, brand-new bats, new baseballs and unworn hats. Kimmel Athletic Supply, thanks to financial help from the Liberty Lake community and the initiative of my old baseball coach, Steve Rasmussen, supplied enough gear to equip an entire baseball team.

I remember my dad telling me this news through a Skype conversation and then joking, as he looked at all of the gloves and bats sitting in boxes in his living room, “The only problem now is figuring out how to send it all to you.”

Coach Ras and my dad were able to purchase four bats, eleven gloves, a mix of six dozen baseballs and incrediballs, five helmets, a batting tee and a set of catcher’s gear at the discounted prices offered by Kimmel. We also received 13 baseball hats with the Kimmel insignia so that when we play, we look like a real team. Ed Garcia, another of my baseball coaches from Central Valley, also donated a few dozen baseballs, making the total number that crossed the Atlantic Ocean close to 100.

The two boxes weighed a combined 60 pounds and took eight weeks to get here by truck, ship and train. When they arrived to my apartment, they were so bulky that the delivery driver and I had to carry them up the stairs together.

This was sometime in June. And even though I had the equipment, I didn’t have a team to use it with. Since playing last fall with the kids from my school, interest in the game had waned and those with whom I had played were on summer break at the seaside. Fortunately, I know some Canadian volunteers in my town who spend a lot of time working with kids, and it just so happened that they came to me the same week I received the baseball equipment and said



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Liberty Lake native Bailey Wolff, wearing the red shirt at left, is a Peace Corp volunteer in Ukraine. A former Central Valley High School baseball player, he has used the American past time to help build connections and community during his work in Ukraine. He holds regular pick-up games, and thanks to donations from Liberty Lake community members, he has new equipment to use in his efforts.

that they wanted to put on a baseball camp.

“The only problem,” they said, “is that we don’t have any equipment.”

“Ah ha,” I told them. “If you’ve got people to play, I’ve got some equipment.”

We did put on a baseball camp, and following the camp we played a game with

the kids that became an every-Saturday sandlot game on an unused soccer field near the river. I said last fall that my goal was to start a regular game where any person that wanted could come and learn how to play. Barring the occasional drunk man who walks by and wants to take a couple cuts with the bat, we allow most everyone

who wants to play to join, and it has all been made possible by the generosity of the Liberty Lake community.

There are some difficulties in teaching the game that I can report. Sometimes, it feels like trying to teach a PE class full of students who would rather listen to their iPods and search for four-leaf clovers. The etiquette, rules and habits of baseball are so new to them that it often feels that we are teaching fish how to walk.

When I tell Sasha that she has to play deeper in the outfield, she whines and says that she wants to be close to her friend who is playing shortstop.

“But a leftfielder needs to be out there,” I say, pointing to the apparent wasteland of the outfield. Sasha shrugs, and I relent, and then Oleg (once again) crushes the ball over her head, and she chases it, only to return, after the play is over, to her position too close to the shortstop, unwilling to understand that leftfielders are to cover an area and not to keep the infield company.

Several times, we’ve talked about warming up with one partner and slowly moving farther and farther apart while playing catch.

“One person stands here and the other person stands there and the two of you play catch like this,” I say, demonstrating how every baseball team I have ever seen plays catch; in two lines, stretching and slowly lengthening the distance between them.

Without fail, these Ukrainian kids organize themselves into interesting ovals, sometimes octagons, tossing one or two baseballs around and across this shape, creating (what seems to me) a complicated mess that is again, more about socializing than it is about warming up.

“You’re supposed to do it this way,” I tell them, and they all look at me like I am grumpy, or at least a little tired, and that maybe I should come back after I’ve received a good night’s sleep.

It takes a lot of patience to balance my expectations of what they should do and the reality of what they do do. It takes a lot of craft to teach them “how the game is played” without coming across as overbearing and authoritarian. It’s an interesting balance finding the middle between allowing them to have fun and learn the game at their own pace and insisting that they practice and play the way I “know” it should be done.

Thank you again for your donations and helping to make this baseball game possible in Ukraine. It’s been wonderful for me, and the kids really love it too.

Liberty Lake native Bailey Wolff is a former Central Valley High School baseball player and a 2010 graduate of Eastern Washington University.



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Struttin' their canine stuff



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Dogs and their owners gathered at Pawpular Companions Pet Supplies on Aug. 17 for the third annual Mutt Strut. Proceeds from this year's event benefitted Higher Ground Animal Sanctuary, run by Liberty Lake resident Cheri Scandalis.



Tom Sherry and his dog led the start of the 2.5 mile walk around Liberty Lake.



Above, Cheri Scandalis of Higher Ground Animal Sanctuary, Kerri Masters of Animal Advocates and Mara Crowell of Pawpular Companions Pet Supplies take a break from their responsibilities at the Mutt Strut.



Cowboys vs. Crohns

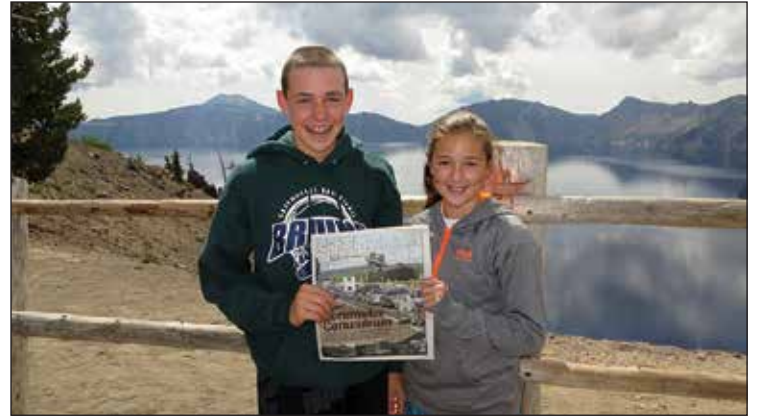


SUBMITTED PHOTO

Nick Roach and Jack Chambers made a stop through Liberty Lake Aug. 8 on their 105-day horseback trek from Gardiner, Mont., to Bellingham, Wash. Their goal is to raise \$100,000 for the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation.

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.

Splash Travels



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Ken, Marie, Brayden and Andrea Hamilton took The Splash along on their trip to Northern California the middle of August. Their family took a detour in Oregon to visit Crater Lake National Park, which they described as "pristine and beautiful and so worth it." Pictured with The Splash are Brayden and Andrea.



During a June trip to Egypt, Turkey and Amsterdam, Paul Shields and Brianna Lindaman dove in the Red Sea, visited many archaeological wonders and watched history unfold in Cairo and Istanbul.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Rich and Ginny Semler visited the United Kingdom in May and took along The Splash while visiting Stonehenge.

LOCAL LENS

Shutterbug snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Above: Michael Hassett photographed two young ospreys in a nest off Appleway near Spokane Bridge at the end of July.

At right: A shot of a Great Horned Owl in a pine tree on the Trailhead Golf Course was taken by Kris Hassett in July.



An outdoors adventure



Boy Scout Pack 413 went on a summer camping trip to Camp Melita on Flathead Lake in Montana.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

A production at Pavillion Park



SPLASH AND SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Montana Shakespeare in the Parks returned to Pavillion Park Aug. 25 for the third year in a row as part of the Friends of Pavillion Park 2013 Summer Festival Series. The troupe preformed "Henry V."



Rockin' out at Rocky Hill



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

The Liberty Lake Community Tennis Association and the Liberty Lake Running Club sponsored a neighborhood event at Rocky Hill Park in August. Besides a free tennis clinic, fun run and food, the festivities included a free concert by the band Angela Marie Project.



CALLING ALL SHUTTERBUGS...

We are looking for photos that convey what makes Liberty Lake a unique place to live for our fourth annual photography contest. Whether they capture the beautiful landscape, the bustling activities or the varying seasons, we're asking photographers to share photos that communicate the essence the community.

The winner's photo will be highlighted on the cover, and other selected images will be featured inside the 2014 Liberty Lake Community Directory. Prizes will be awarded as well, so be sure to shoot and share local photos with the Directory!

- Photographers (amateur or professional) age 16 years and older are eligible to enter.

- Deadline is September 13. Prizes will be awarded to the top three winners.

- Visit www.libertylakesplash.com for a complete set of rules.



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Peridot Publishing, distributor of The Splash, The Current and Liberty Lake Community Directory, is sponsoring this contest.

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LOCAL LENS/COMMUNITY

Robert Cray Band plays to packed crowd



Friends of Pavillion Park brought the Robert Cray Band for an Aug. 17 performance as part of their 2013 Summer Festival Series. FOPP president Bob Schneidmiller said the crowd was the largest ever for an FOPP event.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Bedded down to race



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The bed races sponsored by the Liberty Lake Lion's Club at Liberty Lake Days were described by the club as a great success. The overall winner was the Post Falls Lion's Club, the best team spirit was awarded to Good Samaritan Nursing and the best bed design went to Sharp Wright Boxing Club.

50th anniversary celebrations



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Lana and Gary Myers celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a party at Curley's Hauser Lake Junction on July 27. Hosts for the event were daughter Kari Sloan; granddaughter Bekah Sloan; son Jeffrey (and Peggy Myers); grandsons Josh and Cody Myers; and great-granddaughters Alex, Jessica and Josie Myers. The couple was married Aug. 10, 1963, at St. Paul's Methodist Church in Spokane.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Ray and Karen Ruef celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with an open house at Valley Fourth Memorial Church on Aug. 10. Hosts for the event were their children, Marilyn and Cliff Neve of Stafford, Va.; Steve and Lisa Rueff of Acala, Fla.; and Janice and Bryan Olson of Otis Orchards. The couple was married Aug. 10, 1963, in Seattle. They have 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Community Briefs

Career clothing drive this month

"Best Foot Forward," a career clothing drive to provide men and women with professional clothing for job interviews and white-collar jobs, will be held Sept. 6-15 at a pair of local Safeway stores.

Drop of professional clothing, including shoes and accessories like ties and belts, at either Safeway's Sprague and Evergreen or Liberty Lake locations. To receive a tax donation form, take the items directly to the clothing bank at Spokane Valley Partners, 10814 E. Broadway Ave. between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Spokane Valley Partners houses many social service providers, including the Valley food and clothing banks. Volunteers are always needed; for additional information, call Cora at 927-1153. With questions about the drive, contact Sharon Jayne at 255-6758.

Residential information sought for annual directory

The Liberty Lake Community Directory is soliciting residential information to be included in the 2014 book. Listings typically include last and first name, address and phone number.

Residents who are new to the area or who have recently changed their address or phone number are encouraged to email the correct information to directory@libertylakesplash.com to guarantee inclusion in the annual publication which will be mailed to homes in November. Those who have submitted information for past directories are encouraged to confirm their information for the 2014 directory.

The Directory purchases listings from local phone providers, but residents have the option of requesting their information not be included by emailing directory@libertylakesplash.com by Sept 13.

Photo contest deadline nears

The Liberty Lake Community Directory is looking for photos that convey what makes Liberty Lake a unique place to live for its fourth annual photography contest. Entries must be received by the Sept. 13 deadline.

Whether it's a breathtaking outdoor scene or a beautiful shot of residents gathering at a local event, shutterbugs are asked to submit images capturing the essence of the community. The winner's photo will be highlighted on the cover, and other selected images will be featured in the 2014 Liberty Lake Community Directory.

Amateur or professional photographers age 16 or older are eligible to enter. Prizes will be awarded to the top three winners. For rules and more information, go to

See COMMUNITY, page 37

COMMUNITY

Education Briefs

WWU honors graduates

Western Washington University recently recognized Liberty Lake residents Julie Flerchinger and Drew Miller for graduating from the Bellingham school earlier this year.

Flerchinger received a bachelor's degree in business administration with a management concentration. Miller received bachelor's degrees in art and art history.

Whitworth students qualify for Laureate Society

Whitworth University announced recently that four Liberty Lake students were among those who qualified for its Laureate Society for spring semester 2013.

Dakota Kliamovich, Karly Rasmussen, Christina Kirkpatrick and Krista Ranno all qualified for the academic honors society by maintaining a grade point average of at least 3.75 during the semester.

Baynes siblings mark educational milestones

Brittany and Samuel Baynes, children of Jeanne Baynes of Liberty Lake and Sam Baynes of Lake Charles, La., both marked educational milestones earlier this year.

Brittany Baynes, a 2003 Central Valley High School and 2008 Washington State University graduate, received her master of public administration, healthcare administration degree from Keller Graduate School of Management of DeVry University on June 30.

Samuel W. Baynes, a 2008 CV alum, graduated from the University of Louisiana with a degree in biology in May. He is now enrolled in Washington State University's pharmacy school.

COMMUNITY

Continued from page 36

www.libertylakesplash.com and click on the camera graphic at the top of the page.

Calling all kid artists

Elementary-age students are encouraged to color, draw or paint a picture that represents the spirit of Liberty Lake for the "That's My Community" art contest. Prizes will be awarded, and many of the children's artwork will be featured in the 2014 Liberty Lake Community Directory.

Entries should be delivered to The Splash office, 2310 N.Molter Road, suite 305, by Sept. 27. Each entry must have the artist's name, age, school, grade and contact information attached.

For more information, call 242-7752 or email directory@libertylakesplash.com.



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Guardian Angel expansion fills quickly

By Valerie Putnam
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

Guardian Angel Homes, an award-winning assisted living and memory care community in Liberty Lake, recently expanded its campus and services.

As part of its expansion, the facility added four new duplex units for independent living to its campus at 23102 E. Mission Ave.

"It's a complete world of difference here," said resident Jim Dunbar, who moved into a duplex unit in April. "I love it."

Each of the new 1,100 square-foot units has two bedrooms, two bathrooms and a one-car garage. The residents of these units also get a full laundry room, granite counter tops, upscale appliances, hard wood floors, a patio and extra storage.

The duplexes are surrounded by \$10,000 worth of landscaping, featuring a gazebo gate with climbing roses on each side. Finished in April, the duplexes proved popular.

"We couldn't get landscaping in before people moved in," said Joan Estudillo, Guardian Angel's Liberty Lake facility administrator. "We have one unit left."

Estudillo says they are currently working on plans to add additional independent living duplexes, another assisted living facility and an adult playground on the property.

"We need to let the dust settle from this expansion," Estudillo said. "I'm not sure what we will build first, the duplexes or the assisted living facility."

The proposed adult playground, by Life Trail Advanced Wellness Systems, features



Joan Estudillo, facility administrator at Guardian Angel Homes in Liberty Lake, stands in front of the new duplex units that opened in April. The units proved popular, and Estudillo said only one remained open.

SPLASH PHOTO BY VALERIE PUTNAM

outdoor exercise equipment. Each piece of equipment has instructions posted on how to operate so residents can work independently or with the aid of a therapist.

"The adult playground will be the first of its kind in the area," Estudillo said.

Six different pieces have been selected based on input from residents, including a

wobble board (a device you stand on that promotes balance), lower and upper body cycling, push up and stair exercises.

The expansion was made possible when Guardian Angel purchased property from Liberty Lake Church in 2011.

"We didn't have room to expand," Estudillo said. "After we purchased the land, then we determined what we needed most. We felt independent living was the most needed."

The project was completed by Geddes and Company from Phoenix, Ariz.

The first Guardian Angel Homes facility opened in 2000 in Post Falls. The idea for the business was sparked when owner and entrepreneur Marty Frantz's father was diagnosed with dementia.

Frantz researched facilities and couldn't find a loving homelike environment for his father. Instead of settling for what was available, he developed a facility for him. Unfortunately, Frantz's father passed away before the project was completed in the summer of 2000.

His concept incorporates small individual homes with a maximum of 15 residents. Limiting each home helps memory care residents from feeling overwhelmed. Each home is self-contained with a full staff, beauty salon and barber shop, whirlpool, patio and courtyard, and a back-up generator.

"People found it more home-like," Estudillo said. "Everything we do is on a

smaller basis."

Above the memory care homes are independent living quarters designed with the intention of offering a place for spouses to live, so they can be in the same home.

"They can still have meals together, and spend time together," Estudillo said.

Frantz's facility was honored by the National Assisted Living Federation for home-like design.

Since that time, Frantz, along with John Geddes, have opened four other facilities — Liberty Lake, Richland, Wash., Lewiston, Idaho, and Hermiston, Ore.

The complex in Liberty Lake began in 2003 with one memory care home. Since then, the facility has grown to include five individual homes, a 31-apartment assisted-living facility built in 2009, and the new duplex units. The complex currently has 109 residents and 68 employees.

"I've got to tell you these are the most terrific people to work for," Estudillo said. "I've been doing this for over 30 years, and there is not another company that I've seen care as much as they do about the residents."

Estudillo believes the success of the locally owned company is its reputation built on serving the residents and adapting to the ever-changing needs of seniors.

"Guardian is known for getting it right and building what people want," Estudillo said. "They want good things for our residents, and that shows."

In Biz

Banner Bank completes move

Banner Bank finalized its relocation into a new Liberty Lake location in August. Banner recently purchased the AmericanWest Bank location at 1221 N. Liberty Lake Road, located a matter of yards from the in-store Safeway location Banner has operated in the community for years.

As part of the transition, the Safeway branch is closing as staff relocate to the new building, and members of the former AmericanWest staff are also joining Banner Bank.

Architects West marks 40th anniversary

Architects West is celebrating its 40th anniversary with an open house from 4 to 8 p.m. Sept. 5 at 210 E. Lakeside Ave. in Coeur d'Alene.

One of the firm's principals is Gary Johnson of Liberty Lake.

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

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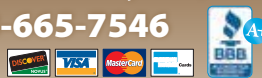
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TIME FOR KICKOFF

Valley-area prep football teams prepare for 2013 gridiron campaigns.

Q&A WITH BEN SMALL

CVSD superintendent sits down for wide-ranging conversation about facility needs, Spokane Valley Tech and growing up in a small town.

FAIR PREVIEWS

September is fair season in the greater Spokane Valley. We prep you for the Spokane County Interstate Fair, Valleyfest and the Southeast Spokane County Fair.

YOUNG LEADERS

The Wave, sponsored in the Valley by KIDDS Dental, talks to ASB presidents from local schools.

THE FOUNTAIN

A smorgasbord of helpful info for seniors awaits in the Valley edition of our monthly senior section, sponsored by Evergreen Fountains.

The September issue of The Current is available now at more than 230 locations, or subscribe at www.valleycurrent.com.

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BUSINESS



SPLASH PHOTO BY VALERIE PUTNAM

Molly Patrick, right, Eat Good chef and Martha Morrill, Eat Good baker, pause behind the counter of the Roast House Coffee Bar. While the restaurant closes at 2 p.m., customers can get homemade pastries and coffee drinks Monday through Friday until 4:30 p.m. at the coffee bar.

Eat Good focuses on healthy *and* fast

By Valerie Putnam
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

"Fast food service with fine dining skill and execution" — that's how Chef Molly Patrick describes Eat Good, the new open-to-the-public restaurant inside Liberty Lake's Meadowwood Technology Campus. The premise behind Eat Good is to serve food both healthy and fast.

"Nothing is pre-made," Patrick said. "We make everything here."

The idea began as a joke between Patrick and Adam Hegsted. Hegsted, who is helping get Eat Good up and running, previously worked with Patrick at the Coeur d'Alene Casino.

"We always joked about bringing fine dining to the fast food world," Patrick said. "Then this spot opened up, and it was the perfect location to implement it."

In addition to providing a calorie count on the menu for each item served, Patrick explained she doesn't use additives or preservatives in the dishes.

"You know what you're putting into your body," Patrick said. "You can feel good about eating out and eating on the go."

Most of the ingredients for Patrick's dishes are purchased from the Liberty Lake Farmers Market and other local farmers.

The beef comes from Snake River Farms in Boise, Idaho.

"Anything we can get local, we do," Patrick said. "We try to use as many local farmers and ranchers as we can in a 300-mile radius."

Preparing each of her dishes from scratch, Patrick on occasion scours the area surrounding the restaurant to prepare local delicacies that feature tastes indigenous to the area.

Her creative approach to cooking has led to unique menu items. One such item is her pine lime sorbet in which she used pine needles gathered from outside the restaurant to create the unique flavor.

One of the restaurant's biggest sellers is non-fried chicken tenders. Patrick's secret to this recipe includes using tomato soup, Rice Krispies and oatmeal in the batter.

"They taste like they're fried," Patrick said. "We go through 20 pounds of chicken tenders a day."

Other feature menu items include a bacon and fried egg sandwich, mushroom burger and fish tacos.

In addition to the set menu items, the café offers a daily hot entree, salad bar, daily grill special and grab-n-go items. Two soups, including a seasonal soup, are prepared daily.

IF YOU GO ... Eat Good

Hours: 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, with the Roast House Coffee Bar and grab-n-go options such as cold sandwiches, salads and fruit available until 4:30 p.m.

Where: Eat Good is located in the Meadowood Technology Campus, 24001 E. Mission Ave. It is open to the public.

Join the club: A weekly Wednesday night supper club is available from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Featuring a family-friendly, home-style menu, the cost is \$25 for adults and \$10 for children. Tickets can be purchased at www.brownpapertickets.com.

For more: Visit www.eatgoodgroup.com, check out the Eat Good Facebook page or call 210-0880.

"You could get lunch, coffee and a pastry for under \$10," Patrick said about the cafe's reasonably priced menu. "We want it to be affordable."

The menu — available at www.eatgoodgroup.com, on Facebook and posted at the front of the restaurant — changes every three to four months.

The Roast House Coffee bar, also on the campus and managed by Patrick, offers home-made pastries and coffee until 4:30 p.m. Selections include Winkies

See EAT, page 41

BUSINESS

EAT

Continued from page 40

(a pastry similar to Twinkies), marbled brownies, monkey bread, bear paws, lemon poppy seed muffins, cookies and lemon and raspberry bars.

Eat Good's menu tries to accommodate any food allergy. The baker is currently working on perfecting a gluten-free flour, with the goal of making special pastries.

Prior to Eat Good, Season's Cafe operated in the location. It served the estimated 3,000 employees in the building.

"They were open about a year," Patrick said. "It wasn't working financially. We came in and took it over. Eat Good was born."

Patrick began managing the restaurant in late April by watching the operation of Season's to see what changes needed to be implemented.

"It was going to be a drastic change," Patrick said. "We tried to make it as smooth as possible."

Many of Season's employees remained on staff. Patrick restructured the layout, implemented from-scratch cooking and within a couple weeks changed the restaurant. The restaurant remained open during the transition.

"I've opened other restaurants, but this by far has been the roughest," Patrick said about transitioning concepts while the restaurant remained open. "It was Season's one day and Eat Good the next."

Season's continued serving breakfast and lunch until closing on May 5. On May 6, it became Eat Good.

Eventually Patrick hopes to transform the cafeteria-style atmosphere into one that has "old-world charm," with big comfy high back chairs and round dark wood tables.

Patrick also envisions opening other Eat Good restaurants in the area.

"It will be small with a drive-thru," Patrick said. "All the production will be out of this kitchen."

But before any expansion, Patrick wants to ensure the first location is running at its full potential.

"We don't want to rush it," Patrick said. "That's not what I'm about. It's doing it right and doing it right the first time."

Patrick's career in food service began at a small Italian restaurant in Macon, Ga., when she was 16. Later, at only 19 years old, she traveled around France to learn the art of country French cooking.

"In France, they really love food," Patrick said. "They're all about the food. It was lovely to watch them cook."

Since moving to Spokane in 2002, her experience includes working in the kitchens at the DoubleTree, C.I. Shenanigans, Ella's Super Club, and Coeur d'Alene Casino's Sweet Grass Cafe, Tselum and Chinook Steakhouse.

Valley Hospital names new CEO

From Staff Reports

Tim Moran was named Valley Hospital's new chief executive officer, effective Aug. 26, the hospital announced in a press release.

Moran, who had served as interim CEO at Valley since early July, brings more than 35 years in health care management. He spent most of his career in California, but has also worked for hospitals in Oregon, South Carolina and Saudi Arabia.

"We're thrilled to have such an experienced, dynamic professional to lead this next phase of growth at our hospital," said Frank Tombari, chairman of the Valley Hospital board of trustees. "Tim is a hands-on leader, who believes in collaboration and financial and operational discipline. His focus on patient care, high performance teams and physician integration will help advance Valley Hospital and the entire Rockwood Health System."

Moran said he is looking forward to "quickly becoming familiar with the community, and working with the leaders, employees and Medical Staff to accelerate the growth, quality and services Valley offers to meet the community's needs."

Moran replaces Dennis Barts, who left earlier this summer to take a similar position in Colorado.

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2013 Bears will lean on the run, QB Chamberlain

By Mike Vlahovich
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

Central Valley football coach **Rick Giampietri** didn't need to hear this bit of news.

Do-all athlete **Adam Chamberlain**, the returning Bears quarterback, strained an Achilles tendon playing basketball this summer, was put in a protective boot and there was uncertainty of his football status.

But the boot came off and there he was, much to Giampietri's relief, the first day of practice on Aug. 21 as if nothing had happened. Giampietri had said he hoped he'd be ready for CV's season opener Sept. 6 at home against Ferris, a pre-season Greater Spokane League favorite.

"Things took off when we got him in the lineup last year," Giampietri said of Cham-

berlain, who became eligible the last half of the season. "He's one of the better athletes in town (and) just makes things happen — by accident if nothing else — with his legs as much as anything."

The Bears won five of six games with him behind center, including an upset victory over league champion and then unbeaten Gonzaga Prep.

"He's as valuable in the secondary and made a lot of saving type tackles," Giampietri continued. "He's as good a two-way player as there is in town."

Fortunately, all but the center returns on the offensive line. Veterans include the whole right side — tight end **Beau Byus**, first-team All-GSL tackle **J.D. Boden** and guard **Shayne**

EDITOR'S NOTE

A version of this story appeared as part of a preview to all Spokane Valley area high school football teams in the September issue of *The Current*, *The Splash*'s sister publication serving the greater Spokane Valley area. Future issues of *The Splash* and *The Current* will feature other local prep athletes and teams during the 2013-2014 school year. With story ideas featuring Liberty Lake angles for *The Splash*, email editor@libertylakesplash.com.



SPLASH PHOTO BY MIKE VLAHOVICH

Central Valley High School quarterback Adam Chamberlain found the football back in his hands on the first day of practice Aug. 21. He was a welcome sight for the Bears following a summer basketball injury that left his status questionable.

2013 Central Valley football schedule

Sept 6	Ferris, 7 p.m.
Sept. 13	Rogers at Joe Albi Stadium, 7:30 p.m.
Sept. 19	Mt. Spokane at Albi, 7:15 p.m.
Sept. 27	North Central, 7 p.m.
Oct. 3	Lewis and Clark at Albi, 4:14 p.m.
Oct. 11	at University, 7 p.m.
Oct. 18	Mead, 7 p.m.
Oct. 25	Shadle Park, 7 p.m.
Nov. 1	at Gonzaga Prep, 7 p.m.

Riordan. Hunter Wardian started the last seven games at left tackle following injury to a senior starter, and guard **Zach Millard** was All-GSL on defense.

"We have to rely on the offensive line," Giampietri said. "We should be able to run the football. That's kind of the idea."

Giampietri said junior running back Spencer Miller had a good summer's training, running a 4.6 40, and **Jackson Axtell** and **Hayden Wolrehammer** add depth.

P.J. Bowden, **J.P. Benson** and **Tucker Stout** are in the mix as receivers.

"It looks like we have people who can catch it and run decently, so I think we're OK," Giampietri said.

Such depth comes in handy since the

bulk of them also play defensive positions.

The Bears, he said, can stack up "really well" in the GSL. A healthy Chamberlain is vital if CV is to challenge, as usual, for the postseason.

Scoreboard

COMMUNITY GOLF

7/24 Trailhead Ladies Golf Club

Flight A: Gross, CC Marshall, 46; Net, Iness Walth, 30
Flight B: Gross, Diane Rudnick, 48; Net, Bobbie Larson and Judi Hander, 30
Flight C: Gross, Margaret Band and Kathie Krestyn, 55; Net, Shannon Carr, 26

7/31 Trailhead Ladies Golf Club

Flight A: Gross, CC Marshall, 48; Net, Sue Schneidmiller, 33
Flight B: Gross, Deanna Hauser, 56; Net, Ellen Spalding, 36
Flight C: Gross, Kathie Krestyn, 53; Net, Ann Parman, 30

8/1 Liberty Lake Ladies Nine Hole

Flight 2: Gross, Sadie Rueckert, 57; Net, Dotti Blake, 38
Flight 3: Gross, Pat Reiter, 80; Net, Judy Clark, 54

8/3 Junior Golf Northwest

At Downriver Golf Course
Girls 16-18
Katie Ochoa, Spokane, 80; Lauren Victorino, Kent, 84; Michal Schuster, St. John Endicott, 87
Girls 13-15

Hanna Gropp, Spokane, 89; Cheyenne Marchand, Cheney, 115; Halle Gropp, Spokane, 130
Boys 16-18

Ryan Anderson, Spokane, 70; Cooper Cheral, Spokane, 70; Brian Martin, Pullman, 79
Boys 13-15

Jake Dringale, Spokane Valley, 78; Mitchell Weipert, Spokane, 79; Cole Howard, Greenacres, 79
Boys 10-12

Jack Johnson, Liberty Lake, 83; Connor Boyd, Spokane, 101; Tommy Kimmel, Spokane, 104

8/5 Spokane Valley Women's Evening Golf League

At Liberty Lake Golf Course
Flight A: Gross, Marie Neumayer, 46; Net, Dorene Meltingallow, 33
Flight B: Gross, Sammie Fletcher, 50; Net, Evanlene Meltingallow, 35
Flight C: Gross, Barb Byington, 54; Net, Kathleen Burns, 37
Flight D: Gross, Margaret Band, 60; Net, Margo Schmitz, 39

See SCOREBOARD, page 44

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SPORTS

Pullin' Up a win



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Team Pullin' Up Tape went 5-0 to win back-to-back Hoopfest Championships. Pictured are Chase Wilson, Dylan Darling and Tayshawn Colvin.

Hot Shotz claim second



SUBMITTED PHOTO

FC Spokane "Hot Shotz" finished second in the U12 girls division at the Cheney 3v3 Soccer Tournament in July. Pictured are **J.J. Drinkwine**, Jenni Bissell, Olivia Yoseph and Anna Byquist. (Liberty Lake resident highlighted in bold.)

Local Lens

Share your snapshots for *The Splash's* photo page. Email editor@libertylakesplash.com with game shots and team photos.

Richey competes in tri



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Jen Richey took fourth place in the Elite Women's Division at the Race the River Triathlon in Coeur d'Alene with a time of 1:10:07.

Mega Magic takes on Hoopfest



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Jace Dunham, Boston Jensen, Patrick Reilly and Brennen Brulotte, all incoming third grade students at Liberty Lake Elementary, played for the first time in Hoopfest this summer. Their team, Mega Magic, was coached by Randy Brulotte.

Barefoot Classic champs



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Vinyl Robots won their division at the 3v3 Soccer Barefoot Classic at Pavillion Park Aug. 17-18. The team won all four matches it played. Pictured are Bryn Anderson, Alex Naves, Hailey Christopher and Claire Dingus.

River City Cup champs



SUBMITTED PHOTO

An FC Spokane team won the U-13 boys gold division at the River City Cup in July. Team members included (back row) Caden Martin, Lane Kennedy, **Reece Bumgarner**, Robbie Dunlap, **Jacob Parker**, Chase McVay, coach Jay Vela; (front row) Noah Dreeves, **Gage Engel**, **Kyle Van Liew**, Quinten Little, Tyler Adams, JJ Williamson, **Cameron Whitcher** and Avery Scott. (Liberty Lake residents are in bold.)

Cycling like crazy



SPLASH PHOTO BY TAMMY KIMBERLEY

Adults and kids competed against their respected peers during the sixth annual Criterium Bike Race held Aug. 13 at Half Moon Park.

Foxes take second at tourney ...



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The U-11 Foxes FC Gold girls soccer team placed second at the River City Cup soccer tournament at Plantes Ferry in July. Pictured are (back row) Denise Cousins, **Abbie Miller**, **Chloe Williams**, **Joey Dickison**, Ari Hintz, **Jenna Engel**, Darby Hodgen; (front row) coach Mike Cousins, **Grace Williams**, Breanna Widener, **Chloe Bryntesen**, **Ellie Baddely**, **Mackenzie Cavanagh**, Campbell Hodgen, **Josie Miller** and coach Kevin Hintz. (Liberty Lake residents are in bold.)

... and then first at tourney



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A Spokane Foxes FC team took first place in the NW Cup Soccer Tournament U11 girls premier division at Plantes Ferry in August. Pictured are (front row) **Madi Whitney**, Bella Conley, Marie Peterson, **Abbie Miller**, **Clair Kaufman**, **Sophia Liesse**, **Anna Sabins**, **Abby Lewis**, Bailey Carter; (back row) coach Chaz Valdez, **Emma Horton**, **Chloe Williams**, **Madie Bruno**, **Maci Young** and coach **William Miller**. (Liberty Lake residents are in bold.)

THE Splash

Volume 15, Issue 12

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and submitted photo

About

The Liberty Lake Splash
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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.

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SPORTS

SCOREBOARD

Continued from page 42

No handicap: Sandra Saty, 53
Best ball winners: Doreen Meltinallow, Evanlene Meltingallow and Marie Neumayer

8/8 Liberty Lake Ladies Nine Hole
Flight 1: Gross, Robin McKee, 48; Net, MaryAnn Grannell, 36
Flight 2: Gross, Ann Archibald, 57; Net, Kathy Camyn and Sadie Rueckert, 38
Flight 3: Gross, Luana Hager, 64; Net, Emma Long, 39
Game day winning team: Luana Hager, Diana Hain and Margaret Chesley, 34

8/12 Spokane Valley Women's Evening Golf League
At Liberty Lake Golf Course
Flight A: Gross, Marie Neumayer, 49; Net, Dorene Meltingallow, 38; Longest drive, Robyn Sciuchetti
Flight B: Gross, Jen Jensen and Lynn Jones, 61; Net, Sammie Fletcher, 45; Longest drive, Lynn Jones
Flight C: Gross, Jane Bouge, 71; Net, Elaine Edwards, 50; Longest drive, Marla Lucas
Flight D: Gross, Margo Schmitz, 67; Net, Jean Hauer and Terri McDaniel, 40; Longest drive, Terri McDaniel

8/15 Liberty Lake Ladies Nine Hole
Flight 1: Gross, Robin McKee 49; Net, Bette Devine 35
Flight 2: Gross, Kathy Camyn 54; Net, Arla Beck 35
Flight 3: Gross, Anne Armstrong 66; Net, Shirley Roberts 46

8/19 Spokane Valley Women's Evening Golf League
At Liberty Lake Golf Course
Flight A: Gross, Marie Neumayer and Gail Bailey, 49; Net, Sandy Hobson, 35; Putts, Sandy Hobson, 16
Flight B: Gross, Nina Barlett, 48; Net, Evanlene Meltingallow, Marla Lucas and Mary Ellen Wall, 36; Putts, Evanlene Meltingallow, 16
Flight C: Gross, Jane Bouge, 62; Net, Jean Jones, 38; Putts, Mary Hager, 13
Flight D: Gross, Margo Schmitz, 57; Net, Sharon Spear, 31; Putts, Margo Schmitz, 18
Chip-ins: Mary Hager, Elaine Edwards and Kristi Peplinski

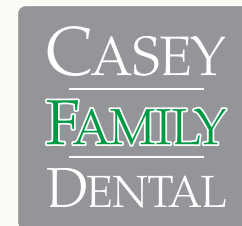
8/21 Trailhead Ladies Golf Club
Flight A: Gross, CC Marshall, 43; Net, Bev Johnson, 28
Flight B: Gross, Judi Hander, 46; Net, Joanie Koch, 29
Flight C: Gross, Ellen Spalding, 53; Net, Sharon Spear and Ann Parman, 32

8/24 Junior Golf Northwest
At Hangman Valley Golf Course
Girls 16-18
Michal Schuster, St. John, 88; Steffi Cunningham, Spokane, 90; Brianna Dufour, Spokane, 96
Girls 13-15
Emily Callahan, Coeur d'Alene, 76
Boys 16-18
Nate Yockey, Spokane, 82; Ty Brearley, Post Falls, 83; Cooper Cherel, Spokane, 83
Boys 13-15
Ryan Maine, Freeman, 72; Max Toenjes, Sandpoint, 78; Phillip Flexer, Spokane, 79
Boys 10-12
Jack Johnson, Liberty Lake, 81; Will Reeves, Sandpoint, 88; Bennett Gray, Spokane, 89

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THE Splash

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Of note: This thank you message was produced by The Splash's advertising team, which works its tail off on behalf of partner businesses, helping them share their messages through advertisements. This is an independent function from The Splash's editorial team, which has its own evaluation process to determine the community news stories and features it pursues. For more information about a win-win partnership that expertly markets your business to thousands of readers (while making this home-grown community newspaper possible), email advertise@libertylakesplash.com. With story ideas, contact editor@libertylakesplash.com.

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'So how is that monthly Splash thing treating you?'

By Josh Johnson
SPLASH STAFF COLUMN



Since moving to a monthly format with our March issue, that headline above is a question our team hears quite a bit.

I've enjoyed having dozens of individual conversations on the topic, but now that we have a few months under our belt, I figured it was probably worth providing an update in print for those who I haven't run into in the grocery store line yet.

The short answer: Really well, thanks.*

* The asterisk is provided for the simple fact there are several aspects about the weekly format I miss terribly, of course. For one thing, there is no dancing around the fact that the traditional weekly format provided a wider, more reliable net for timely disbursement of information. While we have actually been more timely with many of our stories through publishing them online and sending out e-alerts (such as City Council stories and a few key calendar reminders), we simply haven't built the reach through this electronic means to make it comparable ... yet.

That's the asterisk. The "really well, thanks" is born out of the fact we have been able to tackle stories and devote space to items that we just weren't resourced to get to before. This month's devotion of approximately six pages of content surrounding the 40th anniversary of the Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District is just the most recent example. When we were running 16-page weekly issues, that simply wasn't possible space-wise, not to mention the fact we didn't have the time or resources to pursue it. Indeed, we've found our monthly word counts haven't changed all that significantly — we've just put all that verbiage into one issue instead of four.

About the Opinion Page

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

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

As I wrote when we made this change, we were already finding that the vast majority of advertisers The Splash was attracting were seeking to advertise with us once a month. Indeed, we only had one regular weekly advertiser remaining when we made the change, but more advertisers looking for larger, once-a-month placements. This has certainly made the monthly a good business decision for us and most advertisers, as we have been able to provide more issues — our circulation increased from 6,000 to 7,000 with the change, and we are still running out of copies by month's end — and a longer shelf-life for our partnering businesses.

Now, when I tell people this, many still wonder why we didn't pursue a subscription model. That's a great question, as many people have often told me that they would pay for The Splash if we didn't mail it to them already for free. There are actually several aspects to this answer, but the ultimate dealbreaker is this: It doesn't pencil out financially. Say 50 percent of the community decided it could afford and desired to subscribe. That's a healthy base for a traditional, subscription-model community newspaper. This would cut our circulation in half, which would impact the rates we charge advertisers, which would result in a break-even proposition at best.

This is not to say we wouldn't ever go back, as I get asked that question a lot, too. However, we have the advantage in 2013 to look at how delivering information to our community will look moving into the future, as our world continues to shift away from mailboxes to things like inboxes and iPads and *the-next-big-thing*.

Our commitment to this community hasn't changed, and I would personally like to invite you once again to sign up for our e-alerts and newsletters (head to www.libertylakesplash.com/contact for the link — and thanks to all of you who already have). The January story announcing our format change called the concept "monthly in your mailbox, timely in your inbox." Don't miss out on the breaking news and information that, like the ink-on-paper Splash, is completely free.

Meanwhile, it continues to be a pleasure to "live, work and play" in our unparalleled community, my hometown of Liberty Lake. Keep the story ideas, submissions and questions coming our way. Thanks, as always, for reading The Splash, and I look forward to the next time we bump into each other at the grocery store.

Josh Johnson is editor and publisher of *The Splash*. Write to him at josh@libertylakesplash.com.

Editorial Cartoon



Remembering what respect is (and isn't)

By Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich
CURRENT GUEST COLUMN



It is a real honor to have been asked to write about the PACE trait for the month of September. I have great respect for PACE and its mission of education to not just students, but for the whole community about the importance of having a strong character and the traits that build character.

The trait for September is respect. Respect is defined as: "To hold someone or something in high esteem, regard or honor. To admire, appreciate or esteem qualities, abilities, skills, traits or character possessed by another."

An important concept associated with the word respect is that respect has to be earned. It is not something that should be given lightly. There are those in history who earned the right to be respected — George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., to name a few. These were men of great character. They were willing to sacrifice everything, including their lives, to stand for the freedoms and rights of others. President Lincoln and Dr. King paid with their lives for what they believed to be right. They believed that all people have the right to be free and to live their lives free from fear.

The one thing that respect is not is fear.

Many mistake being feared as being respected. I cannot count the number of times I have heard someone demand or threaten that another person "show them respect" or, "You will respect me!" Respect does not work that way. A person cannot force another to truly respect them out of fear. If they try, the best they can expect is that the person will comply with their demands out of fear. At worst, they can expect to be held in complete contempt and hatred.

One last thought about respect. Why do we give it? Do we give it because of a person's skill on the football field, because they are a good actor or singer or because they have really tried to make someone's life better? Did they earn our respect because they took a stand for that which is right, even if it means it may cause them to be ridiculed by others?

As you go about your first month of school this year, or for us adults in our busy lives, let's consider what respect really means to us. Are we giving our respect to those who are really trying to make a difference in the lives of others?

Ozzie Knezovich was appointed sheriff of Spokane County on April 11, 2006. He was first elected to the position that fall and is currently serving his second term. The 20-year law enforcement professional serves on local boards including the United Way, Day-break Youth Services, The Salvation Army and Frontier Behavioral Health. He wrote this column as part of a series celebrating the PACE (Partners Advancing Character Education) trait of the month.

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Suzie the seagull dances at Pavillion Park

Editor's note: Last year, Karla Vandruff moved to the area from Kentucky and attended the Spokane Symphony concert at Pavillion Park with a group of women she met through a Liberty Lake Bible study. She said the experience inspired her to write the following short story to share with her 91-year-old father, who still lives in Kentucky. We share it here as the community — and perhaps a few birds — prepare to celebrate the annual Symphony tradition once again on Aug. 31.

Short story by Karla Vandruff

Suzie the seagull slowly woke as the early morning sun reflected off the water of Liberty Lake. The rocks under the dock that she had slept on were still cold, so she opened her wings and flapped them to warm up. It was only the first of September, but already the nights were cold in Liberty Lake.

Suzie could see her two older brothers floating on the lake where they slept. They gently bobbed up and down with the waves. She knew their father would soon swoop down with his loud cawing to wake them. He had developed this method because they were so hard to wake up. Suzie started chuckling to herself when she saw her father's white feathers reflecting the sun as he started his descent from high above the lake. He started cawing just as he swooped over her brothers. Suzie laughed out loud when they woke and started flapping their wings crazily in all directions! A gentle laughter came from above her as her mother landed on the rock next to Suzie.

"I see your 'Oteu' (pronounced a-tyets, meaning "father") is already enjoying himself. It is good, I think, because they have a lot of practicing to do."

Suzie loved her mother's voice. It was different from the other seagulls in the area. It had a lilt to it, and sometimes her words were different. Her mother said it was because her great grandfather came from a country called Russia. Somehow, the story of how he had ended up in Liberty Lake had been lost, but the old country still ran through her mother's veins. Suzie had heard the other seagulls talk about how graceful her mother was as she danced in the air currents above the lake.

That reminded her! She wanted to beg her mother once again to let her join the dance at Pavillion Park tonight with the rest of the gulls. Her mother read the look on her face.

"Not again with the begging my little 'Aoyb' (pronounced doch, means "daughter")."



SPLASH FILE PHOTO

The Spokane Symphony's annual Pavillion Park concert inspired the short story on this page.

"But I have been practicing and practicing! I'm just as good as the other gulls! Everyone says how lucky I am to have you teaching me."

Suzie used her best begging and flattering tone. Her mother looked at her with compassion in her eyes.

"You are good, but Suzie you have still to hear the music! You were too young last year to hear the concert at Pavillion Park, and until you hear the music, your dance will be incomplete. You are so impatient to grow up. You listen this year, and I promise next year you will be the highlight of the concert!"

She smiled at Suzie and said, "I think you also have the Russian 'Aeaywka,' (pronounced dye-doosh-ka, meaning "grand-

father") in your veins."

All morning her brothers and father practiced with the male gulls and Suzie and her mother practiced with the female gulls. They practiced swooping and soaring. Her father and brothers did breathtaking dives. Her mother had a solo dance, and the other females practiced coming in behind her.

After a nice lunch, everyone settled down for a long rest. Then, as the sun started setting, they made the short flight to Pavillion Park. Suzie's mother showed her where to perch with the other first-timers so they would have a good view of the stage. Suzie and her friends were so excited they could hardly stay on the perch.

The lawn in front of the stage was covered

with people. Some were sitting in groups on blankets, and others were on folding chairs they had carried to the park in long sacks with shoulder straps. The wonderful smell of hotdogs and popcorn filled the air. Children and dogs chasing Frisbees and each other added to the excitement.

Men and women dressed in black and white began to make their way onto the stage. Suzie started to hear strands of music for the first time as instruments were warmed up. When the conductor, dressed in all white, made his way to the front of the stage, everything suddenly became hushed. He spoke of an America composer and then with his baton directed the music to start. It was wonderful! All the people stood and placed their hands over their hearts and sang with the music. Suzie's heart felt warm.

Then the conductor spoke of a German composer and once again directed the music to start. The male gulls took to the air, and Suzie was proud of how they swooped and soared above the pavilion stage! Her father and brothers did their breathtaking dives. With every wave of the conductor's baton, Suzie's spirits soared. She hated to admit it but Suzie decided her mother was right. You have to hear the music or your dance is incomplete! She was beginning to understand why gulls love to dance on the wind!

Then Suzie's heart stopped. The conductor was talking about a Russian composer! When this music started, Suzie's mother began her solo dance above the pavilion. She was beautiful! A fire started in Suzie's veins and before she could stop herself she had joined the other female gulls as they came in behind her mother. She swooped when they swooped, and she soared when they soared. Never had Suzie felt so free and happy before! When the music ended, the people on the lawn jumped to their feet and cheered and clapped their hands! When the musicians stood to give a bow, the gulls also gave a bow and swooped behind the pavilion.

Suzie's mother landed beside her. "

I'm so sorry mother! When the Russian music started, it was impossible for me not to dance!"

But Suzie's mother was not upset with her. Instead, she told her how proud she was of her!

"I knew you had your Russian grandfather running through your veins!" she said with pride in her voice. "Next year, you will dance the solo!"

That night, it was hard for Suzie to fall asleep as she nestled into the rocks under the dock. It had been an exciting day, and Suzie could hardly wait to start practicing for next year's concert at Pavillion Park!

Karla Vandruff lives in Greenacres.



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